



PRESS RELEASE

**Decrease in the volume of Total building Activity by 22,4%
during the 12-month period: February 2009-January 2010**

Survey of Building Activity :

January 2010

According to the provisional data produced by the Hellenic Statistical Authority, in the last twelve months, from February 2009 until January 2010, the volume of total Building Activity (Private and Public) in Country Total, measured by the number of issued building permits amounted to 56,699. This figure corresponds to 13,357.7 thousands m² of surface and 49,894.1 thousands m³ of volume, which shows a decrease of 11.9 % in the number of building permits, 19.2% in surface and 22.4% in volume compared to the respective period February 2008 - January 2009 (Table 1)

In the same period from February 2009 to January 2010, Private Building Activity shows in Country Total, a reduction by 12% in the number of issued building permits, 20.3% in the surface and 23.9% in volume in the whole Country, compared to the respective period February 2008 - January 2009 (Table 2). The proportion of Public Building Activity in the total building activity, in January 2009 is 3.8%.

Specifically, in January 2010, according to provisional data, the size of total building activity (Private and Public), measured by the number of issued building permits, in the whole Country, reached 4,329 building permits, which correspond to 1,202.4 thousands m² of surface and 4,270.3 thousand m³ of volume. In comparison to the same month in 2009 (Table 3), there was an increase by 12.9% in the number of building permits, 38% in surface and 18.6% in volume.

The Private Building Activity in the whole Country, reached 4,297 building permits, which correspond to 1,182.9 thousands of m² of surface and 4,197.2 thousands m³ of volume. In comparison to the same period in 2009 indicated an increase by 12.9%, in surface by 38.4% and in volume by 18.8%, as compared to the same month in 2009 (Table 4).

Accordingly, Public Building Activity in January 2009, in the whole Country reached 32 building permits, which correspond to 19.5 thousands m² of surface and 73.1 thousands m³ of volume.

The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity, in the total building volume for the same period in January 2010, is 1.7%.

Please, note that the applications and issuing of building permits are influenced by the changes in legislation which regards to building terms and conditions, and according to changes in the General Building Code.

Information:

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Table 1. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the period February 2008 - January 2009 and February 2009 - January 2010 *

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	February-January		Change (%)	February-January		Change (%)	February-January		Change (%)
	2008-2009	2009-2010		2008-2009	2009-2010		2008-2009	2009-2010	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	3.203	2.980	-7,0	795,3	657,6	-17,3	3.064,7	2.406,2	-21,5
Central Makedonia	8.538	7.378	-13,6	2.712,9	1.991,0	-26,6	12.252,3	8.023,0	-34,5
Western Makedonia	1.200	1.056	-12,0	394,6	279,0	-29,3	1.636,8	1.121,7	-31,5
Thessalia	3.974	3.373	-15,1	1.195,7	861,8	-27,9	4.614,4	3.196,3	-30,7
Ipiros	2.195	2.061	-6,1	611,0	647,1	5,9	2.267,2	2.434,8	7,4
Ionian Islands	2.476	2.056	-17,0	501,1	365,1	-27,1	1.682,9	1.289,1	-23,4
Western Greece	4.422	4.358	-1,4	1.132,5	917,3	-19,0	4.438,5	3.398,5	-23,4
Central Greece	4.838	4.302	-11,1	1.148,3	1.053,8	-8,2	4.918,2	4.345,6	-11,6
Peloponissos	5.378	4.701	-12,6	1.426,0	1.086,3	-23,8	5.193,0	3.849,8	-25,9
Attiki	18.143	15.787	-13,0	4.032,1	3.556,4	-11,8	15.053,1	13.100,9	-13,0
North Egeo	1.818	1.624	-10,7	308,4	231,9	-24,8	1.083,9	773,2	-28,7
South Egeo	3.851	3.406	-11,6	868,3	619,3	-28,7	3.004,9	2.066,0	-31,2
Kriti	4.327	3.617	-16,4	1.400,5	1.091,1	-22,1	5.066,5	3.889,0	-23,2
Greece, Total	64.363	56.699	-11,9	16.527,0	13.357,7	-19,2	64.276,0	49.894,1	-22,4

* Provisional data

Table 2. Private Building Activity, by Region, for the period February 2008-January 2009 and February 2009-January 2010 *

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	February-January		Change (%)	February-January		Change (%)	February-January		Change (%)
	2008-2009	2009-2010		2008-2009	2009-2010		2008-2009	2009-2010	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	3.153	2.921	-7,4	772,4	629,2	-18,5	2.958,7	2.290,4	-22,6
Central Makedonia	8.414	7.235	-14,0	2.641,0	1.888,4	-28,5	11.996,1	7.565,0	-36,9
Western Makedonia	1.179	1.023	-13,2	384,5	250,8	-34,8	1.580,2	979,5	-38,0
Thessalia	3.849	3.333	-13,4	1.147,5	824,8	-28,1	4.376,9	3.037,2	-30,6
Ipiros	2.175	2.022	-7,0	596,8	619,0	3,7	2.210,7	2.322,8	5,1
Ionian Islands	2.466	2.039	-17,3	499,3	361,2	-27,7	1.675,1	1.273,8	-24,0
Western Greece	4.405	4.327	-1,8	1.113,0	873,2	-21,5	4.351,9	3.208,8	-26,3
Central Greece	4.818	4.254	-11,7	1.128,0	983,9	-12,8	4.805,1	3.958,9	-17,6
Peloponissos	5.340	4.658	-12,8	1.409,8	1.065,4	-24,4	5.130,9	3.769,5	-26,5
Attiki	18.111	15.768	-12,9	4.006,1	3.539,1	-11,7	14.945,6	13.020,1	-12,9
North Egeo	1.811	1.607	-11,3	294,4	231,8	-21,3	1.045,3	772,6	-26,1
South Egeo	3.837	3.398	-11,4	861,4	612,8	-28,9	2.975,2	2.040,6	-31,4
Kriti	4.306	3.586	-16,7	1.383,2	1.058,9	-23,4	4.990,8	3.744,9	-25,0
Greece, Total	63.864	56.171	-12,0	16.237,4	12.938,5	-20,3	63.042,5	47.984,1	-23,9

* Provisional data

Table 3. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, on January 2009 and 2010 *

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January 2009	January 2010	Change (%)	January 2009	January 2010	Change (%)	January 2009	January 2010	Change (%)
E. Makedonia and Thraki	206	228	10,7	50,1	63,9	27,5	182,3	230,6	26,5
Central Makedonia	493	528	7,1	159,9	212,4	32,8	1.087,4	733,5	-32,5
Western Makedonia	62	63	1,6	10,8	18,7	73,1	33,9	85,0	150,7
Thessalia	209	255	22,0	53,9	83,2	54,4	184,9	295,5	59,8
Ipiros	117	138	17,9	33,6	31,4	-6,5	118,3	110,2	-6,8
Ionian Islands	113	132	16,8	18,8	24,8	31,9	63,1	93,5	48,2
Western Greece	297	228	-23,2	72,8	48,9	-32,8	286,6	166,3	-42,0
Central Greece	311	240	-22,8	55,0	59,5	8,2	195,9	222,1	13,4
Peloponissos	315	374	18,7	68,0	108,5	59,6	233,3	399,0	71,0
Attiki	1.097	1.537	40,1	204,5	396,6	93,9	709,6	1.394,7	96,5
North Egeo	111	166	49,5	11,9	30,3	154,6	40,0	107,2	168,0
South Egeo	223	246	10,3	43,4	54,0	24,4	148,5	189,0	27,3
Kriti	281	194	-31,0	88,5	70,1	-20,8	315,4	243,8	-22,7
Greece, Total	3.835	4.329	12,9	871,2	1.202,4	38,0	3.599,2	4.270,3	18,6

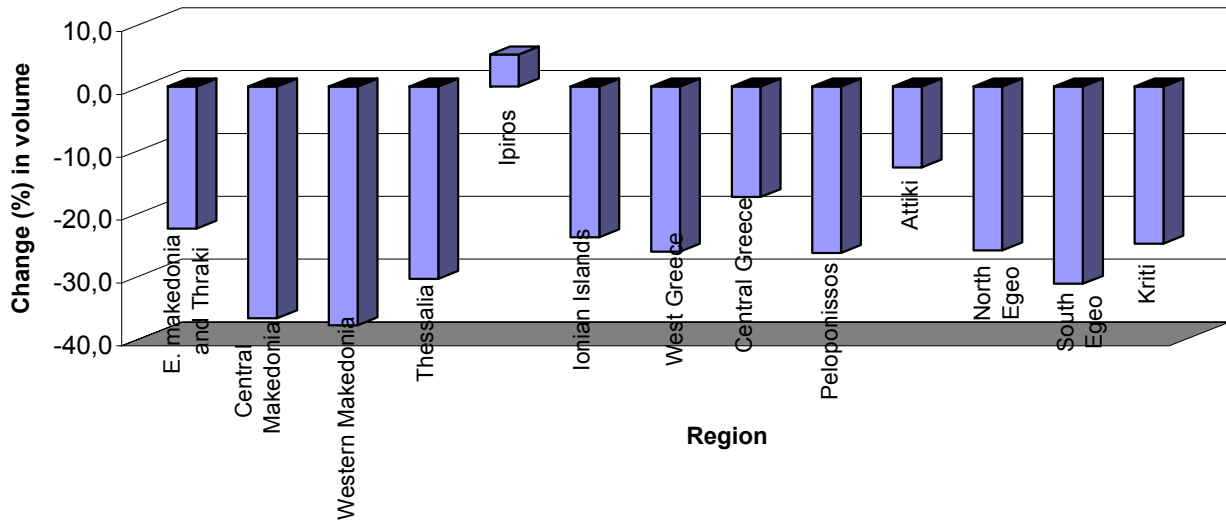
* Provisional data

Table 4. Private Building Activity, by Region, on January 2009 and 2010*

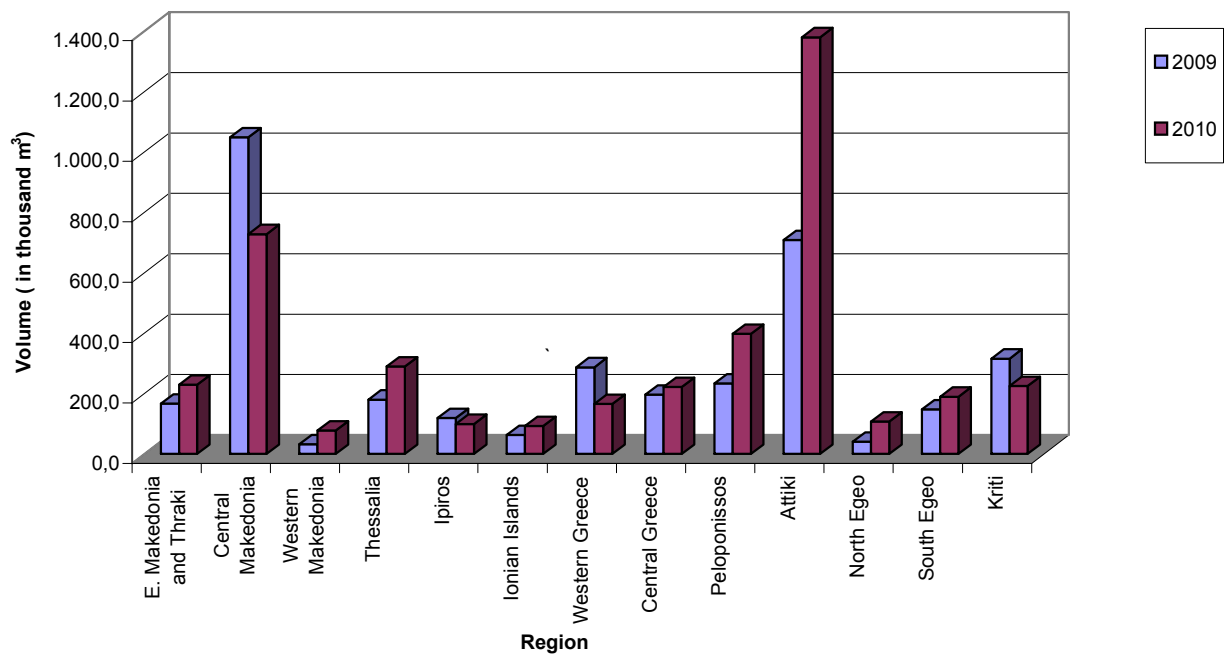
Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January 2009	January 2010	Change (%)	January 2009	January 2010	Change (%)	January 2009	January 2010	Change (%)
E. Makedonia and Thraki	202	225	11,4	46,6	63,4	36,1	166,0	228,9	37,9
Central Makedonia	485	518	6,8	150,4	210,9	40,2	1.048,2	727,6	-30,6
Western Makedonia	61	62	1,6	9,8	16,6	69,4	31,6	77,2	144,3
Thessalia	205	252	22,9	52,5	81,3	54,9	179,7	289,0	60,8
Ipiros	117	132	12,8	33,6	29,0	-13,7	118,3	98,9	-16,4
Ionian Islands	112	131	17,0	18,7	24,3	29,9	62,5	91,9	47,0
Western Greece	297	227	-23,6	72,8	48,7	-33,1	286,6	165,5	-42,3
Central Greece	311	239	-23,2	55,0	59,3	7,8	195,9	221,1	12,9
Peloponissos	309	372	20,4	67,9	108,0	59,1	233,1	397,2	70,4
Attiki	1.095	1.536	40,3	204,1	390,8	91,5	707,8	1.379,3	94,9
North Egeo	110	165	50,0	11,9	30,2	153,8	40,0	107,0	167,5
South Egeo	220	246	11,8	43,1	54,0	25,3	147,4	189,0	28,2
Kriti	281	192	-31,7	88,5	66,4	-25,0	315,4	224,8	-28,7
Greece, Total	3.805	4.297	12,9	854,9	1.182,9	38,4	3.532,5	4.197,2	18,8

* Provisional data

Graph 1. Private Building activity. Change (%) of building volume, by Region, for the period January - December, between the years 2008 and 2009



Graph 2. Private Building Activity, by Region, January 2009 and 2010



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Building Activity Survey	The Building Activity Survey provides data on monthly and yearly basis, since 1964. The purpose of this survey is to register the total amount of building permits issued by the relevant administrative authorities, which are devolved to complete the questionnaire. The survey covers all the features of building activity such as the type of building permit, the type of construction, the type and the characteristics of the building and its complementary areas, as well as building usage, surface, volume and value.
Legal Framework	The survey is totally harmonized with the European legislation. The primary legislative act is Regulation (EU) 1165/1998, as it was amended according to Regulation (EU) 1158/2005.
Reference	01/1/2010 to 31/1/2010
Coverage	The survey is exhaustive and covers the total amount of issued building permits across the country.
Definitions	<p>Building Permit refers to all types of building permits. These are permits for new building or addition, repair, renovation, demolition, legalization, amendment and modification of a building.</p> <p>The denotation of built-property is equal to the building.</p> <p>Building is regarded as every permanent and independent structure, which has walls and a roof and consists of one or more rooms and complementary areas. As a rule, buildings feature four walls. However, a construction that is open from one or even two sides will be considered a building, as long as it has a roof.</p> <p>New building is any built-property raised on an uncovered site or in place of an old building that was demolished.</p> <p>Building Addition is considered to be every construction that adds building volume (space) to an existing building, be it in surface, height or a combination of both and creates a residence, a shop or both.</p> <p>Building volume (the net building volume) refers to the area that is included between the external surface of the external walls, the lowest level (the basement or the sub-basement, if it exists) and the roof of the building. If there is an open ground floor not enclosed within walls between the lower floor and the roof, its volume is taken into account. The relevant authorities calculate the volume of the building during the issuing of the building permit.</p> <p>Surface of new-built property is considered to be the sum of each floor space along with the outer space of the outer walls.</p>
General Remark	Any delineation that may occur between the sum of sub totals and the totals is due to rounding
References	More information (tables, questionnaires, methodology) with regards to the Building Activity Survey can be found in EL.STAT's web-site: www.statistics.gr , under the links: Statistical Themes à Building and Constructions à Building Activity or Constructions.