

PRESS RELEASE

BUILDING ACTIVITY

MARCH 2007

The General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece publishes provisional data for the Building Activity, based on the building permits issued from the country's Town-Planning Offices during March 2007.

INCREASE OF THE TOTAL BUILDING ACTIVITY (PRIVATE-PUBLIC) DURING JANUARY - MARCH 2007

In January - March 2007, Building Activity (private-public) in country total, summed up to 19.267 building permits, which relate to 4.835,0 thousand m² of surface and 18.263,7 thousand m³ of building volume, as compared to 18.588 building permits, 4.851,8 thousand m² of surface and 17.983,8 thousand m³ of volume, of the same period 2006. Therefore in January-March 2007 there was an increase 3,7% in the number of building permits, decrease 0,3% in surface and increase 1,6% in volume.

It has to be noted that the percentage contribution of Public Building Activity in the total building activity volume in January - March 2007 is 1,6%.

**Table 1. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region
January - March 2007 / 2006**

Region	Number of Building Permits			Surface (in thousands of m ²)			Volume (in thousands of m ³)		
	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006
E. Macedonia and Thraki	936	959	-2,4	234,5	245,9	-4,6	874,4	933,9	-6,4
Central Macedonia	2.439	2.537	-3,9	815,5	954,7	-14,6	3.492,3	3.799,2	-8,1
Western Macedonia	274	262	4,6	72,5	79,2	-8,4	239,5	277,7	-13,8
Thessalia	1.176	1.101	6,8	318,2	338,8	-6,1	1.202,7	1.187,6	1,3
Ipiros	571	562	1,6	155,0	158,1	-1,9	549,2	591,5	-7,1
Ionian Islands	739	814	-9,2	155,7	160,9	-3,2	555,5	554,1	0,3
Western Greece	1.254	1.181	6,2	281,8	269,1	4,7	1.036,3	1.011,5	2,5
Central Greece	1.449	1.250	15,9	371,6	339,6	9,4	1.437,6	1.412,2	1,8
Peloponnisos	1.594	1.435	11,1	389,3	342,8	13,5	1.352,3	1.205,0	12,2
Attiki	6.240	5.849	6,7	1.349,4	1.345,0	0,3	5.022,4	4.805,8	4,5
Northern Egeo	530	547	-3,1	88,4	81,7	8,3	317,7	291,5	9,0
Southern Egeo	856	1.004	-14,7	208,0	224,3	-7,3	740,4	787,3	-6,0
Kriti	1.209	1.087	11,2	395,1	311,8	26,7	1.443,6	1.126,6	28,1
Country Total	19.267	18.588	3,7	4.835,0	4.851,8	-0,3	18.263,7	17.983,8	1,6

In March 2007, Building Activity (private-public) in country total summed up to 7.420 building permits, which relate to 1.905,2 thousand m² of surface and 7.247,7 thousand m³ of building volume, as compared to 7.851 building permits, 2.078,3 thousand m² of surface and 7.608,8 thousand m³ of volume of March 2006. Therefore in March 2007 there was an annual decrease 5,5% in the number of building permits, 8,3% in surface and 4,7% in volume.

The Public Building Activity in country total has come up to 48 building permits, which relate to 27,0 thousand m² of surface and 110,1 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 60 building permits, 19,3 thousand m² of surface and 86,6 thousand m³ of volume, of March 2006. The percentage contribution of Public Building Activity in the total building activity volume, in March 2007 is 1,5%.

**Table 2. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region
March 2007 / 2006**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousands of m ²)			Volume (in thousands of m ³)		
	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006
E. Makedonia and Thraki	391	433	-9,7	104,3	119,0	-12,3	403,8	421,6	-4,2
Central Macedonia	966	1017	-5,0	342,4	400,0	-14,4	1.452,1	1.623,5	-10,6
Western Macedonia	100	112	-10,7	31,0	32,9	-5,6	101,9	129,7	-21,4
Thessalia	479	452	6,0	129,7	126,3	2,6	475,2	435,8	9,0
Ipiros	232	235	-1,3	65,9	58,9	12,0	229,1	217,7	5,3
Ionian Islands	311	331	-6,0	63,9	70,4	-9,2	213,3	228,8	-6,8
Western Greece	466	501	-7,0	104,7	112,3	-6,7	384,2	401,7	-4,4
Central Greece	613	562	9,1	144,6	132,2	9,4	536,5	502,9	6,7
Peloponnisos	678	612	10,8	163,8	144,5	13,3	546,6	507,8	7,6
Attiki	2205	2494	-11,6	485,3	595,7	-18,5	1.905,6	2.114,8	-9,9
Northern Egeo	205	231	-11,3	31,6	38,0	-16,8	114,4	139,9	-18,2
Southern Egeo	334	418	-20,1	78,5	106,8	-26,5	282,6	362,0	-21,9
Kriti	440	453	-2,9	159,4	141,4	12,7	602,5	522,5	15,3
Country Total	7.420	7.851	-5,5	1.905,2	2.078,3	-8,3	7.247,7	7.608,8	-4,7

INCREASE OF THE PRIVATE BUILDING ACTIVITY DURING JANUARY - MARCH 2007

During the period January-March 2007, in Private Building Activity, in country total, there was an increase 3,8% in the number of building permits and 2,2% in volume as compared to the same period of 2006, while the surface remained the same.

In Attiki the building activity volume in January-March 2007, has come up to 5.016,9 thousand m³, as compared to 4.791,2 thousand m³ of 2006 (increase 4,7%).

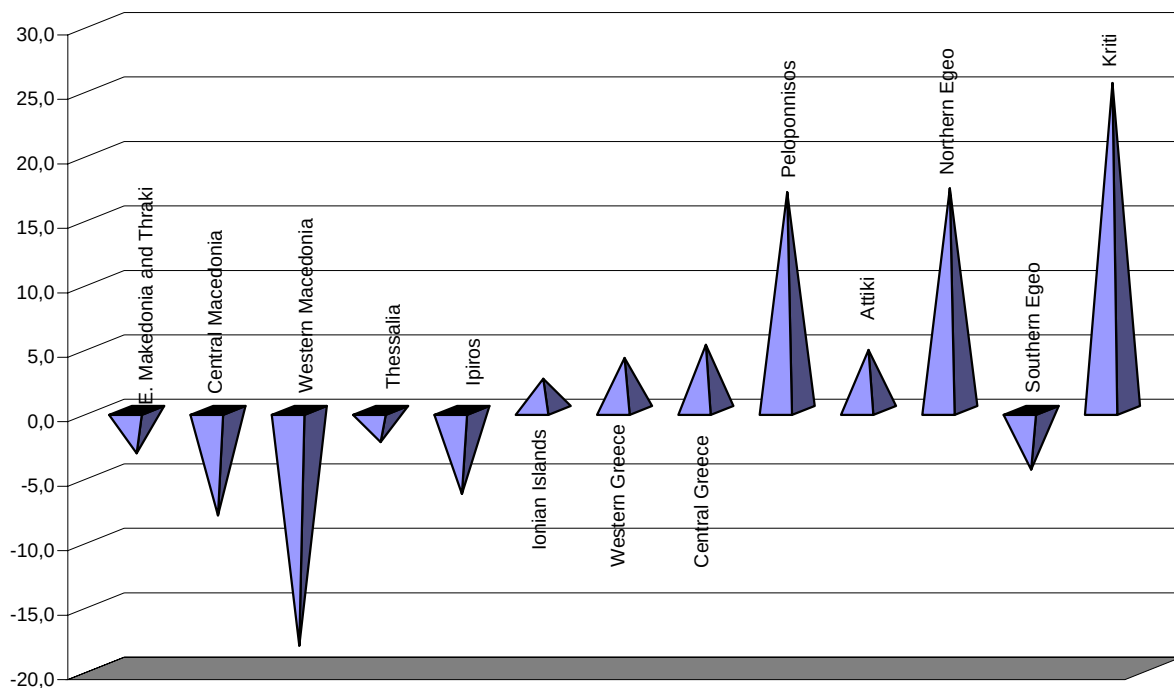
For the rest of the country the building volume has come up to 12.951,9 thousand m³, as compared to 12.794,8 thousand m³, of the same period of 2006 (increase 1,2%).

The highest increase was observed in the region of Kriti (25,4%), Northern Egeo (17,2%) and Peloponnisos (16,9%). On the contrary, significant increase in Building Activity was observed in the region of Western Macedonia (18,2%).

Table 3. Private Building Activity by Region
January - March 2007 / 2006

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousands of m ²)			Volume (in thousands of m ³)		
	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006
E. Makedonia and Thraki	924	945	-2,2	233,2	238,5	-2,2	867,3	896,9	-3,3
Central Macedonia	2.420	2.492	-2,9	800,8	938,8	-14,7	3.428,7	3.732,4	-8,1
Western Macedonia	270	257	5,1	68,9	78,5	-12,3	225,1	275,3	-18,2
Thessalia	1.155	1.095	5,5	307,6	337,3	-8,8	1.154,0	1.182,9	-2,4
Ipiros	557	552	0,9	150,5	152,0	-0,9	528,3	564,8	-6,5
Ionian Islands	733	809	-9,4	152,6	155,5	-1,9	544,8	531,7	2,5
Western Greece	1.252	1.173	6,7	279,5	264,4	5,7	1.028,5	988,1	4,1
Central Greece	1.443	1.228	17,5	368,2	325,6	13,1	1.422,9	1.353,8	5,1
Peloponnisos	1.582	1.427	10,9	382,8	326,5	17,2	1.326,4	1.134,3	16,9
Attiki	6.230	5.845	6,6	1.348,0	1.341,6	0,5	5.016,9	4.791,2	4,7
Northern Egeo	529	539	-1,9	88,2	77,7	13,5	316,9	270,3	17,2
Southern Egeo	850	996	-14,7	204,7	221,9	-7,8	728,6	763,5	-4,6
Kriti	1.195	1.076	11,1	378,8	305,9	23,8	1.380,4	1.100,7	25,4
Country Total	19.140	18.434	3,8	4.763,8	4.764,1	0,0	17.968,8	17.585,9	2,2

Private Building Activity by Region
January - March 2007 / 2006
% of change of building volume



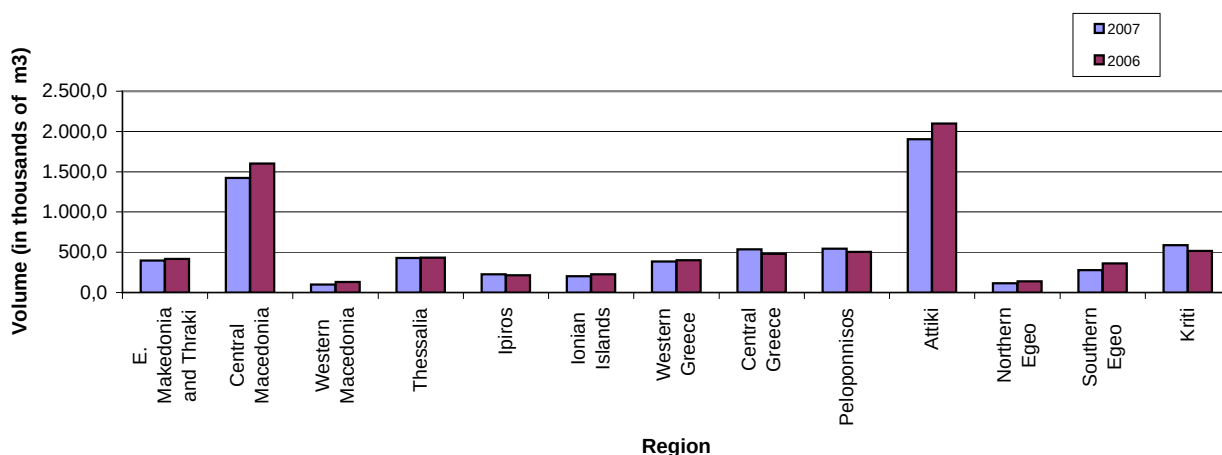
In March 2007 the Private Building Activity in country total summed up to 7.372 building permits, which relate to 1.878,2 thousand m² of surface and 7.137,6 thousand m³ of building volume, as compared to 7.791 building permits, 2.059,0 thousand m² of surface and 7.522,2 thousand m³ of volume of March 2006.

There was an annual decrease 5,4% in the number of building permits, 8,8% in surface and 5,1% in volume.

Table 4. Private Building Activity by Region
March 2007 / 2006

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousands of m ²)			Volume (in thousands of m ³)		
	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006	2007	2006	Change (%) 2007/2006
E. Makedonia and Thraki	388	427	-9,1	103,5	117,5	-11,9	398,4	417,0	-4,5
Central Macedonia	956	1.001	-4,5	335,1	394,7	-15,1	1.424,0	1.600,7	-11,0
Western Macedonia	98	110	-10,9	30,4	32,8	-7,4	100,0	129,4	-22,7
Thessalia	468	449	4,2	120,1	125,6	-4,4	431,0	433,4	-0,5
Ipiros	227	231	-1,7	65,1	58,0	12,3	226,8	213,6	6,2
Ionian Islands	307	329	-6,7	61,2	69,4	-11,9	204,1	224,8	-9,2
Western Greece	466	498	-6,4	104,7	112,2	-6,6	384,2	401,4	-4,3
Central Greece	612	552	10,9	144,5	128,3	12,6	536,1	479,2	11,9
Peloponnisos	675	611	10,5	163,6	144,1	13,5	545,8	506,5	7,7
Attiki	2.203	2.491	-11,6	485,3	592,3	-18,1	1.905,6	2.100,1	-9,3
Northern Egeo	204	228	-10,5	31,4	37,5	-16,2	113,6	137,7	-17,5
Southern Egeo	332	415	-20,0	76,9	106,4	-27,7	277,9	360,7	-23,0
Kriti	436	449	-2,9	156,3	140,1	11,6	590,2	517,7	14,0
Country Total	7.372	7.791	-5,4	1.878,2	2.059,0	-8,8	7.137,6	7.522,2	-5,1

Private Building Activity by Region
March 2007 / 2006



1Summary metadata: The data above refer to the authorised building activity(public and private).

Specifically the results above refer to data on building permits totally issued by the competent authorities. Such data are collected through a special monthly survey , the building permit survey. The data are collected from administrative sources(Town Planning Offices).External engineers, simultaneously with the issue of the building permit, fill in the questionnaires, properly designed for the survey.

A building permit is an authorization to start work on a building project. As such a permit is the final stage of planning and building authorizations, prior to the start of work.

The legal basis of the survey is :- L. 2396/96 (concerning the access of the General Secretary of National Statistical Service of Greece to administrative sources and archives and the regulation of issues regarding census surveys and statistical works) and the following STS Regulations:

- EU Regulation 1165/98 (concerning short-term statistics)
- EU Regulation 1158/2005 (amending EU Regulation 1165/98).

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