



**GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF
THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE
OF GREECE**

Pireaus, 7/11/2008

P R E S S R E L E A S E

BUILDING ACTIVITY

AUGUST 2008

The General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece publishes provisional data on the Building Activity, on the basis of the building permits issued from the Greek Town-Planning Offices during August 2008.

DECREASE OF THE TOTAL BUILDING ACTIVITY (PRIVATE-PUBLIC) DURING JANUARY - AUGUST 2008 IN COMPARISON WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 2007

During the period January - August 2008, the magnitude of the total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole Country, measured on the basis of building permits issued, amounted to 43.865 building permits, which correspond to 11.538,6 thousand m² of surface and 44.811,6 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 52.762 building permits that were issued during the same period of 2007 and corresponded to 13.901,5 thousand m² of surface and 53.127,4 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 16,9%, in surface by 17,0% and in volume by 15,7%. The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity in the total building volume, for the above period of 2008, is 1,7%.

**Table 1. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the period
January - August of 2007 and 2008**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January-August		Rate of change (%)	January-August		Rate of change (%)	January-August		Rate of change (%)
	2007	2008		2007	2008		2007	2008	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	2.671	2.071	-22,5	709,4	539,9	-23,9	2.760,5	2.144,3	-22,3
Central Makedonia	6.447	5.840	-9,4	2.254,6	1.997,0	-11,4	9.967,8	8.990,5	-9,8
Western Makedonia	919	744	-19,0	296,7	241,1	-18,8	1.091,7	1.005,9	-7,9
Thessalia	3.269	2.706	-17,2	938,2	773,6	-17,5	3.702,1	2.927,4	-20,9
Ipiros	1.598	1.521	-4,8	473,9	426,7	-10,0	1.708,5	1.585,2	-7,2
Ionian Islands	1.987	1.733	-12,8	459,5	346,2	-24,6	1.607,4	1.195,5	-25,6
Western Greece	3.530	3.020	-14,4	798,4	709,7	-11,1	3.107,3	2.685,3	-13,6
Central Greece	3.904	3.241	-17,0	1.077,9	831,3	-22,9	4.345,4	3.675,4	-15,4
Peloponnissos	4.343	3.667	-15,6	1.027,8	996,8	-3,0	3.552,5	3.516,2	-1,0
Attiki	16.684	12.590	-24,5	3.832,5	2.911,6	-24,0	14.086,8	10.755,2	-23,7
Northern Egeo	1.501	1.300	-13,4	245,6	223,8	-8,9	887,2	835,2	-5,9
Southern Egeo	2.438	2.503	2,7	569,0	570,4	0,2	2.024,4	1.936,6	-4,3
Kriti	3.471	2.929	-15,6	1.217,9	970,4	-20,3	4.285,8	3.558,9	-17,0
Greece, Total	52.762	43.865	-16,9	13.901,5	11.538,6	-17,0	53.127,4	44.811,6	-15,7

In August 2008 the magnitude of the total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole Country, amounted to 3.353 building permits, which correspond to 965,9 thousand m² of surface and 4.093,8 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 4.056 building permits that were issued during the same month of 2007 and corresponded to, 1.353,5 thousand m² of surface and 5.165,3 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 17,3%, in surface by 28,6% and in volume by 20,7%.

The magnitude of the Public Building Activity in August 2008, in the whole Country, amounted to 91 building permits, which correspond to 11,8 thousand m² of surface and 52,2 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 19 building permits that were issued during the same month of 2007 and corresponded to 6,4 thousand m² of surface and 31,6 thousand m³ of volume. The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity in the total building activity, in August 2008, is 1,3%.

Table 2. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the month of August of 2007 and 2008

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	August		Rate of change (%)	August		Rate of change (%)	August		Rate of change (%)
	2007	2008		2007	2008		2007	2008	
E. Macedonia and Thraki	289	202	-30,1	88,5	55,2	-37,6	359,8	197,5	-45,1
Central Macedonia	547	543	-0,7	176,0	225,2	27,9	729,1	1.021,3	40,1
Western Macedonia	90	76	-15,6	27,7	27,8	0,4	104,2	139,0	33,4
Thessalia	293	303	3,4	96,0	61,8	-35,6	439,9	214,3	-51,3
Ipiros	161	125	-22,4	48,4	52,5	8,4	185,3	229,2	23,7
Ionian Islands	236	166	-29,7	74,4	38,2	-48,6	266,3	136,5	-48,7
Western Greece	300	280	-6,7	79,2	63,4	-19,9	318,1	253,2	-20,4
Central Greece	263	285	8,4	73,8	53,8	-27,1	260,2	198,6	-23,7
Peloponnissos	318	297	-6,6	71,9	78,9	9,8	232,2	308,9	33,0
Attiki	711	492	-30,8	304,8	175,8	-42,3	1.182,2	906,8	-23,3
Northern Egeo	168	147	-12,5	35,4	34,8	-1,8	125,9	136,6	8,5
Southern Egeo	278	210	-24,5	68,6	40,6	-40,8	256,5	127,7	-50,2
Kriti	402	227	-43,5	208,7	57,8	-72,3	705,6	224,1	-68,2
Greece, Total	4.056	3.353	-17,3	1.353,5	965,9	-28,6	5.165,3	4.093,8	-20,7

DECREASE OF THE PRIVATE BUILDING ACTIVITY DURING JANUARY - AUGUST 2008 IN COMPARISON WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 2007

As concerns the Private Building Activity in the whole Country, during the period January - August 2008, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 17,1%, in surface by 17,1% and in volume by 15,8%, as compared to the same period of 2007.

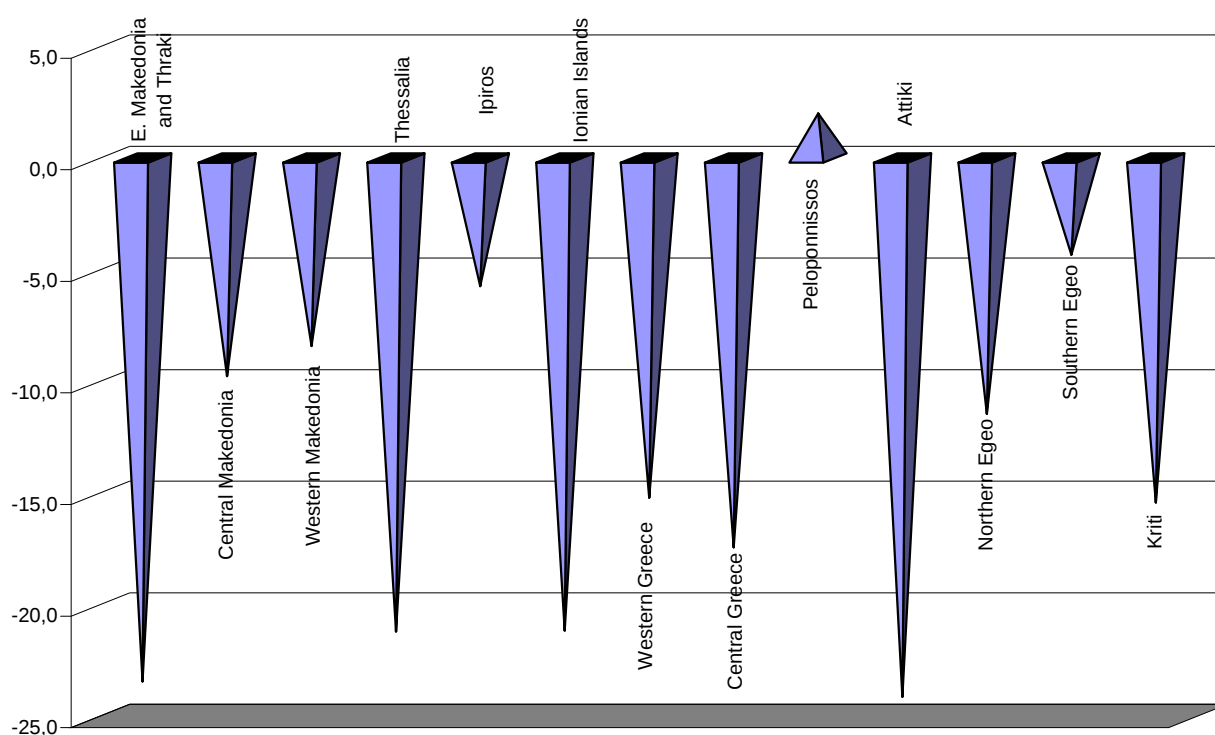
The building volume in the region of Attiki, during January - August 2008, has come up to 10.674,2 thousand m³, as compared to 14.072,6 thousand m³, of the same period of 2007 (decrease by 24,1%).

The building volume in rest of the Country, during January - August 2008, has come up to 33.379,9 thousand m³, as compared to 38.224,5 thousand m³, of the same period of 2007 (decrease by 12,7%).

**Table 3. Private Building Activity, by Region, for the period
January - August of 2007 and 2008**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January-August		Rate of change (%)	January-August		Rate of change (%)	January-August		Rate of change (%)
	2007	2008		2007	2008		2007	2008	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	2.626	2.032	-22,6	691,1	518,5	-25,0	2.654,2	2.031,6	-23,5
Central Makedonia	6.381	5.764	-9,7	2.216,1	1.959,2	-11,6	9.803,6	8.846,2	-9,8
Western Makedonia	909	731	-19,6	289,3	235,8	-18,5	1.058,1	969,0	-8,4
Thessalia	3.241	2.591	-20,1	927,3	761,2	-17,9	3.652,1	2.877,3	-21,2
Ipiros	1.571	1.508	-4,0	462,8	418,8	-9,5	1.652,1	1.557,3	-5,7
Ionian Islands	1.974	1.727	-12,5	432,7	344,5	-20,4	1.503,8	1.185,5	-21,2
Western Greece	3.525	3.010	-14,6	795,7	697,5	-12,3	3.097,2	2.625,9	-15,2
Central Greece	3.892	3.225	-17,1	1.071,8	811,6	-24,3	4.319,7	3.566,2	-17,4
Peloponnissos	4.307	3.647	-15,3	1.004,1	991,4	-1,3	3.427,2	3.496,2	2,0
Attiki	16.665	12.562	-24,6	3.828,8	2.891,7	-24,5	14.072,6	10.674,2	-24,1
Northern Egeo	1.498	1.295	-13,6	245,0	213,8	-12,7	885,0	783,6	-11,5
Southern Egeo	2.423	2.495	3,0	563,5	565,6	0,4	2.005,1	1.918,2	-4,3
Kriti	3.444	2.916	-15,3	1.186,9	960,9	-19,0	4.166,4	3.523,0	-15,4
Greece, Total	52.456	43.503	-17,1	13.715,1	11.370,2	-17,1	52.297,2	44.054,0	-15,8

Private Building Activity by Region
Rate of change (%) of building volume, by Region, for the period January - August, between 2007 and 2008

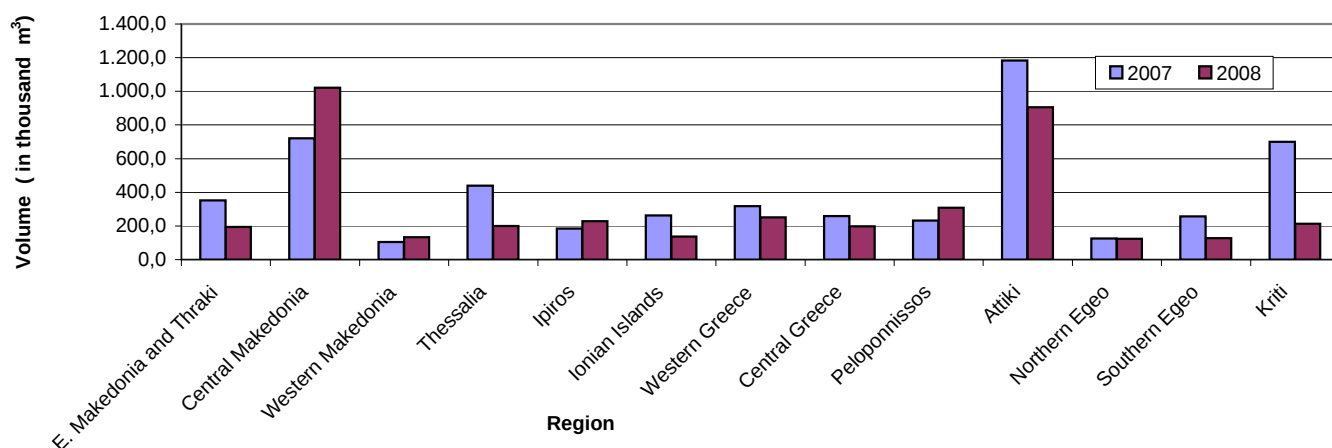


In August 2008 the magnitude of the Private Building Activity, in the whole Country, amounted to 3.262 building permits, which correspond to 954,1 thousand m² of surface and 4.041,7 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 4.037 building permits that were issued during August 2007 and corresponded to 1.347,1 thousand m² of surface and 5.133,7 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 19,2%, in surface by 29,2% and in volume by 21,3%.

**Table 4. Private Building Activity, by Region, for the month of
August of 2007 and 2008**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	August		Rate of change (%)	August		Rate of change (%)	August		Rate of change (%)
	2007	2008		2007	2008		2007	2008	
E. Makedonia and Thraki	285	200	-29,8	87,3	54,3	-37,8	351,3	193,9	-44,8
Central Makedonia	541	538	-0,6	174,8	225,0	28,7	720,3	1.020,6	41,7
Western Makedonia	90	74	-17,8	27,7	26,4	-4,7	104,2	133,7	28,4
Thessalia	292	235	-19,5	95,9	57,7	-39,8	439,3	199,8	-54,5
Ipiros	159	121	-23,9	48,2	52,2	8,1	184,2	228,2	23,9
Ionian Islands	235	166	-29,4	73,4	38,2	-47,9	263,1	136,5	-48,1
Western Greece	299	279	-6,7	79,0	63,1	-20,1	317,4	252,0	-20,6
Central Greece	261	284	8,8	73,3	53,8	-26,6	258,4	198,6	-23,1
Peloponnissos	318	297	-6,6	71,9	78,9	9,8	232,2	308,9	33,0
Attiki	711	490	-31,1	304,8	175,0	-42,6	1.182,2	904,8	-23,5
Northern Egeo	168	146	-13,1	35,4	33,8	-4,6	125,9	123,6	-1,8
Southern Egeo	277	209	-24,5	68,4	40,6	-40,7	255,9	127,7	-50,1
Kriti	401	223	-44,4	207,0	55,2	-73,3	699,4	213,2	-69,5
Greece, Total	4.037	3.262	-19,2	1.347,1	954,1	-29,2	5.133,7	4.041,7	-21,3

**Private Building Activity, by Region, for the month of
August of 2007 and 2008**



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

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

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

The legal basis of the survey is the Law 2396/96 (concerning the access of the General Secretariat of the 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:

- Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98 (concerning short-term statistics)

- Regulation (EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council No 1158/05 (amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98).

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