



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

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PRESS RELEASE

BUILDING ACTIVITY

APRIL 2009

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 April 2009.

DECREASE OF THE TOTAL BUILDING ACTIVITY (PRIVATE-PUBLIC) DURING JANUARY - APRIL 2009 IN COMPARISON WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 2008

During the period January - April 2009, the magnitude of the total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole Country, measured on the basis of building permits issued, amounted to 17.495 building permits, which correspond to 4.224,1 thousand m² of surface and 16.375,9 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 20.229 building permits that were issued during the same period of 2008 and corresponded to 5.435,6 thousand m² of surface and 21.207,2 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 13,5%, in surface by 22,3% and in volume by 22,8%. The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity in the total building volume, for the above period of 2009, is 3,7% (Table 1).

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

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January-April			January-April			January-April		
	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)
E. Makedonia and Thraki	935	941	0,6	237,0	216,2	-8,8	925,3	805,9	-12,9
Central Makedonia	2.672	2.253	-15,7	966,5	627,6	-35,1	4.479,2	2.868,1	-36,0
Western Makedonia	303	309	2,0	99,0	78,7	-20,5	389,0	274,2	-29,5
Thessalia	1.121	1.098	-2,1	338,0	288,5	-14,7	1.292,4	1.076,9	-16,7
Ipiros	699	623	-10,9	197,2	158,9	-19,4	707,2	608,0	-14,0
Ionian Islands	796	574	-27,9	165,3	108,2	-34,5	571,0	363,6	-36,3
Western Greece	1.389	1.296	-6,7	319,3	306,9	-3,9	1.175,6	1.192,4	1,4
Central Greece	1.476	1.343	-9,0	407,1	357,3	-12,2	1.965,2	1.599,3	-18,6
Peloponnissos	1.662	1.425	-14,3	472,3	380,6	-19,4	1.659,0	1.295,9	-21,9
Attiki	5.900	5.030	-14,7	1.324,6	1.084,1	-18,2	4.817,6	4.186,6	-13,1
Northern Egeo	613	485	-20,9	109,9	57,7	-47,5	408,2	197,4	-51,6
Southern Egeo	1.221	914	-25,1	307,3	173,2	-43,7	1.064,5	549,8	-48,4
Kriti	1.442	1.204	-16,5	491,9	386,3	-21,5	1.752,9	1.357,8	-22,5
Greece, Total	20.229	17.495	-13,5	5.435,6	4.224,1	-22,3	21.207,2	16.375,9	-22,8

In April 2009 the magnitude of the total Building Activity (private-public), in the whole Country (Table 2), amounted to 4.433 building permits, which correspond to 1.114,7 thousand m² of surface and 4.216,8 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 6.013 building permits that were issued during the same month of 2008 and corresponded to, 1.674,7 thousand m² of surface and 6.911,3 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 26,3%, in surface by 33,4% and in volume by 39,0%.

The magnitude of the Public Building Activity in April 2009, in the whole Country, amounted to 49 building permits, which correspond to 48,3 thousand m² of surface and 206,7 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 32 building permits that were issued during the same month of 2008 and corresponded to 27,3 thousand m² of surface and 133,4 thousand m³ of volume. The percentage contribution of the Public Building Activity in the total building activity, in April 2009, is 4,9%.

Table 2. Total Building Activity (Private-Public), by Region, for the month of April of 2008 and 2009

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	April			April			April		
	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)
E. Makedonia and Thraki	292	233	-20,2	82,4	53,7	-34,8	309,7	183,9	-40,6
Central Makedonia	793	557	-29,8	345,0	179,1	-48,1	1.836,3	751,7	-59,1
Western Makedonia	96	89	-7,3	29,2	32,6	11,6	120,6	113,1	-6,2
Thessalia	319	320	0,3	107,7	74,7	-30,7	413,9	286,6	-30,8
Ipiros	230	161	-30,0	58,7	39,5	-32,7	197,6	158,4	-19,8
Ionian Islands	213	147	-31,0	47,0	35,4	-24,7	163,0	114,3	-29,9
Western Greece	437	338	-22,7	101,6	67,2	-33,8	417,0	250,3	-40,0
Central Greece	496	353	-28,8	126,4	137,8	9,1	533,5	547,0	2,5
Peloponnissos	490	385	-21,4	112,2	92,9	-17,1	402,6	321,0	-20,3
Attiki	1777	1199	-32,5	410,3	241,4	-41,2	1.602,7	965,1	-39,8
Northern Egeo	156	113	-27,6	29,6	14,8	-49,8	98,1	50,4	-48,6
Southern Egeo	370	231	-37,6	106,2	41,0	-61,4	382,1	110,0	-71,2
Kriti	344	307	-10,8	118,4	104,5	-11,8	434,3	365,1	-15,9
Greece, Total	6.013	4.433	-26,3	1.674,7	1.114,7	-33,4	6.911,3	4.216,8	-39,0

DECREASE OF THE PRIVATE BUILDING ACTIVITY DURING JANUARY - APRIL 2009 IN COMPARISON WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 2008

As concerns the Private Building Activity in the whole Country, during the period January - April 2009, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 13,7%, in surface by 23,8% and in volume by 24,3%, as compared to the same period of 2008 (Table 3).

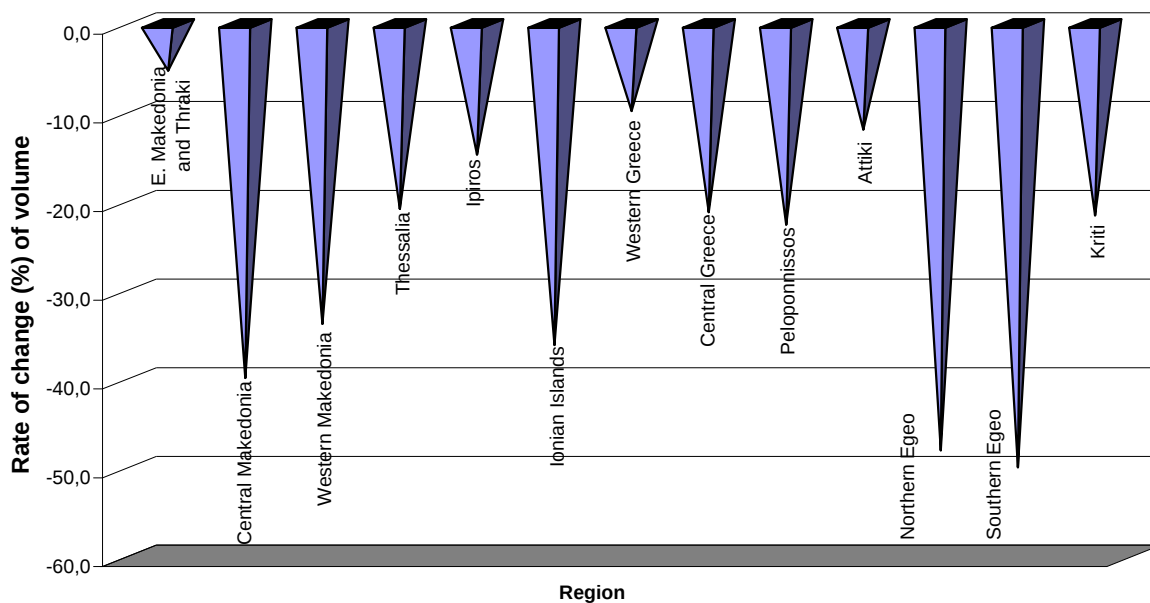
The building volume in the region of Attiki, during January - April 2009, has come up to 4.184,8 thousand m³, as compared to 4.753,8 thousand m³, of the same period of 2008 (decrease by 12,0%).

The building volume in rest of the Country, during January - April 2009, has come up to 11.589,4 thousand m³, as compared to 16.086,2 thousand m³, of the same period of 2008 (decrease by 28,0%).

**Table 3. Private Building Activity, by Region, for the period
January - April of 2008 and 2009**

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	January-April			January-April			January-April		
	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)
E. Makedonia and Thraki	913	933	2,2	221,5	212,6	-4,0	833,4	788,9	-5,3
Central Makedonia	2.642	2.199	-16,8	952,1	579,4	-39,1	4.425,3	2.657,7	-39,9
Western Makedonia	299	297	-0,7	97,4	70,9	-27,2	367,3	242,9	-33,8
Thessalia	1.085	1.083	-0,2	333,0	271,4	-18,5	1.270,3	1.004,6	-20,9
Ipiros	696	615	-11,6	194,4	155,3	-20,1	695,8	592,9	-14,8
Ionian Islands	793	571	-28,0	163,6	106,8	-34,7	561,3	357,8	-36,3
Western Greece	1.384	1.289	-6,9	317,9	273,6	-13,9	1.170,0	1.054,7	-9,9
Central Greece	1.470	1.329	-9,6	404,1	342,2	-15,3	1.953,3	1.537,7	-21,3
Peloponnissos	1.651	1.409	-14,7	468,8	374,6	-20,1	1.645,6	1.272,2	-22,7
Attiki	5.881	5.024	-14,6	1.309,7	1.083,7	-17,3	4.753,8	4.184,8	-12,0
Northern Egeo	610	477	-21,8	100,8	56,3	-44,2	369,6	191,8	-48,1
Southern Egeo	1.218	910	-25,3	307,0	167,9	-45,3	1.063,2	531,4	-50,0
Kriti	1.436	1.201	-16,4	486,4	386,0	-20,6	1.731,2	1.356,7	-21,6
Greece, Total	20.078	17.337	-13,7	5.356,6	4.080,6	-23,8	20.840,1	15.774,3	-24,3

Graph 1. Private Building Activity by Region
Rate of change (%) of building volume, by Region, for the period January - April,
between 2008 and 2009

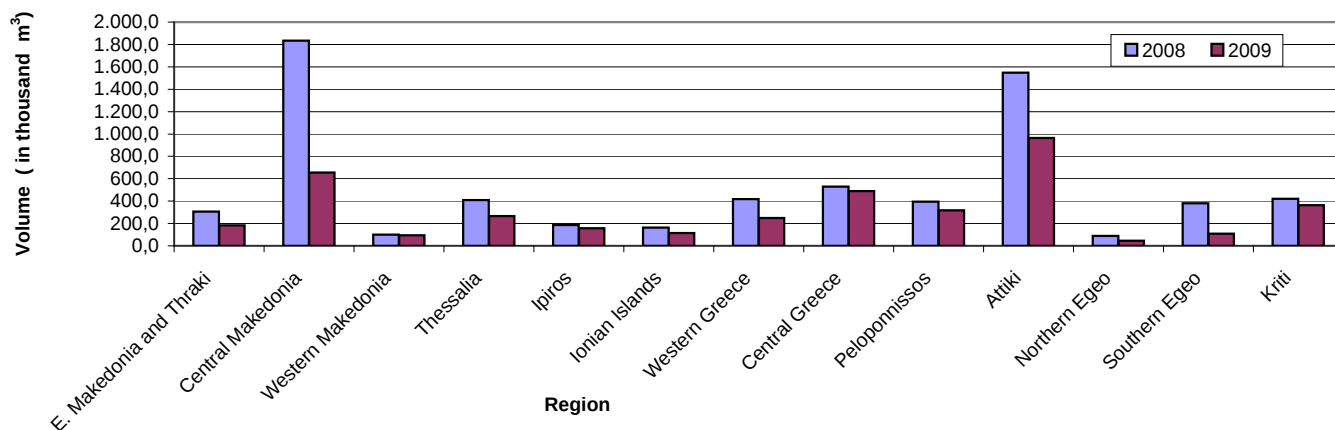


In April 2009 the magnitude of the Private Building Activity, in the whole Country, amounted to 4.384 building permits, which correspond to 1.066,4 thousand m² of surface and 4.010,1 thousand m³ of volume, as compared to 5.981 building permits that were issued during April 2008 and corresponded to 1.647,4 thousand m² of surface and 6.777,9 thousand m³ of volume. Thus, there was a decrease in the number of building permits by 26,7%, in surface by 35,3% and in volume by 40,8%(Table 4).

Table 4. Private Building Activity, by Region, for the month of April of 2008 and 2009

Region	Number of building permits			Surface (in thousand m ²)			Volume (in thousand m ³)		
	April			April			April		
	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)	2008	2009	Rate of change (%)
E. Makedonia and Thraki	288	231	-19,8	81,5	53,5	-34,3	306,0	183,2	-40,1
Central Makedonia	786	539	-31,4	344,3	154,5	-55,1	1.833,0	655,6	-64,2
Western Makedonia	94	85	-9,6	28,1	28,3	0,8	100,0	94,4	-5,6
Thessalia	318	319	0,3	106,9	72,5	-32,2	409,4	264,7	-35,3
Ipiros	228	159	-30,3	55,9	38,9	-30,5	186,2	156,5	-15,9
Ionian Islands	213	147	-31,0	47,0	35,4	-24,7	163,0	114,3	-29,9
Western Greece	437	337	-22,9	101,6	67,0	-34,0	417,0	249,5	-40,2
Central Greece	493	341	-30,8	125,5	124,0	-1,2	529,0	489,3	-7,5
Peloponnissos	486	381	-21,6	110,0	91,8	-16,6	394,5	316,8	-19,7
Attiki	1.772	1.197	-32,4	398,2	241,4	-39,4	1.549,3	965,1	-37,7
Northern Egeo	155	112	-27,7	27,7	13,9	-49,9	90,0	46,6	-48,2
Southern Egeo	369	231	-37,4	105,8	41,0	-61,3	380,8	110,0	-71,1
Kriti	342	305	-10,8	114,7	104,2	-9,2	419,7	364,0	-13,3
Greece, Total	5.981	4.384	-26,7	1.647,4	1.066,4	-35,3	6.777,9	4.010,1	-40,8

Graph 2. Private Building Activity, by Region, for the month of April of 2008 and 2009



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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