

## Comments

Between the beginning of January and the end of July 2008 the planning and building control authorities granted a total of **70 208<sup>\*)</sup> building permits** on the territory of the Czech Republic, which is 5 770 permits up on the corresponding period of 2007.

There were 40 935 building permits granted for buildings in total (i.e. + 2 126 year-on-year) of which residential buildings accounted for 28 129 permits (+ 725) and non-residential buildings for 12 806 (+ 1 401).

The number of building permits granted for constructions for environmental protections was 10 900 which translates into an increase of 1 347.

The number of building permits granted for other constructions amounted to 18 373, which is by 2 297 more than in the corresponding period of 2007.

Of the total 70 208 building permits, 40 196 was granted for new construction (57.3 %) and 30 012 for renewals and enhancements (42.7 %).

Territorially, rather high investment activities are expected in the Středočeský Region (18.0 %), Jihomoravský Region (12.8 %), Moravskoslezský Region (9.6 %) and the capital city of Prague (7.6 %), which is in contrast to the lowest construction activities expected in the Karlovarský Region (2.5 %), the Liberecký Region (3.5 %), the Olomoucký Region and the Pardubický Region (4.7 %).

There were 28 129 building permits granted for residential buildings: 11 911 of them for new construction (42.3 %) and 16 218 for renewals and enhancements (57.7 %). Most of them were granted in the Středočeský Region (19.3 %), the Jihomoravský Region (12.4 %) and the Moravskoslezský Region (10.7 %). 3 330 building permits issued on the territory of the capital city of Prague make up 11.8 %, of which 2.0 % account for new construction.

The buildings, which were given a go-ahead for the start of construction from January till July 2008, are supposed to provide 42 363 dwellings throughout the Czech Republic. New construction should provide 22 506 dwellings (53.1 %; 22 340 and 166 dwellings in residential and non-residential buildings, respectively). Renewals and enhancements resulting in dwellings should provide 3 542 dwellings (8.4 %; 2 595 in residential buildings and 947 in non-residential buildings). Total 26 048 new dwellings. The other renewals and enhancements (i.e. those that do not produce new dwellings) should result in 16 315 reconstructed dwellings (38.5 %).

Between the beginning of January and the end of July 2008 the planning and building control authorities permitted the construction of buildings with floor space 5 613.0 thousand m<sup>2</sup> (+ 10.8 %), of 2 947.3 thousand m<sup>2</sup> was in residential buildings (+ 10.5 %) and 2 665.7 thousand m<sup>2</sup> in non-residential buildings (+ 11.2 %). A floor space of 5 308.7 thousand m<sup>2</sup> was obtained in new constructions and 304.3 thousand m<sup>2</sup> by renewals and enhancements.

The **approximate value** of the constructions, for the commencement of which the planning and building control authorities granted building permits by the end of July, amounts to **CZK 232 741 million** at current prices, which translates into an increase of CZK 34 776 million on the corresponding period of 2007.

A total of CZK 150 290 million (an increase of CZK 14 787 million year-on-year, i.e. + 10.9 %) should be spent on construction of buildings, of which CZK 70 668 million on residential buildings (by CZK 9 534 million more) and CZK 79 622 million on non-residential ones (+ CZK 5 253 million).

A total of CZK 15 246 million should be invested in constructions for environmental protection - i.e. by CZK 1 914 million more than in the corresponding period of 2007.

The approximate value for the other constructions amounts to CZK 67 205 million - an increase of CZK 18 075 million on the corresponding period of 2007.

\*) New Act No. 183/2006 Sb., on territorial planning and the building code (the Building Act), is in force from 1 January 2007. This Act, especially in Sections 103 and 104, regulates newly the problem of "granting building permits". The new Act may have an impact on absolute values in the time series covering building permits and renewals and enhancements, particularly numbers of building permits and their approximate value for non-residential buildings, environmental and other constructions.