

## Comments

Between the beginning of January and the end of September 2008 the planning and building control authorities granted a total of **92 973<sup>\*)</sup> building permits** on the territory of the Czech Republic, which is 5 785 permits up on the corresponding period of 2007.

There were 53 578 building permits granted for buildings in total (i.e. + 2 006 year-on-year) of which residential buildings accounted for 36 730 permits (+ 347) and non-residential buildings for 16 848 (+ 1 659).

The number of building permits granted for constructions for environmental protections was 14 600 which translates into an increase of 939.

The number of building permits granted for other constructions amounted to 24 795, which is by 2 840 more than in the corresponding period of 2007.

Of the total 92 973 building permits, 53 556 was granted for new construction (57.6 %) and 39 417 for renewals and enhancements (42.4 %).

Territorially, rather high investment activities are expected in the Středočeský Region (18.1 %), Jihomoravský Region (13.0 %), Moravskoslezský Region (9.7 %) and the capital city of Prague (7.2 %), which is in contrast to the lowest construction activities expected in the Karlovarský Region (2.5 %), the Liberecký Region (3.6 %), the Olomoucký Region and the Pardubický Region (4.7 %).

There were 36 730 building permits granted for residential buildings: 15 843 of them for new construction (43.1 %) and 20 887 for renewals and enhancements (56.9 %). Most of them were granted in the Středočeský Region (19.3 %), the Jihomoravský Region (12.2 %) and the Moravskoslezský Region (10.9 %). 4 208 building permits issued on the territory of the capital city of Prague make up 11.6 %, of which 2.1 % account for new construction.

The buildings, which were given a go-ahead for the start of construction from January till September 2008, are supposed to provide 54 836 dwellings throughout the Czech Republic. New construction should be provide 29 329 dwellings (53.5 %; 29 082 and 247 dwellings in residential and non-residential buildings, respectively). Renewals and enhancements resulting in dwellings should be provide 4 516 dwellings (8.2 %; 3 349 in residential buildings and 1 167 in non-residential buildings). Total 33 845 new dwellings. The other renewals and enhancements (i.e. those that do not produce new dwellings) should be result in 20 991 reconstructed dwellings (38.3 %).

Between the beginning of January and the end of September 2008 the planning and building control authorities permitted the construction of buildings with floor space 7 152.7 thousand m<sup>2</sup> (+ 8.1 %), of 3 867.0 thousand m<sup>2</sup> was in residential buildings (+ 5.3 %) and 3 285.7 thousand m<sup>2</sup> in non-residential buildings (+ 11.6 %). A floor space of 6 761.2 thousand m<sup>2</sup> was obtained in new constructions and 391.5 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 September, amounts to **CZK 303 492 million** at current prices, which translates into an increase of CZK 45 065 million on the corresponding period of 2007.

A total of CZK 197 976 million (an increase of CZK 23 651 million year-on-year, i.e. + 13.6 %) should be spent on construction of buildings, of which CZK 93 685 million on residential buildings (by CZK 8 277 million more) and CZK 104 291 million on non-residential ones (+ CZK 15 374 million).

A total of CZK 22 043 million should be invested in constructions for environmental protection - i.e. by CZK 4 406 million more than in the corresponding period of 2007.

The approximate value for the other constructions amounts to CZK 83 473 million - an increase of CZK 17 008 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.