12 March 2021

Builders balanced December decrease

Construction – January 2021

In January 2021, the construction output decreased by 5.2%, year-on-year (y-o-y), in real terms. It was higher by 4.2%, month-on-month (m-o-m). The planning and building control authorities granted by 12.3% less building permits, y-o-y. The approximate value of permitted constructions decreased by 8.3%, y-o-y. The number of started dwellings decreased by 11.3%, y-o-y. The number of completed dwellings increased by 11.5%, y-o-y.

*“Despite all obstacles, the industry as a whole is still holding on. In January, similarly as in the end of the last year, the industrial production was slightly increasing. We can consider that to be a good result, because we compare the figures to January 2020, when the economy in Czechia was still running as usual. The situation in construction has not yet considerably changed, restrictions are reflected mainly in how smoothly buildings are constructed,”* Radek Matějka, Director of the Agricultural and Forestry, Industrial, Construction, and Energy Statistics Department, says.

In January 2021, the **construction output1** increased by 4.2%, m-o-m, in real terms. In the year-on-year comparison, it decreased by 5.2%. Compared to the corresponding month of the previous year, the production in building construction decreased by 6.5% (contribution −5.2 percentage points (p. p.)). The production of civil engineering construction increased by 0.1%, y-o-y (contribution 0.0 p. p.).

*“Construction output in January had to face a high comparison basis and bad weather; despite that, its year-on-year decrease was not that considerable and in the month-on-month comparison it has even increased. It continues to be true that civil engineering construction is more successful than building construction,”* Petra Cuřínová, Head of the Construction Statistics Unit, says.

The **average registered number of employees2** in construction decreased by 0.7%, y-o-y, in January 2021. Their **average gross monthly nominal wage** increased by 0.4%, y-o-y, in January 2021.

The planning and building control authorities granted 6 044 **building permits** in January 2021; it was by 12.3% less, y-o-y. The **approximate value** of the permitted constructions reached CZK 33.0 billion and compared to the corresponding period of 2020 it decreased by 8.3%.

The **number of dwellings started** decreased in January 2021 by 11.3%, y-o-y, and reached the number of 2 629 dwellings. The number of dwellings started in family houses decreased by 29.8%. The number of dwellings started in multi-dwelling buildings increased by 36.5%.

The **number of completed dwellings** increased by 11.5%, y-o-y, in January 2021 and amounted to 3 027 dwellings. The number of completed dwellings in family houses increased by 3.9%; the number of completed dwellings in multi-dwelling buildings increased by 39.6%.

According to Eurostat, **construction output in the EU27 in December 2020** decreased by 2.1%, y-o-y. Buildings decreased by 1.5% and civil engineering works decreased by 4.2%. According to a preliminary release calendar, Eurostat will release data for January 2021 on 17 March 2021.

*Notes:*

1 The year-on-year development of construction output (production) is adjusted for working days unless otherwise stated. Month-on-month or quarter-on-quarter rates are also seasonally adjusted. Contributions to an increase or to a decrease are calculated from data that are adjusted for working days.

2 Indicators related to employment in construction apply to the whole population of enterprises the principal (prevailing) activity of which is construction. The indicator of the registered number of employees does not include persons working under various contracts for work (an agreement on work performance and an agreement on work activity), working owners of enterprises and cooperating household members who do not have contracts of employment. The piece of data on the registered number of employees in construction also excludes agency workers who have contracts of employment within economic activities of services (CZ-NACE 78.2).

*In accordance with the CZSO revision policy, concurrently with processing of data for January 2021, data for the year 2020 have been revised.*

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*Method of data acquisition: direct surveys of the CZSO (*Stav 1–12 *and* Stav 2–12*)*

*End of data collection: 3 March 2021*

*Related outputs:* [*https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/sta\_ts*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/sta_ts)

[*https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/bvz\_ts*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/bvz_ts)

*Next News Release will be published on: 8 April 2021*

Annexes:

Table 1 Construction production indices, building permits granted, and housing construction (year-on-year indices for the month)

Chart 1 Construction production indices (year-on-year indices for the month)

Chart 2 Construction production indices (base indices)

Chart 3 Construction production indices, international comparison (base indices)