



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS



**QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY**  
**Monthly Report on Building Permits Issued (GRAD-44a)**  
**For 2022**

Organisational unit: Construction Statistics Department

Prepared by: Srećko Palej

March 2024

## 0. Basic information

- Purpose, goal, and subject of the survey

The aim of the statistical survey on building permits issued is to obtain data on types, building size, expected value and location of constructions to be built, type of investor as well as on the number and total useful floor area of dwellings in buildings for which building permits were issued.

Data on issued building permits make it possible to define the change dynamics of the construction activity as well as to plan future works and the structure of investments both at state and local self-government levels. The data serve as a base for planning the production of construction materials and ready-made components as well as of other industrial products for fitting buildings and dwellings, for making decisions on the development of construction entrepreneurship and various housing-related services, etc.

The subject of the survey is every building permit issued for constructions as specified in the Building Act (NN, No. 153/13, 20/17, 39/19 and 125/19).

- Reference period

Month

- Legal acts and other agreements

The legal bases for the Monthly Report on Building Permits Issued (GRAD-44a form) are the following:

- Official Statistics Act (NN, No 25/20)
- Programme of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia
- Annual Implementation Plan of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia
- Regulation (EU) No 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics

The obligation of reporting units to submit data is based on Article 45 of the Official Statistics Act (NN, No 25/20).

Refusing to provide data, providing incomplete and inaccurate data, or failing to provide data within the prescribed deadline will be subject to the misdemeanour provisions laid down in Article 76 of the aforementioned Act.

- Classification system

National Classification of Types of Constructions

- Statistical concepts and definitions

According to the Methodology of Short-Term Indicators in Construction, the building permit means allowance to start building works. It is issued by a competent body on an investor's request.

This is a general definition, while every country has its own regulations that define this field at a more detailed level.

Building permits are issued in the Republic of Croatia according to the provisions of the Act on Construction (NN, No. 153/13, 20/17, 39/19 and 125/19).

Building permits are all issued (valid) documents that are the basis for starting the construction works.

The report includes building permits issued for building of new constructions and for reconstruction of existing constructions.

The following data are collected by the Report:

- number of building permits issued by types of constructions, works and work investors
- construction size of buildings (m2 and m3)
- planned value of works on constructions for which building permits were issued
- number of dwellings and useful floor area of dwellings
- number of dwellings by type of constructions, works and number of rooms.

Data are collected monthly and include all building permits issued during the reporting month.

Detailed definitions of the variables described are available in the Methodological Guidelines No. 68 entitled "Monthly Report on Building Permits Issued (2011 Revision)", Croatian Bureau of Statistics, Zagreb, 2012, in Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics, and in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics

- **Statistical units**

Reporting units are administration bodies competent for construction affairs in major cities, the City of Zagreb and counties, as well as the Ministry of Physical Planning, Construction and State Assets, which issue building permits.

Observation units are all building permits issued for all types of constructions and works.

- **Statistical population**

All building permits issued for all types of constructions and works; number of constructions; construction size of buildings (gross floor area and gross volume); useful floor area of buildings; number of dwellings by type of construction works and number of rooms as well as useful floor area of dwellings.

The Report covers 139 reporting units that issued building permits.

## **1. Relevance**

### **1.1. Data users**

Users of statistical data on building permits issued can be found in all areas of economic and social life, starting from business entities, the media, economic analysts, researchers and students, to state administration bodies, professional business organisations (the Croatian Chamber of Economy), non-profit organisations (the Croatian Employers' Association), financial institutions (the Croatian National Bank, Raiffeisen bank, etc.) and other international institutions.

### 1.1.1. User needs

Users of statistical data on building permits issued can be found in all areas of economic and social life, starting from business entities, media, economic analysts, researchers and students, to state administration bodies, professional business organisations (the Croatian Chamber of Economy), non-profit organisations (the Croatian Employers' Association), financial institutions (the Croatian National Bank, Raiffeisen bank, etc.) and other international institutions which use data series on the number and types of constructions for which building permits were issued, the number and floor area of buildings and dwellings and on dwellings by the number of rooms.

### 1.1.2. User satisfaction

Data on user satisfaction are not available.

## 1.2. Completeness

Data are complete and in line with the concepts and definitions based on the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics, and in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics.

### 1.2.1. Data completeness rate

100%.

## 2. Accuracy and reliability

### 2.1. Sampling error

Not applicable. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics uses a detailed survey as a data collection method, and not a sampling method. The aim is to collect data on all building permits issued (i.e. for the whole population) for all types of constructions and works in accordance with the National Classification of Types of Constructions (NKVG).

#### 2.1.1. Sampling error indicators

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

### 2.2. Non-sampling error

Non-sampling errors are all other errors that are not connected with the sample selection – coverage, measurement, processing, non-response.

They are regularly calculated and controlled.

#### 2.2.1. Coverage error

The coverage of building permits issued is determined by the National Classification of Types of Constructions (NKVG) and covers section 1 (buildings) and section 2 (civil engineering works). No section (unit) is excluded from the coverage, so the coverage error is 0.

#### 2.2.2. Over-coverage rate

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

### 2.2.3. Measurement error

Measurement errors during data collection occur due to ignorance, negligence, lack of appreciation of importance of statistics, not knowing how to respond and conscious/unconscious presenting of inaccurate data by respondents. Problems arising from unclear questions in the questionnaire, measurement units or ambiguous instructions for filling in the forms are minor due to the fact that the availability of data was taken into consideration while defining their content.

In addition, the reporting units are welcome to contact regional offices of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics (which provide assistance to the reporting units in filling in reports and check the completeness and accuracy of data before they are submitted to the Croatian Bureau of Statistics), or directly the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

These measurement errors do not represent a major issue, since they are revealed during the visual and calculation control of data before they are entered in the computer as well as by the default computerised data editing during data processing. When such illogicalities or errors are observed, the reporting units are contacted for the check-up of inaccurate and incomplete data and for the correction of inaccurate data.

### 2.2.4. Non-response errors

#### Unit non-response

The survey is exhaustive. The response rate is 100%. All data are available within the set deadline. For late or missing data, reporting units are contacted by phone or via urging letters and asked to provide the missing data.

#### Item non-response

There were no non-responses for variables. In the data processing phase, the reporting units that have not fully completed the questionnaire are contacted by phone and asked to provide corrected or missing data. Each month, the response rate is 100%.

### 2.2.5. Unit non-response rate

Unweighted non-response rate:

%

Domain	Domain value	Comment	January	February	March	April	May	June	Jul	August	September	October	November	December	Average
Croatia	Croatia		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### 2.2.6. Item non-response rate

Unweighted non-response rate for certain variables:

%

Variable	Domain	Domain value	Comment	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average
Non-response rate for all variables	Croatia	Croatia		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### 2.2.7. Processing errors

The Croatian Bureau of Statistics controls whether data are accurate, fully covered and logical, codes identification and other data, enters data and performs computer processing. Source data validation is performed before and after they are entered into the data processing system. The incorrect, incomplete and missing data are corrected.

Statisticians enter and code the data manually. Data validation is performed according to the specified conditions.

Respondents' errors, coding errors and data entry errors are corrected manually and electronically as follows:

- Source data validation is performed before and after they are entered into the data processing system. The reporting units that have not fully completed the questionnaire (incorrect, incomplete or missing data) are contacted by telephone and asked to provide corrected and complete data.
- Electronic data validation is performed after entering data into the computer. Reports that fail to meet the quality standards are subject to verification and corrections as required. The correction procedures are implemented by priority: severe errors are generally corrected manually and more effort is spent on these, while less attention is paid to minor errors that are mostly corrected automatically through computerised input.

### 2.2.8. Imputation rate

Unweighted imputation rate for certain variables:

%

Variable	Domain	Domain value	Comment	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average
All variables	Croatia	Croatia		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### 2.2.9. Model assumption error

Not available.

## 2.3. Data revision

### 2.3.1. Data revision – policy

The users of statistical data are informed about revisions (provisional, final data) on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

Revisions are done for correcting errors or major changes in classifications or methodology.

Routine revisions are not carried out since all data are available according to deadlines.

Notices about minor changes are announced in First Releases at the time the change has been introduced.

The same revision policy is applied to data publishing, both for national purposes and when submitting data to Eurostat.

The data publishing revision policy of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics includes the following:

#### 1) Updating of the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues:

The data publishing revision policy of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics is conducted, according to the deadlines announced in advance, by updating the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues. According to the Official Statistics Act, changes in publishing deadlines for publications/data are announced in advance. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics is obliged to announce each change in publishing deadlines (updating of the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues) at least three days prior to the date originally announced in the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues on their website.

The update of publishing deadlines for data or publications (update of the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues) is announced without delay on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics by changing the date in the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues to the new one and putting a notice next to the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues, which says: "updated", and specifying the accurate new date.

Therefore, the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues that contains the original publishing deadline for a particular publication/statistical data is replaced with the new Calendar of Statistical Data Issues, which includes the updated publishing deadline. The original Calendar of Statistical Data Issues is kept in the Publishing Department, which registers every change in publishing deadlines for publications in the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues update base.

#### 2) Publishing corrections of the released data

In cases when an error is observed in the published data, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics publishes a correction as soon as possible and as simple as possible in order to help users to clearly see what has been changed in comparison to the originally published data. The correction is carried out by marking the incorrect data with an asterisk and creating the correction.

##### 2.3.2. Data revision – practice

Data are disseminated as final and as such they are not subject to any revision. For this reason, numeric information on the size of typical revision and regular sources of revisions are not applicable.

However, if an error occurs, corrected data are published in the next issue of the First Release. Data changed in relation to the previously released ones are disseminated with a comment.

Major changes in the methodology are published in the First Release at the time the change has been introduced.

The general practice is to explain all changes in the methodology when the data based on the new methodology are published for the first time. Information on methodological changes are provided in the Notes on Methodology that are a part of all related paper or electronic publications.

##### 2.3.3. Data revision – average size

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

## 2.4. Seasonal adjustment

In the STS database, data are presented in the form of gross (unadjusted), working-day adjusted, and seasonally and working-day adjusted absolute values.

Seasonal and working-day adjustment has been done by using the X13 ARIMA method on the quarterly series of absolute values, which starts with the data for the first quarter of 2000.

Seasonal and working-day adjustment is performed for the number of dwellings in residential buildings and useful floor area.

### **3. Timeliness and punctuality**

#### **3.1. Timeliness**

For national purposes, monthly indicators are published T + 45 days on average after the end of the reporting month, as final data. Quarterly indicators are submitted to Eurostat T + 60 days after the end of the reporting period in a given form, as final data.

Forms are sent to the reporting units once (for the entire year), at the beginning of January. The deadline for submitting the completed forms is the fifth day in the month for the previous month.

The collection of forms ends approximately 20 days after the deadline for submitting the reports.

##### **3.1.1. Timeliness – first results**

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

##### **3.1.2. Timeliness – final results**

Time lag – final results is T + 45 days.

#### **3.2. Punctuality**

First Releases are published as announced in the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues (<https://podaci.dzs.hr/hr/podaci/gradevinarstvo/gradevinske-dozvole/>). There is no time lag between the actual publishing of data and the target date when they should have been published.

##### **3.2.1. Punctuality – delivery and publication**

Punctuality is 1.

### **4. Accessibility and clarity**

The results of the Monthly Report on Building Permits Issued are published in the following statistical publications: First Releases (monthly and annual), in Excel tables on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics under the link "Statistics in Line" (in Croatian and English), STS (short-term business statistics) database (<https://stsbaza.dzs.hr/Report>) and in Statistical Report "Construction". These publications also contain short methodological explanations.

Detailed notes on methodology are published in the Methodological Guidelines No. 68 entitled "Monthly Report on Building Permits Issued (Revision)", Croatian Bureau of Statistics, Zagreb, 2012 (in Croatian and English).

Publications are available to users in printed and electronic form on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics <https://podaci.dzs.hr/hr/podaci/gradevinarstvo/gradevinske-dozvole/>.

All publications are released simultaneously to all users at 11 a.m.

No one has advantage in accessing data.

#### **4.1. News releases**

Monthly data on building permits issued are published regularly in First Releases entitled "Building Permits Issued", 45 days on average after the end of the month and in Excel tables on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics under the link Statistics in Line (in Croatian and English). Quarterly data on building permits issued, as requested by Eurostat (number of dwellings in residential buildings and useful floor area of buildings), are published in the STS (short-term business statistics) database at <https://stsbaza.dzs.hr/Report>.



In addition to monthly First Releases, an annual First Release “Building Permits Issued” is published with detailed data.

The released data are available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics at <https://podaci.dzs.hr/hr/podaci/gradevinarstvo/gradevinske-dozvole/>.

#### 4.2. Online database

Quarterly data on building permits issued, as requested by Eurostat (number of dwellings in residential buildings and useful floor area of buildings), are published in the STS (short-term business statistics) database at <https://stsbaza.dzs.hr/Report>.

#### 4.3. Micro-data access

The conditions under which certain users can access microdata are regulated by the Ordinance on the Conditions and Manner of Using Confidential Statistical Data for Scientific Purposes.

#### 4.4. Documentation on methodology

National documents:

- a) Brief notes on methodology are available in monthly and annual publications.
- b) Detailed notes on methodology are published in Methodological Guidelines No 68 entitled “Monthly Report on Building Permits Issued (2011 Revision)”, Croatian Bureau of Statistics, Zagreb, 2012.

International documents:

- a) European business statistics compilers’ manual for short-term business statistics – 2021 edition
- b) Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics, and in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics.

## 5. Coherence and comparability

### 5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

Not available.

### 5.2. Comparability over time

All data have been available since 2000 and are comparable with no breaks in time series.

#### 5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is

Domain	Domain value	Comment	January	February	March	April	May	June	Jul	August	September	October	November	December
Croatia	Croatia		265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276

#### 5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

None.

### 5.3. Coherence – sub-annual and annual statistics

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

#### **5.4. Coherence – national accounts**

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

#### **5.5. Coherence – administrative sources**

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

### **6. Cost and burden**

#### **6.1. Cost**

Annual operational costs amount to 4 028 hours annually.

#### **6.2. Burden**

Data not available.