

**QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY**  
**Monthly Report on Building Permits Issued**  
**(GRAD-44a) for 2021**

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## 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 object of the survey is every building permit issued for constructions as specified in the Building Act (NN, Nos 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 (OG, 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) 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 (OG, No. 25/20).

In case of the refusal to provide data, the provision of incomplete or incorrect data or the provision of data out of the time schedule, penalty provisions defined in Article 76 of the Act shall apply.

- Classification system

National Classification of Types of Constructions

- Concepts and definitions

According to the Methodology of Short-Term Indicators in Construction, the building permit means allowance to start construction works, which a competent body issues to the investor on his/her request.

This is a general definition, while every country has its own regulations that provide a more detailed definition of this domain.

Building permits are issued in the Republic of Croatia according to the provisions of the Building Act (OG, Nos 153/13, 20/17, 39/19 and 125/19).

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

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

The following data are collected on the Monthly Report:

- Number of building permits issued by types of constructions, works and investor of works
- Construction size of buildings (m<sup>2</sup> and m<sup>3</sup>)
- 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 types of constructions, works and number of rooms.

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

More detailed definition of variables can be found in the Methodological Guidelines No. 68 "Monthly Report on Construction Permissions Issued" (2011 Revision, Croatian Bureau of Statistics, Zagreb, 2012 as well as 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 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); square metres of useful floor area of buildings; number of dwellings by types 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, 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 full and in line with concepts and definitions as required by 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 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 carries out an exhaustive survey as a data collection method and not a sampling method. It is aimed at collecting data on all building permits issued (for the whole population) for different types of constructions according to the National Classification of Types of Constructions (NKVG).

#### 2.1.1. Sampling error indicators

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

## **2.2. Non-sampling error**

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

They are regularly calculated and checked.

### **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**

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

### **2.2.3. Measurement errors**

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 inaccurate data by respondents. Problems caused by unclear questions in the questionnaire, measurement units or instructions for filling in the forms are minor owing to the fact that the availability of data was taken into consideration while defining their contents. In addition, reporting units are welcome to contact branch units of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics (who help 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 checks of data before they are entered in the computer as well as by the default computerised logical and calculation checks during data processing. When such illogicality or errors are spotted, reporting units are contacted for the check-up of inaccurate and incomplete data and for their correction.

### **2.2.4. Non-response errors**

#### **Unit non-response**

The survey is exhaustive. Response rate is 100%. All data are available according to deadlines. For late or missing data, units are contacted by phone or via urging letters and asked to provide the missing data.

#### **Item non-response**

No incidents of item non-response are recorded. 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. Response rate is 100% every month.

### 2.2.5. Unit non-response rate

Unweighted non-response rate is:

Domain	Value	Notice	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	On average
Croatia	Croatia		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

%

### 2.2.6. Item non-response rate

Unweighted item non-response rate

Variable	Domain	Value	Notice	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	On 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 computer. 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:

- manual data validation is performed before entering source data into the computer. The reporting units that have not fully completed the questionnaire (incorrect, incomplete or missing data) are contacted by phone 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, if needed. The correction procedures are implemented by priority, so that severe errors are generally corrected manually and more time is spent on their correction, while less attention is paid to minor errors that are mostly corrected using the automatic command integrated in the computer.

## 2.2.8. Imputation rate

### Unweighted imputation rate

Variable	Domain	Value	Notice	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	On 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 revision (preliminary, 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 monthly data are available according to deadlines.

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

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

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

- 1) Update of the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues
- 2) 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 to release deadlines of publications/data are announced in advance. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics undertook to

announce each change in the release deadlines (the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues update) at least three days prior to the date originally announced in the Calendar on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

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

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

### 3) Release of corrections of issued data

In cases when an error is observed in the published data, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics issues 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 done by marking the incorrect data with an asterisk and creating the correction.

#### 2.3.2. Data revision – practice

Data are disseminated as final and 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. If errors occur, corrected data are released in the next issue of the First Release. Data changed in relation to the previously released ones are disseminated with a commentary.

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, which are a part of printed or electronic publications.

#### 2.3.3. Data revision – average size

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

## 2.4. Seasonal adjustment

Data are presented in the STS databases in the form of gross (non-adjusted), working-day adjusted as well as seasonally and working-day adjusted absolute values.

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

Seasonal and working-day adjustment is done for the following variables: number of dwellings in residential buildings and useful floor area of buildings.



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

#### **3.1. Timeliness**

For national purposes, monthly indicators are issued, as final data, T + 43 days after the end of the reporting month on average. For Eurostat purposes, quarterly indicators are submitted, as final data, in the requested form T + 60 days after the end of reference period.

The forms are sent to reporting units all at once (for the whole year) at the beginning of January. The filled in forms must be delivered at the latest by the fifth day in a month for the previous month.

Collection of forms ends approximately 20 days after the deadline for submitting the report has expired.

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

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

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

Timeliness of final results is: T + 43 days

#### **3.2. Punctuality**

First Releases are published as announced in the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues at <https://podaci.dzs.hr/en/statistics/construction/building-permits/>. There was no time lag between the actual data submission date and the date they were planned to be submitted.

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

Punctuality: 1

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

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

These publications also contain brief methodological explanations.

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

All publications are available to users in paper and electronic format on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics at

<https://podaci.dzs.hr/en/statistics/construction/building-permits/>.

All statistical publications are released simultaneously to all users at 11:00 am.

No one has advantage in accessing the data.

#### **4.1. News release**

Monthly data on building permits issued are published regularly in the First Releases entitled "Building Permits Issued", 43 days on average after the end of a month and in Excel tables on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics under the link "Statistics in Line" (in Croatian and English). According to Eurostat's requirements, quarterly data on building permits issued (number of dwellings in residential buildings and square meters of useful floor area of buildings) are published in the STS databases (Short-Term Business Statistics Database) at <https://stsbaza.dzs.hr/en/Report>.

In addition to the monthly First Releases, annual reports providing more detailed data are published in the First Release entitled Building Permits Issued.

The released data are available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics at <https://podaci.dzs.hr/en/statistics/construction/building-permits/>.

#### **4.2. Online database**

According to Eurostat's requirements, quarterly data on building permits issued (number of dwellings in residential buildings and square meters of useful floor area of buildings) are published in the STS databases (Short-Term Business Statistics Database) at <https://stsbaza.dzs.hr/en/Report>.

#### **4.3. Microdata access**

Conditions under which certain users can have access to microdata are regulated by the Ordinance on the Conditions and Manner of Use of Statistical Data for Scientific Purposes.

#### **4.4. Documentation on methodology**

National documents:

- a) Brief notes on methodology are available in monthly and annual publications on construction
- b) Detailed notes on methodology are published in the 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 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. Punctuality

All data are available back since 2000 and they are comparable even without any break in series.

### 5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Domain	Value	Notice	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Croatia	Croatia		253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264

### 5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

None.

## 5.3. Coherence – short-term and structural data

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

## 5.4. Coherence – national accounts

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

## 5.5. Coherence – administrative sources

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

## 6. Cost and burden

### 6.1. Cost

Operational costs amount to 4 028 hours a year.

### 6.2. Burden

Not available.