

NEWS RELEASE

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Construction output in the Q1–Q3 of 2023 decreased by 1.5%

Supplementary information to the News Release on Construction – September 2023

Construction output in the Q1–Q3 of 2023 decreased by 1.5%, year-on-year (y-o-y). Mainly civil engineering construction, which decreased by 4.6%, y-o-y (a contribution of -1.3 percentage point (p. p.)) contributed to it. Production in building construction continued to stagnate, y-o-y (-0.3%, a contribution of -0.2 p. p.). In the Q1, construction output was decreasing slower (-1.2%) despite a high comparison basis. The decrease was considerably owing to the civil engineering construction, whereas building construction was in positive figures. In the Q2, the y-o-y decrease accelerated to -3.0% and the differences between the segments were no longer so pronounced when both of them decreased below the level of the last year. In the Q3, construction output stagnated, year-on-year (-0.1%), both in building construction and civil engineering construction.

Construction enterprises with 50+ employees concluded in the Czech Republic 56 226 construction orders in the Q1–Q3 of 2023 and, in the year-on-year comparison, the number was roughly on the level of the previous year (-0.8%). The total value of these orders decreased by 1.5%, year-on-year, and amounted to CZK 250.1 billion at current prices. The same as for the construction output, the decrease in the value of construction orders is owing to civil engineering construction (a year-on-year decrease by 5.2%). New construction orders in the building construction reached the value of CZK 113.2 billion in the Q1–Q3; they increased by 3.4%, y-o-y, thanks to the result for the Q3 (+16.1%). Also new orders for civil engineering construction increased, y-o-y (+41.3%), in the Q3. The average value of a newly concluded construction order amounted to CZK 4.4 million in the Q1–Q3 and was by 0.7% lower, year-on-year.

The planning and building control authorities granted 58 402 building permits in the Q1–Q3 of 2023, which was a year-on-year decrease by 10.4% and the lowest value for that period since 1999. The numbers of building permits decreased mainly as for new constructions; modifications to completed buildings remained on the level of the year 2022. The numbers of building permits for new construction of residential buildings decreased the fastest (-32.6%), whereas the numbers of building permits for modifications to completed constructions of non-residential buildings increased by almost a tenth, year-on-year (+8.4%). The highest number of building permits was granted in the *Středočeský* Region, in the *Jihomoravský* Region, and in the *Moravskoslezský* Region.

The approximate value of the permitted constructions reached CZK 422.9 billion in the Q1–Q3 and increased by 10.4%, year-on-year, which is the most for this period since the beginning of the survey in 1999 (at current prices, of course). The growth was driven by modifications to completed buildings, which recorded growth by 17.3% and were growing in all the quarters, mainly in the Q1. New constructions increased by 7.3%, year-on-year, which was thanks to civil

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engineering construction (mainly transport constructions). On the contrary, new construction of residential buildings decreased almost by a fifth, y-o-y (-16.1%). Higher investments have been planned in the *Jihomoravský* Region, in the *Středočeský* Region, and in Prague.

In the Q1–Q3 of 2023, construction of 27 304 dwellings started; the number decreased by 14.6%, year-on-year. Mainly results for the Q2 contributed to the decrease. Numbers of dwellings started in family houses decreased almost by a third, y-o-y (-29.6%) from January to the end of September and the development was similar in all of the quarters. Numbers of dwellings started in multi-dwelling buildings also decreased, year-on-year; however, it was slower (-6.5%) and in the Q1 and Q3 they increased. Conversions of residential buildings also increased, y-o-y (+31.2%), as well as dwellings started in non-residential buildings (+7.6%), which are, however, less significant in number. The highest number of started dwellings was in the *Středočeský* Region (predominantly family houses), in the *Jihomoravský* Region, where both multi-dwelling buildings and family houses were started, and in Prague (multi-dwelling buildings).

Since the beginning of the year until the end of September, 25 957 dwellings were completed and the number decreased by 3.5%, y-o-y. The development in individual quarters was very unbalanced. While in the Q1 the number of completed dwellings was by a tenth lower (-10.4%), in the Q2 it was by almost a fifth more, y-o-y (+17.6%), and in the Q3 completion of dwellings returned to a year-on-year decrease (-15.3%). This year's decrease of completed dwellings took place in both main categories with the similar pace. In the year-on-year comparison, more dwellings were completed in non-residential buildings (+18.1%) and also conversions of multi-dwelling buildings were on the rise (+3.3%). The highest number of completions was in the *Středočeský* Region and in Prague.

Notes: The year-on-year development of construction output (production) has been adjusted for the influence of (the number of) working days. Quarter-on-quarter rates have also been seasonally adjusted. Methodology: <u>https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/sta_m</u>

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