

# **Standard-documentation Meta information**

**(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)**

on

## **Building and housing construction (construction statistics)**

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## Executive Summary

The construction statistics reports on the number, structure and equipment of the building projects, buildings or units of use approved or completed in one year or quarter. The main focus is on the observation or description of residential construction. The statistics are based on secondary and/or administrative data of the building and housing register and are ordered with § 4 (1) BstatG and in the Gebäude- und Wohnungsregistergesetz (BGBl. I Nr. 9/2004 bzw. BGBl. I Nr. 125/2009 idgF). The information comes from the building authorities of the first instance and is included in the economic analyzes of the Austrian economy and the Austrian gross domestic product. In addition, they contain important information for the (construction) economy, administration and spatial planning, and offer, among other things, information on noise, environmental and catastrophe protection measures. In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1165/98 as amended by the Council on economic statistics, the Member States of the European Union are obliged to submit data on construction permits to the European Statistical Office Eurostat). The fact that these contents are among the most important European economic indicators (PEEI) can be seen as a sign of an international interest in the results.

In the past, approval and completion statistics were conducted, which exclusively dealt with housing construction. Since November 2004, all data are delivered by building and housing register. However, the messages are delayed and partly incomplete. However, it is still possible to provide (at least provisional) figures by means of assessments and / or corrections. The figures do not include the building, reconstruction and reconstruction activities of the City of Vienna, which are currently still very incomplete or scarcely reported.

With regard to the data quality, it can be assumed with the construction permits that the reporting periods begin with 2010 (increasingly) valid results. However, there are restrictions on the detail of these figures: Due to the estimates made, data regionally lower than the federal state is only available for further reporting periods. In addition, current figures are particularly affected by revisions. The reporting and, therefore, the data quality of the completion statistics shows a more incomplete picture which, in addition to delayed logging activity, is additionally characterized by complete response failures. In addition to estimating temporal reporting delays, it is therefore attempted to compensate for this situation by means of (several different) accounting procedures. However, there are limits to these efforts (see internet reporting). In the past, Statistics Austria has endeavored to improve the usability of the building and housing register, and thus also the reporting activity. Particularly noteworthy is the late register entry of the capital city of Vienna towards the end of 2013 which was almost exclusively related to the building activity of new buildings; the reconstruction work on existing buildings has been little or hardly taken into account currently.

Since then, the building, erection, conversion has been little or hardly taken into account. In addition, municipalities are often calling directly from building and housing register (reporting, spatial planning, noise, environmental and disaster protection measures, calculation of municipal levies, etc.). Countries and ministries are already using building and housing register data for administrative activities (energy assessment, standard value determination, etc.). All this contributes to the increasingly complete and faster acquisition and thus availability of figures on construction activity. Additional improvements, however, are necessary: In addition to the avoidance of still complete failures during completion, further attention should also be paid to the acceleration of all reporting procedures.

As soon as the completeness and quality of the data allows this, further (new and more detailed) statistics will be created.

<b>Building and housing construction (construction statistics) – Main Features</b>	
<b>Subject Matter</b>	Reporting on construction activity: permits and completion of buildings and dwellings according to equipment and general building project characteristics
<b>Population</b>	All buildings and apartments approved or completed in a reporting period
<b>Type of statistics</b>	Secondary statistics (register or administrative data)
<b>Data sources/Survey techniques</b>	Building and Housing Register
<b>Reference period or due day</b>	Authorizations: 1st quarter 2005 to the 4th quarter 2019 Completions: 2005 to 2018
<b>Periodicity</b>	Authorizations: quarterly Completions: yearly
<b>Survey participation (in case of a survey)</b>	Compulsory (Register with administrative data to be maintained)
<b>Main legal acts</b>	Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98 as amended on economic statistics; Gebäude- und Wohnungsregistergesetz, BGBl. I Nr. 9/2004 bzw. BGBl. I Nr. 125/2009 idgF
<b>Most detailed regional breakdown</b>	Authorizations: According to estimates by the federal states for up to three years, for previous reporting periods (back to 2005) municipalities Completions: due to assessment and also by default federal states
<b>Availability of results</b>	<u>Authorizations</u> Preliminary (or estimated) data: EU notification: t + 90 days, publication: t + 110 days Final data: t + 3 years Revisions: according to plan annually, if necessary for individual quarters <u>Completions</u> Preliminary (or estimated) data: t + 10 months Final data: t + 3 years Revisions: according to plan annually
<b>Other</b>	In terms of data quality improvements have been made to approval statistics, which have made it possible to publish more detailed results from the 2010 reporting year onwards (postponing the number of replies from 2010 onwards, shortening reporting delays). In the case of completion there was also an acceleration in the reporting activity. Data quality is still affected by too many alarms. In both statistical areas the Vienna figures are generally missing for the reconstruction work on existing buildings. All results are therefore subject to regular annual revisions.