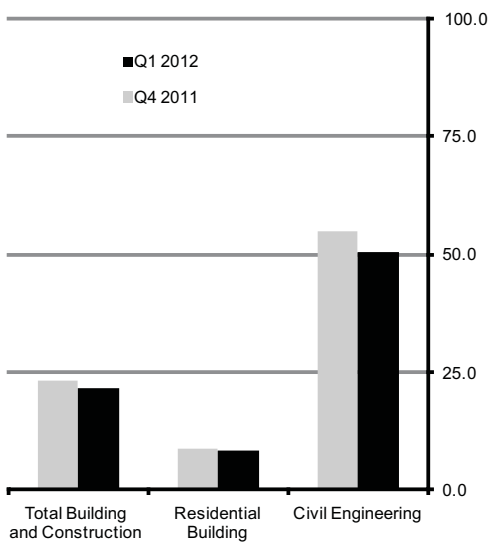




**Seasonally Adjusted
Volume of Production for Building Categories
Q4 2011 and Q1 2012
(Base: Year 2005 = 100)** Volume Index



Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

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Production in Building and Construction Index

Quarter 1 2012 (First Estimates)
Quarter 4 2011 (Final Figures)

**Seasonally Adjusted Production in Building and Construction index
(Base: Year 2005=100)**

	Volume Index	Value Index
Q1 2011	24.3	26.7
Q4 2011	23.2	25.8
Q1 2012	21.6	23.9
Quarterly % change	-6.9%	-7.4%
Annual % change	-11.1%	-10.5%

Building and Construction Output down by 6.9% in 1st Quarter 2012

The volume of output in building and construction was 6.9% lower in the first quarter of 2012 when compared with the preceding period. This reflects decreases of 15.5%, 8.0% and 3.4% respectively in the volume of non-residential building, civil engineering and residential building. The change in the value of production for all building and construction was -7.4%. See table 1(a), 1(c), 2(a), 2(b) and graph.

On an annual basis, the volume of output in building and construction decreased by 11.1% in the first quarter of 2012 when compared with the first quarter of 2011. The value of production decreased by 10.5% in the same period. See table 1(a).

The annual fall in the volume of output reflects year-on-year declines of 15.0%, 12.0% and 4.2% respectively in residential building work, non-residential building work and civil engineering. See tables 1(c), 2(a), 2(b) and graph.

EU comparisons

In the year to Quarter 1 2012, output in the building and construction sector fell by 4.4% and 5.6% respectively in the EU27 and the EA17. The largest increases were in Latvia (+28.5%), Estonia (+27.9%) and Poland (+14.0%). The largest decreases were in Slovenia (-19.8%), Portugal (-14.9%) and Italy (-14.0%). See table 3(b).

For more information contact Mary Heanue at 021 453 5714, Alan Finlay at 021 453 5211 or Sinead Leyden at 021 453 5523.

Table 1(a) Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Production in all Building and Construction¹

Base Year: 2005=100

Period	Value of Production			Volume of Production		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
2006	109.7		9.9	103.1		3.0
2007	99.6		-9.2	89.3		-13.4
2008	73.2		-26.5	63.6		-28.8
2009	45.6		-37.7	40.7		-36.0
2010	32.3		-29.2	28.3		-30.5
2011	25.9		-19.8	23.4		-17.3
2006 1st quarter	110.7	8.1	19.5	104.8	1.5	13.3
2nd quarter	106.5	-3.8	5.6	101.1	-3.5	0.3
3rd quarter	105.5	-0.9	2.3	102.3	1.2	-1.5
4th quarter	116.0	10.0	13.3	104.1	1.8	0.8
2007 1st quarter	104.2	-10.2	-5.9	97.7	-6.1	-6.8
2nd quarter	105.1	0.9	-1.3	94.8	-3.0	-6.2
3rd quarter	96.2	-8.5	-8.8	85.4	-9.9	-16.5
4th quarter	92.9	-3.4	-19.9	79.2	-7.3	-23.9
2008 1st quarter	84.4	-9.1	-19.0	74.2	-6.3	-24.1
2nd quarter	78.3	-7.2	-25.5	68.0	-8.4	-28.3
3rd quarter	69.9	-10.7	-27.3	59.0	-13.2	-30.9
4th quarter	60.2	-13.9	-35.2	53.2	-9.8	-32.8
2009 1st quarter	53.9	-10.5	-36.1	46.9	-11.8	-36.8
2nd quarter	47.4	-12.1	-39.5	42.0	-10.4	-38.2
3rd quarter	43.4	-8.4	-37.9	39.5	-6.0	-33.1
4th quarter	37.7	-13.1	-37.4	34.3	-13.2	-35.5
2010 1st quarter	35.3	-6.4	-34.5	30.7	-10.5	-34.5
2nd quarter	33.2	-5.9	-30.0	29.2	-4.9	-30.5
3rd quarter	31.2	-6.0	-28.1	27.9	-4.5	-29.4
4th quarter	29.6	-5.1	-21.5	25.5	-8.6	-25.7
2011 1st quarter	26.7	-9.8	-24.4	24.3	-4.7	-20.8
2nd quarter	25.3	-5.2	-23.8	23.1	-4.9	-20.9
3rd quarter	25.9	2.4	-17.0	23.1	0.0	-17.2
4th quarter	25.8	-0.4	-12.8	23.2	0.4	-9.0
2012 1st quarter ²	23.9	-7.4	-10.5	21.6	-6.9	-11.1

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to Quarter 1, 2012

² Provisional

Table 1(b) Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Production in Building (excluding Civil Engineering)¹

Period	Value of Production			Volume of Production		
	Index	% change		Index	% change	
		on previous period	Annual % change		on previous period	Annual % change
2006	108.3		8.5	102.4		2.7
2007	94.9		-12.4	85.6		-16.4
2008	65.0		-31.5	56.7		-33.8
2009	35.8		-44.9	31.7		-44.1
2010	24.1		-32.7	21.1		-33.4
2011	20.9		-13.3	18.7		-11.4
2006 1st quarter	109.6	8.6	16.8	106.4	7.5	11.6
2nd quarter	105.7	-3.6	3.3	100.7	-5.4	-1.9
3rd quarter	104.1	-1.5	1.9	98.3	-2.4	-3.8
4th quarter	113.7	9.2	12.7	104.3	6.1	5.4
2007 1st quarter	99.6	-12.4	-9.1	91.3	-12.5	-14.2
2nd quarter	101.3	1.7	-4.2	91.8	0.5	-8.8
3rd quarter	91.6	-9.6	-12.0	81.9	-10.8	-16.7
4th quarter	87.1	-4.9	-23.4	77.5	-5.4	-25.7
2008 1st quarter	77.1	-11.5	-22.6	67.6	-12.8	-26.0
2nd quarter	69.9	-9.3	-31.0	60.9	-9.9	-33.7
3rd quarter	61.2	-12.4	-33.2	53.2	-12.6	-35.0
4th quarter	51.7	-15.5	-40.6	45.0	-15.4	-41.9
2009 1st quarter	44.2	-14.5	-42.7	38.9	-13.6	-42.5
2nd quarter	37.5	-15.2	-46.4	33.2	-14.7	-45.5
3rd quarter	33.0	-12.0	-46.1	29.3	-11.7	-44.9
4th quarter	28.6	-13.3	-44.7	25.3	-13.7	-43.8
2010 1st quarter	25.6	-10.5	-42.1	22.5	-11.1	-42.2
2nd quarter	23.8	-7.0	-36.5	20.8	-7.6	-37.3
3rd quarter	24.6	3.4	-25.5	21.4	2.9	-27.0
4th quarter	22.5	-8.5	-21.3	19.7	-7.9	-22.1
2011 1st quarter	21.6	-4.0	-15.6	19.2	-2.5	-14.7
2nd quarter	20.6	-4.6	-13.4	18.5	-3.6	-11.1
3rd quarter	20.8	1.0	-15.4	18.7	1.1	-12.6
4th quarter	20.6	-1.0	-8.4	18.5	-1.1	-6.1
2012 1st quarter ²	18.7	-9.2	-13.4	16.7	-9.7	-13.0

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to Quarter 1, 2012² Provisional

Table 1(c) Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Production in Civil Engineering ¹

Base Year: 2005=100

Period	Value of Production			Volume of Production		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
2006	118.6		19.3	112.3		12.9
2007	130.1		9.7	117.4		4.5
2008	126.3		-2.9	110.2		-6.1
2009	108.5		-14.1	96.1		-12.8
2010	85.1		-21.6	74.5		-22.5
2011	58.6		-31.1	52.6		-29.4
2006 1st quarter	115.9	5.1	37.5	112.5	3.2	31.0
2nd quarter	113.5	-2.1	21.8	108.0	-4.0	16.1
3rd quarter	116.8	2.9	6.1	110.1	1.9	0.1
4th quarter	128.3	9.8	16.3	118.4	7.5	8.6
2007 1st quarter	131.4	2.4	13.4	120.2	1.5	6.8
2nd quarter	131.1	-0.2	15.5	119.1	-0.9	10.3
3rd quarter	127.9	-2.4	9.5	114.2	-4.1	3.7
4th quarter	129.9	1.6	1.2	116.0	1.6	-2.0
2008 1st quarter	129.7	-0.2	-1.3	113.6	-2.1	-5.5
2nd quarter	134.1	3.4	2.3	117.3	3.3	-1.5
3rd quarter	125.1	-6.7	-2.2	108.5	-7.5	-5.0
4th quarter	116.3	-7.0	-10.5	101.3	-6.6	-12.7
2009 1st quarter	115.1	-1.0	-11.3	101.3	0.0	-10.8
2nd quarter	112.0	-2.7	-16.5	99.4	-1.9	-15.3
3rd quarter	107.7	-3.8	-13.9	95.6	-3.8	-11.9
4th quarter	99.2	-7.9	-14.7	87.9	-8.1	-13.2
2010 1st quarter	97.2	-2.0	-15.6	85.6	-2.6	-15.5
2nd quarter	94.6	-2.7	-15.5	82.9	-3.2	-16.6
3rd quarter	71.7	-24.2	-33.4	62.5	-24.6	-34.6
4th quarter	76.9	7.3	-22.5	67.0	7.2	-23.8
2011 1st quarter	58.9	-23.4	-39.4	52.6	-21.5	-38.6
2nd quarter	56.9	-3.4	-39.9	51.2	-2.7	-38.2
3rd quarter	57.4	0.9	-19.9	51.7	1.0	-17.3
4th quarter	61.0	6.3	-20.7	54.8	6.0	-18.2
2012 1st quarter ²	56.3	-7.7	-4.4	50.4	-8.0	-4.2

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to Quarter 1, 2012

² Provisional

Table 2(a) Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Production in Residential Building ¹

Base Year: 2005=100

Period	Value of Production			Volume of Production		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
2006	107.4		7.6	100.7		-0.1
2007	88.7		-17.4	79.2		-21.4
2008	50.7		-42.8	43.8		-44.7
2009	21.0		-58.6	18.8		-57.1
2010	13.2		-37.1	11.6		-38.3
2011	10.2		-22.7	9.3		-19.8
2006 1st quarter	107.9	9.3	14.1	99.8	-2.4	6.6
2nd quarter	104.2	-3.4	0.7	98.9	-0.9	-4.3
3rd quarter	103.5	-0.7	1.1	103.1	4.2	-1.0
4th quarter	113.9	10.0	15.4	101.1	-1.9	-1.2
2007 1st quarter	94.2	-17.3	-12.7	89.8	-11.2	-10.0
2nd quarter	96.4	2.3	-7.5	87.2	-2.9	-11.8
3rd quarter	84.5	-12.3	-18.4	74.2	-14.9	-28.0
4th quarter	79.6	-5.8	-30.1	65.4	-11.9	-35.3
2008 1st quarter	64.5	-19.0	-31.5	57.6	-11.9	-35.9
2nd quarter	56.0	-13.2	-41.9	48.7	-15.5	-44.2
3rd quarter	47.1	-15.9	-44.3	38.0	-22.0	-48.8
4th quarter	35.0	-25.7	-56.0	31.0	-18.4	-52.6
2009 1st quarter	27.5	-21.4	-57.4	23.9	-22.9	-58.5
2nd quarter	22.1	-19.6	-60.5	19.6	-18.0	-59.8
3rd quarter	18.4	-16.7	-60.9	17.1	-12.8	-55.0
4th quarter	15.9	-13.6	-54.6	14.4	-15.8	-53.5
2010 1st quarter	14.4	-9.4	-47.6	12.5	-13.2	-47.7
2nd quarter	13.3	-7.6	-39.8	11.7	-6.4	-40.3
3rd quarter	12.9	-3.0	-29.9	11.8	0.9	-31.0
4th quarter	12.3	-4.7	-22.6	10.5	-11.0	-27.1
2011 1st quarter	11.0	-10.6	-23.6	10.0	-4.8	-20.0
2nd quarter	10.1	-8.2	-24.1	9.2	-8.0	-21.4
3rd quarter	9.9	-2.0	-23.3	9.0	-2.2	-23.7
4th quarter	9.7	-2.0	-21.1	8.8	-2.2	-16.2
2012 1st quarter ²	9.4	-3.1	-14.5	8.5	-3.4	-15.0

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to Quarter 1, 2012

² Provisional

Table 2(b) Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Production in Non-Residential Building ¹

Base Year: 2005=100

Period	Value of Production			Volume of Production			
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	
2006	111.8		12.1	106.0		6.1	
2007	118.6		6.1	107.0		0.9	
2008	119.6		0.8	104.3		-2.5	
2009	92.4		-22.7	81.7		-21.7	
2010	65.7		-28.9	57.5		-29.6	
2011	61.7		-6.1	55.3		-3.8	
2006	1st quarter	115.1	5.1	27.7	111.9	3.7	21.8
	2nd quarter	111.3	-3.3	13.8	105.9	-5.4	7.7
	3rd quarter	107.2	-3.7	5.5	100.7	-4.9	-0.5
	4th quarter	113.7	6.1	3.8	105.4	4.7	-2.3
2007	1st quarter	119.1	4.7	3.5	109.0	3.4	-2.6
	2nd quarter	119.4	0.3	7.3	108.0	-0.9	2.0
	3rd quarter	119.5	0.1	11.5	106.1	-1.8	5.4
	4th quarter	116.3	-2.7	2.3	105.0	-1.0	-0.4
2008	1st quarter	123.3	6.0	3.5	107.8	2.7	-1.1
	2nd quarter	123.1	-0.2	3.1	107.0	-0.7	-0.9
	3rd quarter	115.8	-5.9	-3.1	99.9	-6.6	-5.8
	4th quarter	116.2	0.3	-0.1	102.6	2.7	-2.3
2009	1st quarter	106.1	-8.7	-13.9	93.0	-9.4	-13.7
	2nd quarter	97.2	-8.4	-21.0	85.8	-7.7	-19.8
	3rd quarter	88.7	-8.7	-23.4	78.3	-8.7	-21.6
	4th quarter	77.5	-12.6	-33.3	69.7	-11.0	-32.1
2010	1st quarter	67.4	-13.0	-36.5	59.0	-15.4	-36.6
	2nd quarter	63.9	-5.2	-34.3	55.8	-5.4	-35.0
	3rd quarter	69.4	8.6	-21.8	60.2	7.9	-23.1
	4th quarter	62.0	-10.7	-20.0	54.8	-9.0	-21.4
2011	1st quarter	61.4	-1.0	-8.9	54.3	-0.9	-8.0
	2nd quarter	60.5	-1.5	-5.3	54.4	0.2	-2.5
	3rd quarter	62.5	3.3	-9.9	56.0	2.9	-7.0
	4th quarter	62.4	-0.2	0.6	56.6	1.1	3.3
2012	1st quarter ²	53.8	-13.8	-12.4	47.8	-15.5	-12.0

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to Quarter 1, 2012

² Provisional

Table 3(a) Annual Volume Indices of Production in all Building and Construction in the EU15, the EU27, the Euro Area and Member States 2000 to 2011 ¹

Base: Year 2005 = 100

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
EU27	93.6	94.3	94.9	96.7	97.6	100.0	103.3	105.9	103.0	95.2	91.8	92.8
EU15	93.6	94.4	95.1	97.0	97.8	100.0	102.9	105.0	101.4	93.5	90.1	90.9
Euro Area (EA 17)	95.4	96.2	95.9	96.9	97.0	100.0	103.3	105.4	100.7	93.9	87.2	86.9
Belgium	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}
Bulgaria	45.6	52.5	54.1	56.2	75.7	100.0	124.4	158.8	177.6	152.3	130.5	113.5 ^p
Czech Republic	70.6	77.9	80.1	87.7	95.2	100.2	106.6	113.9	113.6	112.9	104.7	101.0
Denmark	103.3	96.4	95.2	97.2	97.3	99.7	102.8	97.2	104.5	91.9	83.1	88.3
Germany	131.1	121.1	116.0	111.1	105.2	99.8	105.9	108.8	108.4	108.4	108.7	123.2
Estonia	53.7	55.9	68.6	72.7	81.9	100.2	127.2	144.4	125.3	88.0	80.5	102.0
Ireland	64.9	66.8	68.1	73.1	91.7	100.5	103.5	89.4	63.4	40.5	28.2	23.4
Greece	139.2	148.3	206.3	194.5	163.5	100.2	103.8	118.7	127.7	105.3	72.0	51.9
Spain	79.7 ^p	82.1 ^p	82.6 ^p	88.5 ^p	90.6 ^p	100.5	102.7	98.3	82.2	73.0	58.2	47.5 ^p
France	93.4	96.9	96.3	95.9	96.4	99.9	102.3	106.9	104.9	99.5	94.5	96.5
Italy	84.9	89.9	94.5	97.2	99.1	100.0	103.8	110.5	109.7	96.9	93.5	90.8
Cyprus	81.7	84.7	87.5	93.1	97.3	100.0	104.1	111.2	113.7	101.7	93.5	84.6
Latvia	57.0	60.6	67.9	76.8	86.8	100.3	113.6	129.1	125.1	81.4	62.3	70.1
Lithuania	51.0	55.0	66.9	85.6	91.3	100.3	122.1	149.3	154.9	80.0	73.6	90.1
Luxembourg	95.3	99.3	101.2	102.1	100.9	100.0	102.4	105.1	103.1	104.2	104.3	106.5
Hungary	62.6	68.4	80.7	82.9	86.5	100.1	99.4	85.5	81.0	77.5	69.4	64.0
Malta	69.8	67.8	83.3	79.2	83.7	99.9	104.5	112.5	119.0	110.6	109.3	108.8 ^p
Netherlands	105.9	107.8	104.5	99.3	96.8	99.9	102.2	107.9	111.3	108.0 ^e	96.2 ^e	100.7 ^e
Austria	81.1	80.6	81.0	91.0	95.5	100.2	106.1	110.2	109.2	107.4	103.1	103.1
Poland	125.8	112.0	100.8	93.7	91.9	100.3	115.9	134.8	148.8	155.4	161.0	186.5
Portugal	115.7	121.1	119.8	109.5	104.8	100.0	93.7	90.0	88.9	83.0	76.0	68.2
Romania	77.5	86.5	90.4	93.4	94.7	100.8	116.5	155.1	196.6	166.9	144.6	148.9
Slovenia	92.2	82.5	88.7	97.3	97.9	99.8	115.5	136.9	158.1	125.0	103.9	77.3
Slovakia	74.9	75.4	78.6	83.0	87.8	100.5	116.1	122.5	136.5	121.4	116.1	113.8
Finland	86.3 ^e	86.3 ^e	87.5 ^e	91.2 ^e	95.2 ^e	100.1 ^e	107.9 ^e	118.9 ^e	123.7 ^e	107.5 ^e	120.2 ^e	132.1 ^e
Sweden	91.7	96.7	97.0	97.0	97.0	100.0	108.0	114.6	119.5	115.3	122.1	131.2
United Kingdom	87.0	87.9	92.0	97.1	100.5	100.0	101.4	103.8	102.4	90.5	97.1	99.7 ^p

: Data not available, e Estimated value, p Provisional data, s Eurostat estimate.

Source: Eurostat

Data updated from previous publication.

The Euro Area (EA17) consists of Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Finland, Slovakia and Estonia.

¹ Working Day Adjusted Series.

Table 3(b) Volume of Production in all Building and Construction in the EU15, the EU27, the Euro Area and Member States, annual % changes q1 2010 to q1 2012¹

Base: Year 2005 = 100

	Q1 2010	Q2 2010	Q3 2010	Q4 2010	Q1 2011	Q2 2011	Q3 2011	Q4 2011	Q1 2012
EU27	-8.7	-1.8	-3.2	-3.7	0.7	-2.1	1.9	2.8	-4.4 ^s
EU15	-8.3	-1.5	-3.4	-4.2	0.5	-2.6	1.6	2.3	-4.5 ^s
Euro Area (EA17)	-10.2	-4.3	-8.5	-9.1	-2.3	-4.8	1.9	2.0	-5.6 ^s
Belgium	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}	: ^{cp}
Bulgaria	-23.3	-15.9	-11.4	-5.6	-15.5 ^p	-16.1 ^p	-11.5 ^p	-9.0 ^p	-2.3 ^p
Czech Republic	-22.8	-8.9	-2.5	-2.5	5.4	-5.3	-9.1	-0.4	-9.4
Denmark	-22.8	-12.3	-2.3	-0.5	13.2	0.8	3.0	8.8	-1.4
Germany	-8.9	4.0	3.5	-1.2	35.6	7.0	6.6	14.4	-3.1
Estonia	-31.3	-13.2	5.6	-0.5	34.4	11.4	25.4	38.9	27.9
Ireland	-35.5	-31.6	-28.4	-24.8	-21.5	-22.0	-16.7	-8.3	-11.7^p
Greece	-23.3	-31.3	-37.1	-33.5	-38.2	-34.4	-0.7	-34.6	: ^{cp}
Spain	-12.9	-7.0	-34.9	-27.5	-36.6	-27.9	5.6 ^p	-3.5 ^p	-7.4 ^p
France	-6.5	-4.1	-4.4	-5.3	2.8	-0.6	2.4	4.4	-4.5
Italy	-8.1	-5.0	0.5	-1.2	0.5	-2.8	-5.1	-3.9	-14.0
Cyprus	-5.8	-7.1	-8.0	-11.2	-7.6	-3.0	-16.2	-12.6	: ^{cp}
Latvia	-43.4	-35.3	-13.1	-9.6	-15.1	-0.9	19.6	25.9	28.5
Lithuania	-42.9	-16.9	6.5	15.1	16.4	16.6	18.7	33.5	12.8
Luxembourg	-2.1	5.2	1.6	-4.4	12.7	-1.8	-3.6	2.1	-11.3
Hungary	-10.7	-15.1	-5.7	-10.5	-6.7	-9.5	-13.5	-1.5	-11.2
Malta	-2.8	-1.6	-0.9	0.6	-0.3	0.2	1.5 ^p	-3.4 ^p	-0.4 ^p
Netherlands	-17.0 ^e	-10.3 ^e	-8.9 ^e	-6.9 ^e	9.1 ^e	4.5 ^e	3.8 ^e	1.3 ^e	-8.6 ^e
Austria	-7.4	-3.1	-3.0	-3.8	-2.6	1.0	-0.7	1.2	-1.0 ^p
Poland	-15.9	1.3	7.5	11.6	18.3	19.7	14.9	13.2	14.0
Portugal	-7.4	-8.9	-8.2	-9.2	-9.2	-8.5	-11.0	-12.4	-14.9
Romania	-21.3	-11.1	-17.5	-7.2	-4.9	-4.9	8.1	8.5	2.6
Slovenia	-18.8	-16.8	-16.4	-16.2	-25.3	-31.1	-25.5	-20.2	-19.8 ^p
Slovakia	-13.1	-6.4	-2.7	1.7	-3.7	-3.3	-2.8	1.0	-9.6
Finland	0.8 ^e	16.7 ^e	11.0 ^e	16.5 ^e	17.4 ^e	8.5 ^e	9.2 ^e	7.1 ^e	: ^{ce}
Sweden	3.7	4.2	5.9	9.6	7.1	9.3	6.2	7.2	6.6
United Kingdom	-2.3	8.6	11.8	10.8	6.9	2.4 ^p	0.0 ^p	1.8 ^p	-4.1 ^p

: Data not available, c Confidential, e Estimated Value, p Provisional data, s Eurostat estimate.

Source: Eurostat

Data updated from previous publication.

The Euro Area (EA17) consists of Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Finland, Slovakia and Estonia.

¹ Working Day Adjusted Series.

Background Notes

Production in Building & Construction Index	<p>The quarterly production in building and construction index provides quarterly statistics on output in the sector. The index monitors trends in the value and the volume of production in building and construction. The primary purpose of the index is to measure changes in value added at constant prices.</p> <p>The principal difference between the value and volume indices is that the volume index traces the quantitative volume of production (i.e. effect of price changes excluded) each quarter. The Capital Goods price index for Building and Construction was used as the price deflator for this series.</p> <p>This series is also available using the interactive tables in the CSO's Statbank on www.cso.ie</p>
Reference Periods	<p>The production in building and construction index is carried out on a quarterly basis (i.e. the first quarter covers January, February and March etc.).</p>
Base Year	<p>The set of indices, based on the Laspeyres Index, has been compiled with reference to base year 2005 = 100. The underlying structural weighting system is based on annual output in the Building and Construction sector as published in the DKM Economic Consultants Review of the Construction Industry for the year 2007, which presents annual output for reference year 2005.</p>
Legal Basis	<p>The Quarterly Survey of Construction (QSC) is carried out in accordance with the Statistics (Quarterly Survey of Construction) Order 2009, Number 73 made under the 1993 Statistics Act. The statistics are also required for EU comparisons under Council Regulation (EC) No. 1165/98 which has been amended by Regulation (EC) No. 1893/2006 with the introduction of NACE Rev. 2.</p>
Scope and Coverage	<p>The production in building and construction index covers, on a sample basis, the production of all firms in the private (i.e. non-State) sector whose main activity is building, construction or civil engineering i.e. firms classified to division F of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev. 2). Approximately 2,000 firms are surveyed each quarter.</p>
Seasonal Adjustment	<p>Seasonal Adjustment is conducted using the direct seasonal adjustment approach. Under this approach, each individual series is independently adjusted. Each individual seasonally adjusted series is calculated based on working day adjusted data.</p> <p>The adjustments are completed by applying the X-12-ARIMA model, developed by the U.S. Census Bureau to the working day adjusted data. This methodology estimates seasonal factors while also taking into consideration factors that impact on the quality of the seasonal adjustment such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outliers and level shifts in the series. <p>For additional information on the use of X-12-Arima see (Findley, D.F., B.C. Monsell, W.R. Bell, M.C Otto, and B. Chen (1998), "New Capabilities and Methods of the X-12-Arima Seasonal Adjustment Program", <i>Journal of Business & Economic Statistics</i>, 16, pp. 127-177.) and www.census.gov/srd/www/x12a/</p>
Methodology	<p>A detailed description of the methodology is available within the Surveys and Methodology area on the CSO website at: http://www.cso.ie/en/surveysandmethodology/construction/quarterly_construction/</p>

**Comparison
with other
national series**

There are differences (due to timing, definitions and other factors) between the quarterly and annual trends measured by this survey and by other national data sources. In particular the quarterly series from the QSC show considerable volatility. Table A, below, compares the main *annual* results of the survey with national employment and house building indicators.

The series shows a decrease of 17.3% in the annual volume of production in building and construction, between 2010 and 2011. In the same period, employment in the sector, as measured by the QNHS, fell by 15.6%.

For residential buildings, the QSC shows a decrease of 19.8% in the annual volume of production between 2010 and 2011, whereas the house completions series shows a decrease of 28.2%.

Data on house-building commencements, a relatively new leading indicator, are also included in Table A. This indicator shows a decrease of 31.7% in residential building in 2011 when compared with 2010.

Table A: Comparison of Building and Construction sector indicators

New CSO Series			Other Indicators			
Seasonally Adjusted Volume of production in building and construction ³	Seasonally Adjusted Volume of production in civil engineering ³	Seasonally Adjusted Volume of production in residential building ³	Persons Employed in the Construction Sector ¹	House Completions ²	House Commencement Notices ²	
Index	Index	Index	No.	No.	No.	
2005=100	2005=100	2005=100				
2006	103.1	112.3	100.7	251,600	88,187	75,602
2007	89.3	117.4	79.2	269,900	78,027	48,876
2008	63.6	110.2	43.8	241,400	51,724	22,852
2009	40.7	96.1	18.8	155,400	26,420	8,599
2010	28.3	74.5	11.6	125,300	14,602	6,391
2011	23.4	52.6	9.3	105,700	10,480	4,365

¹ Quarterly National Household Survey, April - June quarter, NACE Rev. 2.

² Source Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.

³ Seasonally Adjusted series introduced in Q1 2010.