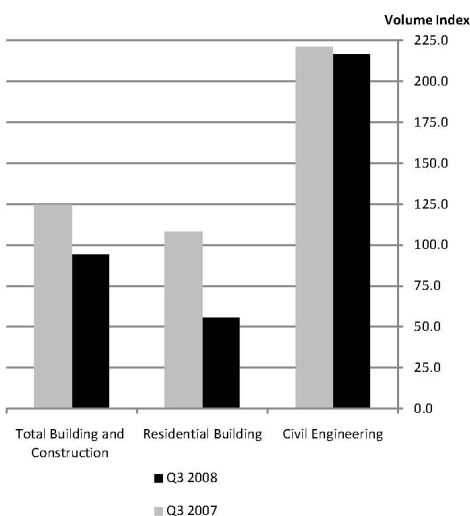




Production in Building and Construction Index

Quarter 3 2008 (First Estimates)
Quarter 2 2008 (Final Figures)

Volume of Production for Building Categories
Q3 2007 and Q3 2008
(Base: Year 2000 = 100)



Production in Building and Construction Index
(Base: Year 2000=100)

	Volume Index	Value Index
Q3 2007	124.7	190.8
Q3 2008	94.3	149.5
% change	-24.4%	-21.6%

Building and Construction Output down by 24.4% in 3rd Quarter

The volume of output in building and construction decreased by 24.4% in the third quarter of 2008 compared with the third quarter of 2007. The value of production decreased by 21.6% in the same period. *See table 1(a) and graph.*

The fall in the volume of output largely reflects a decline of almost 49% in residential building work, which was partly offset by a rise of 4.7% in non-residential building work. Output in civil engineering fell by 2%. *See tables 1(c), 2(a), 2(b) and graph.*

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EU comparisons

In the year to Q3 2008, output in the building and construction sector fell by 2.8% in the Euro area and fell by 1.6% in the EU 27. The largest increases were in Romania (+27.8%), Slovenia (+16.6%), and Bulgaria (+13.5%). The volume of production in the sector decreased in Ireland (-24.4%), Spain (-15.9%), and Estonia (-15.5%). *See tables 3(b) & 1(a).*

The first results from the CSO's new Quarterly Survey of Construction (QSC) were published in August 2007. As this is a relatively new survey, the CSO still considers the results to be experimental. Table A (*see background notes*) compares these new survey results with some other indicators for the sector. The CSO will continue to monitor the quality and comparability of this new data series.

For more information contact Brid Fitzpatrick at ext 5162, Gerry Brett at 5541 or Sinead Leyden at ext 5523.

Table 1(a) Value and Volume Indices of Production in all Building and Construction
Base: Year 2000 = 100

Total Production in all Building and Construction				
Period	Value of Production		Volume of Production	
	Index	Annual % change	Index	Annual % change
2000	100.0		100.0	
2001	113.3	13.3	103.4	3.4
2002	121.1	6.9	105.5	2.1
2003	135.4	11.8	111.5	5.7
2004	160.2	18.3	123.6	10.8
2005	188.9	17.9	139.2	12.6
2006	202.7	7.3	139.7	0.4
2007	192.2	-5.2	126.8	-9.3
2000 1st quarter	92.1		94.6	
2nd quarter	98.5		99.2	
3rd quarter	104.4		104.7	
4th quarter	105.0		101.5	
2001 1st quarter	107.4	16.6	97.2	2.7
2nd quarter	114.8	16.5	103.3	4.1
3rd quarter	114.3	9.5	105.8	1.1
4th quarter	116.7	11.1	107.2	5.6
2002 1st quarter	111.7	4.0	99.2	2.1
2nd quarter	115.6	0.7	101.5	-1.7
3rd quarter	128.1	12.1	112.1	6.0
4th quarter	128.9	10.5	109.3	2.0
2003 1st quarter	119.4	6.9	103.1	4.0
2nd quarter	127.5	10.3	108.3	6.7
3rd quarter	145.1	13.3	122.1	8.9
4th quarter	149.6	16.1	112.5	2.9
2004 1st quarter	151.1	26.5	120.7	17.0
2nd quarter	169.2	32.7	131.5	21.4
3rd quarter	161.1	11.0	122.7	0.5
4th quarter	159.3	6.5	119.3	6.0
2005 1st quarter	159.2	5.4	119.0	-1.4
2nd quarter	190.9	12.8	141.3	7.5
3rd quarter	208.0	29.1	153.4	25.0
4th quarter	197.5	24.0	142.9	19.8
2006 1st quarter	193.8	21.7	138.3	16.2
2nd quarter	196.2	2.8	135.4	-4.2
3rd quarter	194.7	-6.4	133.3	-13.1
4th quarter	226.1	14.5	151.9	6.3
2007 1st quarter	180.9	-6.7	121.1	-12.4
2nd quarter	203.8	3.9	135.0	-0.3
3rd quarter	190.8	-2.0	124.7	-6.5
4th quarter	193.4	-14.5	126.2	-16.9
2008 1st quarter	142.8	-21.1	91.6	-24.4
2nd quarter ¹	156.9	-23.0	99.7	-26.1
3rd quarter ²	149.5	-21.6	94.3	-24.4

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Data prior to 2004 based on existing annual data from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government prepared by DKM Economic Consultants series, with quarterly breakdown estimated by CSO. Series from 2004 onwards based on the new CSO survey.

Table 1(b) Value and Volume Indices of Production in Building (excluding civil engineering)
Base: Year 2000 = 100

Total Production in Building (excluding civil engineering)				
Period	Value of Production		Volume of Production	
	Index	Annual % change	Index	Annual % change
2000	100.0		100.0	
2001	111.4	11.4	101.7	1.7
2002	115.1	3.3	100.9	-0.8
2003	131.2	14.0	107.7	6.7
2004	159.3	21.4	122.5	13.8
2005	187.1	17.4	137.4	12.1
2006	195.6	4.6	134.5	-2.1
2007	168.8	-13.7	111.0	-17.5
2000 1st quarter	91.5		94.6	
2nd quarter	98.5		99.3	
3rd quarter	104.8		105.1	
4th quarter	105.3		101.0	
2001 1st quarter	104.9	14.6	95.2	0.6
2nd quarter	113.3	15.0	101.6	2.3
3rd quarter	112.4	7.3	104.3	-0.8
4th quarter	115.1	9.3	105.6	4.6
2002 1st quarter	104.0	-0.9	93.8	-1.5
2nd quarter	108.6	-4.1	95.6	-5.9
3rd quarter	123.0	9.4	107.7	3.3
4th quarter	124.7	8.3	106.3	0.7
2003 1st quarter	112.9	8.6	98.5	5.0
2nd quarter	122.2	12.5	103.8	8.6
3rd quarter	142.3	15.7	119.9	11.3
4th quarter	147.3	18.1	108.4	2.0
2004 1st quarter	151.9	34.6	121.0	22.8
2nd quarter	168.7	38.0	130.6	25.8
3rd quarter	157.7	10.8	119.7	-0.2
4th quarter	158.9	7.9	118.6	9.4
2005 1st quarter	165.4	8.8	123.1	1.7
2nd quarter	192.8	14.3	142.3	9.0
3rd quarter	197.1	25.0	144.9	21.1
4th quarter	192.9	21.4	139.1	17.3
2006 1st quarter	196.8	19.0	140.0	13.7
2nd quarter	191.8	-0.6	131.9	-7.3
3rd quarter	183.4	-7.0	125.1	-13.7
4th quarter	210.4	9.1	141.0	1.4
2007 1st quarter	169.5	-13.9	113.1	-19.2
2nd quarter	183.2	-4.5	120.9	-8.3
3rd quarter	161.5	-11.9	105.2	-15.9
4th quarter	161.0	-23.5	104.7	-25.7
2008 1st quarter	124.3	-26.7	79.5	-29.7
2nd quarter ¹	124.9	-31.8	79.1	-34.6
3rd quarter ²	110.4	-31.6	69.4	-34.0

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Data prior to 2004 based on existing annual data from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government prepared by DKM Economic Consultants series, with quarterly breakdown estimated by CSO.

Series from 2004 onwards based on the new CSO survey.

Table 1(c) Value and Volume Indices of Production in Civil Engineering
Base: Year 2000 = 100

Total Production in Civil Engineering				
Period	Value of Production		Volume of Production	
	Index	Annual % change	Index	Annual % change
2000	100.0		100.0	
2001	122.3	22.3	112.2	12.2
2002	149.6	22.3	129.5	15.4
2003	155.5	3.9	131.3	1.4
2004	164.4	5.7	130.0	-1.0
2005	197.7	20.2	149.2	14.8
2006	236.4	19.6	166.7	11.7
2007	303.5	28.4	205.0	23.0
2000 1st quarter	95.0		95.0	
2000 2nd quarter	98.7		98.7	
2000 3rd quarter	102.5		102.5	
2000 4th quarter	103.9		103.9	
2001 1st quarter	119.5	25.7	107.8	13.4
2001 2nd quarter	121.6	23.2	112.1	13.6
2001 3rd quarter	123.5	20.6	113.7	10.9
2001 4th quarter	124.5	19.8	115.3	11.0
2002 1st quarter	148.5	24.3	126.8	17.7
2002 2nd quarter	148.6	22.2	132.0	17.7
2002 3rd quarter	152.6	23.5	134.5	18.4
2002 4th quarter	148.6	19.4	124.9	8.3
2003 1st quarter	150.6	1.4	126.8	0.0
2003 2nd quarter	152.3	2.5	131.3	-0.5
2003 3rd quarter	158.6	4.0	133.7	-0.6
2003 4th quarter	160.3	7.9	133.4	6.8
2004 1st quarter	147.2	-2.2	120.6	-4.9
2004 2nd quarter	172.0	12.9	137.1	4.5
2004 3rd quarter	177.1	11.6	138.4	3.5
2004 4th quarter	161.3	0.6	123.8	-7.2
2005 1st quarter	130.1	-11.6	99.7	-17.3
2005 2nd quarter	181.5	5.5	137.7	0.4
2005 3rd quarter	259.8	46.7	196.5	42.0
2005 4th quarter	219.3	36.0	162.7	31.4
2006 1st quarter	179.8	38.2	131.6	32.0
2006 2nd quarter	217.4	19.8	153.9	11.8
2006 3rd quarter	248.1	-4.5	174.2	-11.3
2006 4th quarter	300.2	36.9	206.9	27.2
2007 1st quarter	234.9	30.6	161.3	22.6
2007 2nd quarter	301.5	38.7	204.8	33.1
2007 3rd quarter	330.0	33.0	221.2	27.0
2007 4th quarter	347.4	15.7	232.5	12.4
2008 1st quarter	230.4	-1.9	151.7	-6.0
2008 2nd quarter ¹	308.6	2.4	201.2	-1.8
2008 3rd quarter ²	331.6	0.5	216.7	-2.0

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Data prior to 2004 based on existing annual data from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government prepared by DKM Economic Consultants series, with quarterly breakdown estimated by CSO.

Series from 2004 onwards based on the new CSO survey.

Table 2(a) Value and Volume Indices of Production in Residential Building**Base: Year 2000 = 100**

Period	Total Production in Residential Building			
	Value of Production		Volume of Production	
	Index	Annual % change	Index	Annual % change
2000	100.0		100.0	
2001	115.4	15.4	104.0	4.0
2002	125.6	8.9	105.8	1.7
2003	154.1	22.7	117.5	11.1
2004	193.3	25.4	138.2	17.5
2005	234.1	21.1	159.7	15.6
2006	237.1	1.3	151.5	-5.1
2007	188.6	-20.5	115.3	-23.9
2000 1st quarter	89.6		94.4	
2nd quarter	98.4		99.5	
3rd quarter	106.0		106.2	
4th quarter	106.0		99.9	
2001 1st quarter	106.6	19.0	95.8	1.5
2nd quarter	118.6	20.5	104.1	4.6
3rd quarter	116.3	9.7	107.3	1.0
4th quarter	120.0	13.2	108.9	9.0
2002 1st quarter	109.0	2.3	96.2	0.4
2nd quarter	116.1	-2.1	98.6	-5.3
3rd quarter	136.7	17.5	114.7	6.9
4th quarter	140.7	17.3	113.6	4.3
2003 1st quarter	127.6	17.1	105.8	10.0
2nd quarter	141.4	21.8	112.8	14.4
3rd quarter	170.2	24.5	134.0	16.8
4th quarter	177.3	26.0	117.5	3.4
2004 1st quarter	185.6	45.5	137.3	29.8
2nd quarter	207.3	46.6	149.2	32.2
3rd quarter	187.8	10.4	132.5	-1.1
4th quarter	192.6	8.6	133.6	13.7
2005 1st quarter	209.8	13.0	145.1	5.7
2nd quarter	243.3	17.4	166.7	11.7
3rd quarter	245.0	30.5	167.3	26.3
4th quarter	238.3	23.7	159.6	19.5
2006 1st quarter	245.0	16.8	161.9	11.6
2nd quarter	237.0	-2.6	151.4	-9.2
3rd quarter	214.9	-12.3	136.2	-18.6
4th quarter	251.4	5.5	156.4	-2.0
2007 1st quarter	196.6	-19.8	121.9	-24.7
2nd quarter	208.3	-12.1	127.8	-15.6
3rd quarter	178.9	-16.8	108.3	-20.5
4th quarter	170.5	-32.2	103.0	-34.1
2008 1st quarter	119.2	-39.4	70.8	-41.9
2nd quarter ¹	117.0	-43.8	68.9	-46.1
3rd quarter ²	95.1	-46.8	55.6	-48.7

¹ Revised² Provisional

Data prior to 2004 based on existing annual data from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government prepared by DKM Economic Consultants series, with quarterly breakdown estimated by CSO.
Series from 2004 onwards based on the new CSO survey.

Table 2(b) Value and Volume Indices of Production in Non-Residential Building
Base: Year 2000 = 100

Period	Total Production in Non-Residential Building			
	Value of Production		Volume of Production	
	Index	Annual % change	Index	Annual % change
2000	100.0		100.0	
2001	104.0	4.0	95.8	-4.2
2002	95.2	-8.5	88.6	-7.5
2003	87.8	-7.7	83.0	-6.4
2004	95.1	8.3	84.2	1.5
2005	98.3	3.3	83.1	-1.3
2006	117.4	19.5	92.8	11.7
2007	131.4	11.9	99.4	7.1
2000 1st quarter	95.0		95.0	
2nd quarter	98.7		98.7	
3rd quarter	102.5		102.5	
4th quarter	103.9		103.9	
2001 1st quarter	101.6	6.9	93.6	-1.5
2nd quarter	103.4	4.8	95.3	-3.4
3rd quarter	105.1	2.5	96.8	-5.6
4th quarter	105.9	1.9	97.6	-6.1
2002 1st quarter	94.5	-7.0	88.0	-6.0
2nd quarter	94.5	-8.6	88.0	-7.6
3rd quarter	97.1	-7.6	90.4	-6.6
4th quarter	94.6	-10.7	88.1	-9.8
2003 1st quarter	85.0	-10.0	80.4	-8.6
2nd quarter	86.0	-9.0	81.3	-7.6
3rd quarter	89.6	-7.7	84.7	-6.4
4th quarter	90.5	-4.3	85.6	-2.8
2004 1st quarter	88.5	4.1	81.2	1.0
2nd quarter	95.7	11.2	85.4	5.0
3rd quarter	101.0	12.7	88.3	4.3
4th quarter	95.3	5.3	81.9	-4.3
2005 1st quarter	81.6	-7.8	70.0	-13.8
2nd quarter	97.6	2.0	82.9	-2.9
3rd quarter	106.7	5.6	90.3	2.3
4th quarter	107.3	12.6	89.1	8.8
2006 1st quarter	106.0	29.9	86.8	24.0
2nd quarter	106.5	9.1	84.3	1.7
3rd quarter	124.0	16.2	97.4	7.9
4th quarter	133.2	24.1	102.7	15.3
2007 1st quarter	118.2	11.5	90.9	4.7
2nd quarter	135.8	27.5	103.2	22.4
3rd quarter	128.6	3.7	96.4	-1.0
4th quarter	143.1	7.4	107.2	4.4
2008 1st quarter	134.0	13.4	98.7	8.6
2nd quarter ¹	140.0	3.1	102.1	-1.1
3rd quarter ²	139.3	8.3	100.9	4.7

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Data prior to 2004 based on existing annual data from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government prepared by DKM Economic Consultants series, with quarterly breakdown estimated by CSO. Series from 2004 onwards based on the new CSO survey.

Table 3(a) Annual Volume Indices of production in all Building and Construction in the euro-zone, the EU25, the EU27 and Member States, 2000 to 2007

Base: Year 2000 = 100

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
EU27	100.0	100.4	101.6	102.4	102.5	103.4	107.5	111.5
EU25	100.0	100.5	101.8	102.6	102.5	103.0	106.6	110.0
Euro-zone	100.0	100.3	100.9	100.8	99.8	100.6	104.5	107.8
Belgium	103.2 ^p	101.3 ^p	98.6 ^p	95.7 ^p	93.9 ^p	90.7 ^p	93.6 ^p	95.8 ^p
Bulgaria	100.0 ^s	114.5 ^s	117.9 ^s	124.2 ^s	167.3 ^s	221.2 ^s	251.1 ^{ps}	301.2 ^{ps}
Czech Republic	103.3	112.2	113.6	122.3	131.2	134.4	143.8	152.1
Denmark	100.0 ^s	92.9 ^s	91.9 ^s	94.2 ^s	94.1 ^s	96.8 ^s	106.4 ^s	110.3 ^s
Germany	100.3	92.7	88.7	84.9	80.5	76.1	80.9	83.2
Estonia	100.0	105.9	129.2	137.0	152.2	187.2	239.2	262.8
Ireland	100.0	103.4	105.5	111.5	123.6	139.2	139.7	126.8
Greece	100.0	106.5	148.2	139.7	117.5	72.0	77.3	95.6
Spain	100.0 ^s	107.7 ^s	113.7 ^s	118.2 ^s	120.7 ^s	130.0	131.7	130.6
France	100.1	100.8	98.4	97.4	96.8	100.2	104.3	108.3
Italy	100.0	105.7	111.2	114.9	116.7	117.7	122.6	129.4
Cyprus	100.0	103.2	106.6	114.0	119.1	122.4	127.3	135.4
Latvia	99.7	106.1	119.0	134.6	151.1	174.1	197.7	225.1
Lithuania	100.0	107.1	130.4	166.6	178.0	198.5	240.7	292.6
Luxembourg	100.0	104.0	106.1	107.0	105.6	104.8	107.3	108.9
Hungary	100.9	109.4	128.9	131.2	138.4	160.7	159.1	135.7
Malta	100.0 ^s	96.4 ^s	118.9 ^s	112.2 ^s	113.0 ^s	117.9 ^s	130.0 ^s	130.1 ^s
Netherlands	100.0	101.9	98.6	93.1	90.6	93.5	97.0	102.6
Austria	100.0	99.2	99.7	112.2	118.1	123.8	129.5	134.2
Poland	100.0	89.5	80.9	75.3	74.6	81.5	93.7	108.7
Portugal	100.0	104.2	102.9	94.4	89.9	85.5	79.9	76.7
Romania	101.7	105.9	109.1	116.7	127.7	139.5	166.4	223.8
Slovenia	100.0	92.9	97.9	105.7	108.4	111.7	128.8	152.5
Slovakia	101.0	101.1	105.7	111.9	118.1	135.2	156.7	164.3
Finland	100.0 ^e	102.7 ^e	104.4 ^e	108.5 ^e	113.3 ^e	117.8 ^e	124.8 ^e	138.7 ^e
Sweden	100.0	105.6	106.2	106.5	105.5	108.4	117.6	126.6
United Kingdom	100.0	101.3	105.8	111.2	114.4	113.5	114.9	117.8 ^p

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

Source: Eurostat

Data updated from previous publication

* From 1st January 2008, the Euro-Zone consists of Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Finland.

Table 3(b) Volume of Production in all Building and Construction in the euro-zone, the EU25, the EU27 and Member States, annual % changes q3 2006 to q3 2008

Base: Year 2000 = 100

	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008	Q2 2008	Q3 2008
EU27	4.1	6.4	9.5	3.0	2.3	0.9	2.1	-0.6	-1.6
EU25	3.5	6.6	10.7	2.5	1.7	-0.6	1.3	-2.2	-3.2
Euro-zone*	3.5	6.6	10.7	2.6	1.7	-0.5	-0.5	-2.1	-2.8
Belgium	1.8 ^p	6.6 ^p	8.9 ^p	1.2 ^p	0.8 ^p	-1.0 ^p	0.3 ^p	3.4 ^p	0.1
Bulgaria	16.2 ^{ps}	12.5 ^{ps}	33.4 ^{ps}	18.3 ^{ps}	14.7 ^{ps}	16.1 ^{ps}	13.2 ^{ps}	15.5 ^{ps}	13.5
Czech Republic	8.0	8.8	29.4	2.6	-1.0	5.1	5	-2.5	3.1
Denmark	19.3 ^s	4.3 ^s	10.9 ^s	4.3 ^s	-3.7 ^s	4.8 ^s	-3 ^s	-2.3 ^s	-3.3
Germany	7.3	9.8	29.9	-0.7	-2.0	-3.7	2.8	-1.1	-1.1
Estonia	26.5	18.4	24.3	7.2	4.7	9.3	-3.7	-6.2	-15.5
Ireland	-13.1	6.3	-12.4	-0.3	-6.5	-16.9	-24.4	-26.1	-24.4
Greece	9.6	8.9	27.5	24.0	28.4	17.5	3.6	6.8	1.4
Spain	3.0	4.1	4.4	-1.5	-1.9 ^p	-3.6	-7.2 ^p	-15.6 ^p	-15.9
France	2.3	5.8	5.8	3.4	3.5	2.6	3.8	0.4	-0.5
Italy	1.1	8.9	10.3	4.7	7.0	1.3	3.5	1.1	-2.1
Cyprus	0.9	3.4	4.6	6.9	8.1 ^p	5.7 ^p	8.2 ^p	4.1 ^{cp}	:
Latvia	12.2	11.0	16.1	15.9	14.0	11.0	6.7	5.7	-5.9
Lithuania	18.5	25.6	45.5	29.3	16.1	10.6	12.6	5.6	3.4
Luxembourg	3.9	3.7	12.9	1.6	-3.1	-4.2	-2.6	0.0	-2.1
Hungary	-3.0	1.2	-1.2	-6.5	-19.9	-22.7	-17.1	-4.8	-5.4
Malta	12.9 ^s	9.6 ^s	0.8 ^s	3.6 ^s	-3.2 ^s	-0.8 ^s	5.6 ^s	1.6 ^s	3.1
Netherlands	5.2	3.9	8.5	7.8	4.3	2.5	8.5	6.3	4.7
Austria	5.7	3.8	13.7	6.8	1.2	-1.9	2.8	-0.8	-1.9
Poland	14.3	22.7	51.8	15.6	10.2	9.2	14.5	19.8	11.5
Portugal	-7.8	-7.2	-7.2	-5.2	-3.2	-0.4	-3.0	-2.1	-1.4
Romania	19.0	22.1	29.9	32.7	38.3	34.2	31.8	29.6	27.8
Slovenia	18.7	31.7	35.7	31.7	16.9	2.7	32.2	16.4	16.6
Slovakia	18.1	14.2	20.3	7.0	1.6	-2.3	12.4	9.9	11.3
Finland	4.8 ^e	7.6 ^e	13.9 ^e	13.1 ^e	8.1 ^e	10.7 ^e	7.3 ^e	7.5 ^e	11.4
Sweden	8.5	9.0	10.7	0.8	12.0	8.3	5.2	5.3	-4.7
United Kingdom	2.1	2.9	2.2 ^p	2.9 ^p	2.3 ^p	2.6 ^p	3.5 ^p	2.0 ^p	1.7

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

Source: Eurostat

Data updated from previous publication

* From 1st January 2008, the Euro-Zone consists of Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Finland.

Background Notes

- Introduction** 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.
- 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.
- This series is also available using the interactive tables in the CSO's Database Direct on www.cso.ie
- Legal Basis** The survey is carried out in accordance with the Statistics (Quarterly Survey on Construction) Order 2004, Number 182 made under the 1993 Statistics Act. The statistics are also required for EU comparisons under Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98.
- Reference Periods** 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.).
- Base Year** The set of indices, based on the Laspeyres Index, has been compiled with reference to base year 2000 = 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 2003.
- Scope and Coverage** 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 45 of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev.1.1). Approximately 2,000 firms are surveyed every quarter.
- Methodology** A detailed description of the methodology is available on the CSO website at: http://www.cso.ie/surveysandmetho_Hlt178153707d_Hlt178153707ologies/documents/pdf_docs/qsc_methodology.pdf

Comparison with other national series

As the QSC is a relatively new survey, the CSO still considers the results to be experimental at this stage. 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 new series shows an increase of 26.8% in the annual volume of production in building and construction, between 2000 and 2007. In the same period, employment in the sector, as measured by the QNHS, grew by 67.1%.

For residential buildings, the QSC shows an increase of 15.3% in the annual volume of production between 2000 and 2007, whereas the house completions series shows an increase of 56.6%. These two series also show substantially different trends between 2006 and 2007.

Data on house-building commencements, a relatively new leading indicator, are also included in Table A. This indicator suggests a substantial slowdown in residential building in 2007 compared to 2006.

Table A: Comparison of Building and Construction sector indicators

	New CSO Series			Other Indicators		
	Volume of production in building and construction	Volume of production in civil engineering	Volume of production in residential building	Persons In Employed in the Construction Sector ¹	House Completions ²	House Commencement Notices ³
	Index 2000=100	Index 2000=100	Index 2000=100	No.	No.	No.
2000	100.0	100.0	100.0	166,200	49,812	n/a
2001	103.4	112.2	104.0	180,000	52,602	n/a
2002	105.5	129.5	105.8	182,200	57,695	n/a
2003	111.5	131.3	117.5	191,400	68,819	n/a
2004	123.6	130.0	138.2	206,000	76,954	77,691
2005	139.2	149.2	159.7	242,400	86,189	77,709
2006	139.7	166.7	151.5	262,700	88,187	75,602
2007	126.8	205.0	115.3	277,700	78,027	48,876

¹ Quarterly National Household Survey, September - November quarter.

² The 2005 figure incorporates an upward adjustment by the CSO of about 5,200 units.

The adjustment takes account of work in progress which had not been included in the DoEHLG data for 2005.

The 2006 figure incorporates a corresponding adjustment downwards.

³ Source DoEHLG. Data not available prior to 2004.

