

GSB NEWS
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Dear members of the GSB,

it is time again to take a look at the latest figures on building permits.

We have prepared the data for you and filtered out the relevant parts for you.

As always, we wish you a pleasant read.

Your GSB Team



Building Permits

Those who regularly read our economic outlooks are probably familiar by now with the reason why we filter the figures on building permits by buildings (m² of useful floor area). For all newcomers, however, we are happy to summarise the reason again below.

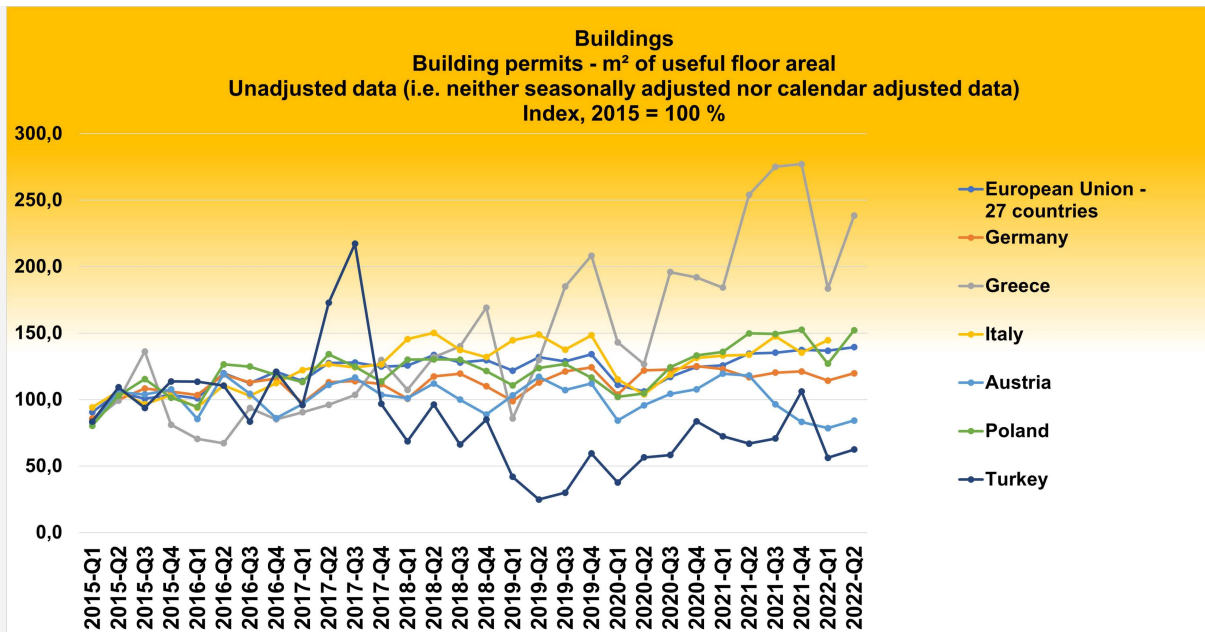
Unfortunately, there are no statistics that indicate the future demand for coated surfaces in architecture. Therefore, one has to resort to statistics that contain the market that is of interest.

The following consideration applies here: The more m² of useful floor area are permitted, the more square metres of aluminium and steel have to be coated. But this correlation should be treated with caution. Trends regarding materials used and surface finishing processes etc. can distort the correlation. Consequently, the figures on building permits should rather be seen as an indicator.

Furthermore - and this is very important in the current economically uncertain environment - not all projects that are permitted are actually built. The reason for this can be, for example, insolvencies or cancellations by builders.

In the chart below, we have listed some of the countries that are particularly important for our members. The EU (27 countries) is still at a very high level. Similar graphs can be observed for Germany, Italy and Poland. In Austria, the figures have been below the 2015 level since Q3 2021. Greece is at an extreme level. Again, there are sometimes enormous differences between the quarters. At the bottom of the list in terms of approvals is Turkey, which has generally been at a low level since Q4 2017.

The only question that remains is what happens next. The last figures listed here are from the second quarters of 2022 - with the exception of Italy, where only Q1 figures were available. With the increasing uncertainties in the markets (Ukraine war, energy crisis, inflation, Corona pandemic), it is questionable whether the very positive approval figures can be continued in the second half of the year. So the next economic outlook can be awaited with great excitement.



European Commission. (2022). Building permits - quarterly data. [new buildings only; adjusted data set]. Retrieved from: [LINK](#) [13.10.2022]

*EU Q2 2022 = EUROSTAT estimate; Italy Q1 2022 = provisional; Greece up to and including Q1 2021 = provisional; Austria starting from Q1 2019 = estimate.

Editorial Office

Philipp Mader is looking forward to your questions and suggestions concerning the GSB NEWS:

philipp.mader@gsb-international.de



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