

12 February 2009

Coverage
Great Britain

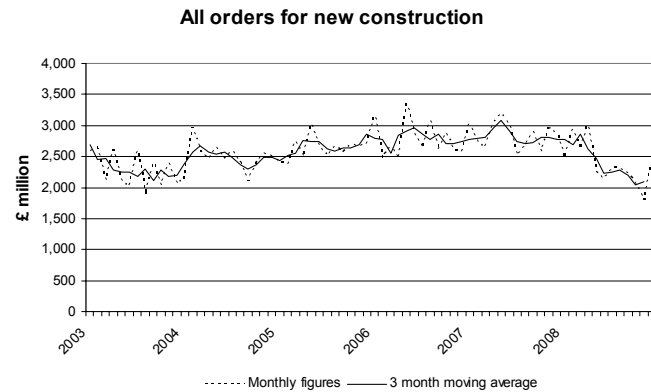
Theme
Natural and Built
Environment



New orders in the construction industry December 2008

Orders in the three months to December 2008 fell by 9 per cent compared with the previous three month period. Orders in the 12 months to December 2008 fell 16 per cent compared

with the previous 12 months and orders in three months to December 2008 fell by 26 per cent compared with the same period a year earlier. In the three months to December 2008 compared with the same period a year earlier, private housing orders fell by 57 per cent and public and housing association housing orders fell by 28 per cent. All orders figures quoted are seasonally adjusted and in constant (2000) prices.



Orders for new construction

(constant (2000) prices, seasonally adjusted)

		Public housing	Private housing	Infra-structure	Public non-housing	Private industrial	Private commercial	All Orders
		<i>£ million</i>						
2006		1,721	8,359	3,287	4,413	2,961	12,734	33,476
2007		1,806	7,877	4,189	4,674	2,630	13,003	34,180
2008	p	1,497	4,471	5,112	6,136	1,909	9,449	28,574
2008	Q1	352	1,497	1,456	1,419	579	2,748	8,051
2008	Q2	415	1,282	1,241	1,524	420	2,515	7,397
2008	Q3	415	858	1,096	1,641	497	2,353	6,860
2008	Q4 p	315	834	1,319	1,552	413	1,833	6,267
2008	Jul	155	313	411	636	129	672	2,315
2008	Aug	152	226	460	466	265	738	2,307
2008	Sep	108	320	225	539	103	942	2,237
2008	Oct r	154	255	314	387	177	773	2,060
2008	Nov p	93	277	161	655	107	518	1,813
2008	Dec p	68	302	844	510	128	542	2,394

r = revised p = provisional

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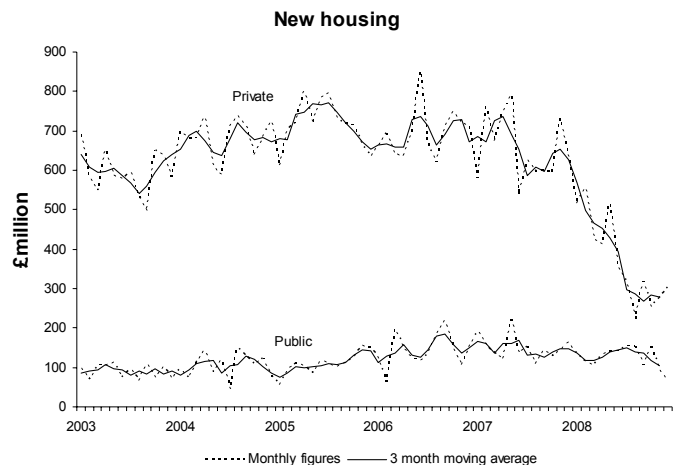
Next publication date

12 March 2009

Private and public housing

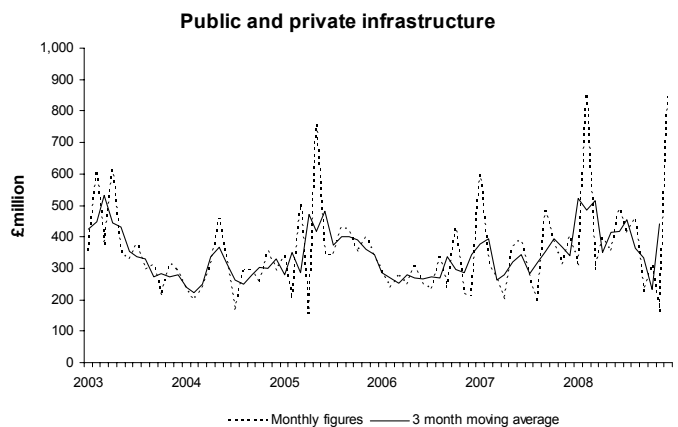
Private housing orders in the three months to December 2008 fell by 3 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and fell by 57 per cent compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Private housing orders in the year to December 2008 fell by 43 per cent compared with those in the previous 12 months.

Public housing and housing association orders in the three months to December 2008 fell by 24 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and fell 28 per cent when compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Public housing and housing association orders fell by 17 per cent in the 12 months to December 2008 compared with the previous 12 months. All comparisons in this sector are affected by large variations due to its relatively small size.



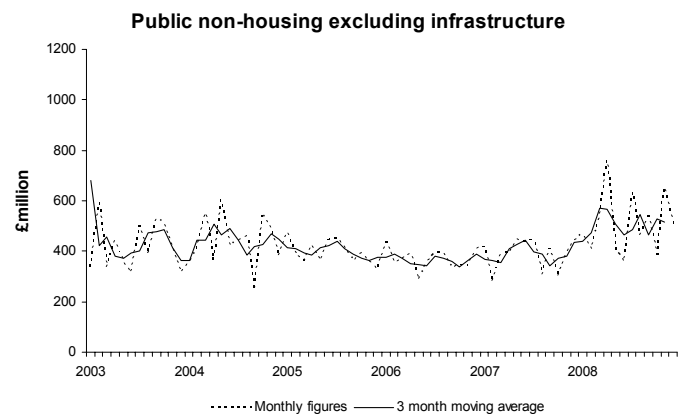
Private and public infrastructure

Infrastructure orders in the three months to December 2008 rose by 20 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and rose by 20 per cent when compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Orders in the year to December 2008 rose by 22 per cent compared with the previous 12 months.



Public non-housing

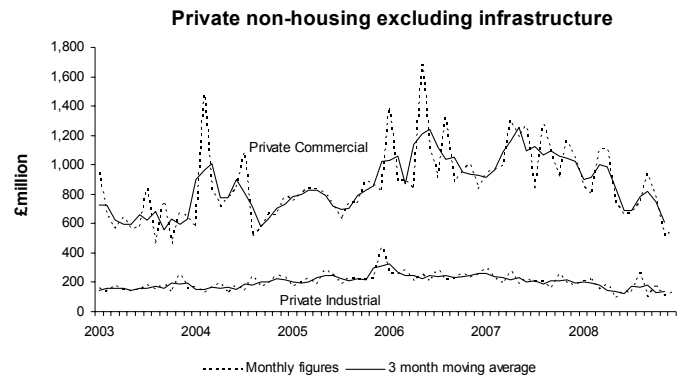
Public non-housing orders (excluding infrastructure) in the three months to December 2008 fell by 5 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and rose by 36 per cent compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Orders in the 12 months to December 2008 rose by 31 per cent compared with the previous 12 month period.



Private non-housing

Private commercial orders in the three months to December 2008 fell by 22 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and fell by 41 per cent compared with the same period a year earlier. Orders in the 12 months to December 2008 were 27 per cent lower than in the previous 12 months.

Private industrial orders in the three months to December 2008 fell by 17 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and fell by 36 per cent compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Private industrial orders in the 12 months to December 2008 fell by 27 per cent compared with the previous 12 months.



Revisions

Construction orders series may be revised following publication of the first monthly estimate. Current price data are revised two months following publications of the provisional figures. Other revisions to the orders series have been caused by revisions to some of the price and cost indices used to deflate the current price data to constant (2000) prices.

Volume and price of new orders obtained by contractors: By type of work

Three monthly growth rates (seasonally adjusted volume index numbers)

		All new work published in this release	All new work published in previous release	All new work Revisions
2008	January	1.6	1.6	0.0
	February	-1.7	-1.7	0.0
	March	-4.3	-4.3	0.0
	April	3.2	3.2	0.0
	May	-5.2	-5.2	0.0
	June	-8.1	-8.1	0.0
	July	-21.8	-21.8	0.0
	August	-14.1	-14.1	0.0
	September	-7.3	-7.3	0.0
	October	-1.5	-0.8	-0.7
	November	-9.7	-9.0	-0.7

BACKGROUND NOTES

Relevance to users

1. The First Release brings together information on orders for new construction in Great Britain. It draws on data compiled from monthly sample surveys of construction contractors. The construction industry, which accounted for 5.9% of UK gross value added in 2006, covers Section F of the Standard Industrial Classification 2003.
2. Because monthly figures are variable, especially for individual sectors, attention is directed to the latest three month period. Even this comparison can be affected by exceptionally high or low results. Graphs are shown with a three month moving average trend. Figures for individual sectors can be affected by exceptionally large contracts.
3. Responsibility for construction output, employment and new orders statistics transferred from the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) to the Office for National Statistics on 1st March 2008. The statistics published in this release continue to be based on the methodology developed by BERR. ONS is carrying out a review of the data collected and methodology in order to bring these in line with standard ONS procedures. A revised data collection and publication procedure is expected in 2010.
4. On 12 January 2009 ONS published a consultation document on proposed changes to construction statistics publications. This follows an assessment of the current outputs against user needs. Proposals include changes to this release. The consultation document, including information on how to respond can be found at:
www.ons.gov.uk/about/consultations/consultation-on-construction-statistics/index.html
The consultation closes on 6 April 2009.

Accuracy

5. Revisions to previous periods: Figures for the recent months are provisional and subject to revision, mainly in the light of revisions to deflators. Current price figures are revised once, two months after provisional publication.
6. Figures marked r indicate that the data have been revised since the last edition.

Deflation and seasonal adjustment

7. The headline data are given in constant 2000 prices, seasonally adjusted. Deflators adjust the value series to take out the effect of price changes to give the volume series. Deflation of orders is carried out sectorally, and a range of relevant tender price, materials price and labour price indices are used.
8. Seasonal adjustment aids interpretation by removing annually recurring fluctuations, for example, due to the financial year. Unadjusted data are also available.

Further information

9. Spreadsheets containing the data published in this First Release, as well as further breakdowns and previous ONS releases can be found at:
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=720>
10. Releases on orders for new construction in 2006 and 2007 can be found on the BERR website at:
<http://stats.berr.gov.uk/construction/orders/>
11. Related releases on output and employment in the construction industry in Great Britain are published at:
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=725>
12. The Construction Statistics Annual publication brings together a wide range of statistics that are currently available on the construction industry from a number of different sources. This is published at:
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=284&Pos=&ColRank=1&Rank=272>

Publication policy

13. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available from the press office. Also available is a list of the names of those given pre-publication access to the contents of this release.
14. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the United Kingdom Statistics Authority's Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. © Crown copyright 2009.

Table 1: Volume of orders for new construction in Great Britain
Constant (2000) prices seasonally adjusted index numbers
2000 = 100

		Public Housing ¹	Private Housing ¹	Infra- structure	Public (excl infrastructure)	Private Industrial	Private Commercial	All new Work
2006		189.1	137.4	65.8	115.7	114.4	130.9	119.0
2007		198.4	129.4	83.9	122.5	101.6	133.7	121.6
2008	P	164.4	73.5	102.4	160.9	73.7	97.1	101.6
2007	Q1	212.6	132.5	95.0	114.1	111.9	119.3	119.5
	Q2	210.5	136.5	76.9	133.9	106.9	154.9	131.6
	Q3	177.9	119.9	75.8	122.4	87.8	131.8	115.4
	Q4	192.6	128.8	87.9	119.8	99.8	128.7	119.7
2008	Q1	154.5	98.4	116.7	148.8	89.5	113.0	114.5
	Q2	182.3	84.3	99.4	159.8	64.9	103.4	105.2
	Q3	182.4	56.4	87.8	172.0	76.8	96.7	97.6
	Q4	138.5	54.8	105.7	162.8	63.7	75.4	89.1
2006	May	163.8	138.0	74.7	90.7	117.7	207.3	143.3
	Jun	154.4	167.7	60.3	111.0	93.0	137.9	123.3
	Jul	176.7	130.6	56.2	123.0	136.0	113.2	112.3
	Aug	242.5	122.4	81.1	124.0	102.2	162.6	131.2
	Sep	290.2	139.3	57.5	104.4	105.3	108.9	111.3
	Oct	198.4	147.8	103.8	108.9	119.6	118.3	123.6
	Nov	137.0	141.7	52.9	107.2	109.1	124.1	112.0
	Dec	200.7	141.1	50.6	128.5	118.6	103.2	110.1
2007	Jan	252.5	114.7	144.3	131.8	138.2	116.1	129.4
	Feb	204.2	150.1	76.5	88.3	109.1	119.1	115.9
	Mar	181.3	132.8	64.2	122.1	88.6	122.6	113.1
	Apr	159.9	147.1	47.8	123.1	129.8	161.6	130.1
	May	293.1	156.3	88.8	140.9	87.1	146.5	136.9
	Jun	178.5	106.1	94.2	137.8	103.6	156.7	127.9
	Jul	199.5	123.6	64.5	139.8	94.3	102.0	107.6
	Aug	143.1	117.7	46.3	96.7	95.0	157.8	114.8
	Sep	191.1	118.4	116.5	130.8	74.2	135.6	124.0
	Oct	168.9	117.3	91.4	94.7	122.7	113.2	110.4
	Nov	192.4	144.5	75.1	125.2	91.1	144.2	126.1
	Dec	216.5	124.7	97.3	139.4	85.7	128.5	122.5
2008	Jan	174.1	101.4	73.6	147.8	98.3	104.9	106.0
	Feb	153.3	109.8	205.3	128.8	100.2	98.3	125.9
	Mar	136.2	84.1	71.1	169.9	69.9	135.8	111.7
	Apr	176.6	81.4	95.4	238.7	86.7	137.6	128.3
	May	184.0	101.9	84.8	127.3	44.5	91.3	96.0
	Jun	186.2	69.5	118.1	113.3	63.5	81.2	91.4
	Jul	204.8	61.6	98.8	199.9	59.6	82.9	98.8
	Aug	200.3	44.6	110.6	146.6	123.0	91.1	98.5
	Sep	142.0	63.0	54.0	169.7	47.7	116.2	95.5
	Oct	202.8	50.2	75.5	121.8	82.1	95.3	87.9
	Nov	123.2	54.7	38.7	206.1	49.8	63.9	77.4
	Dec	89.4	59.5	202.9	160.4	59.3	66.9	102.2

1. Excludes orders for home improvement work

P Provisional

R Revised

These tables and additional breakdowns are available in Excel from
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=720>

Table 2: Volume of orders for new construction in Great Britain ¹
Constant (2000) prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

		Public Housing ¹	Private Housing ¹	Infra- structure	Public (excl infrastructure)	Private Industrial	Private Commercial	All new Work	
2006		1,721	8,359	3,287	4,413	2,961	12,734	33,476	
2007		1,806	7,877	4,189	4,674	2,630	13,003	34,180	
2008		P 1,497	4,471	5,112	6,136	1,909	9,449	28,574	
2007	Q1	484	2,016	1,185	1,088	724	2,900	8,398	
	Q2	479	2,077	960	1,277	692	3,768	9,253	
	Q3	405	1,824	946	1,167	568	3,205	8,115	
	Q4	438	1,960	1,098	1,142	646	3,129	8,413	
2008	Q1	352	1,497	1,456	1,419	579	2,748	8,051	
	Q2	415	1,282	1,241	1,524	420	2,515	7,397	
	Q3	415	858	1,096	1,641	497	2,353	6,860	
	Q4	P 315	834	1,319	1,552	413	1,833	6,267	
2006	May	124	700	311	288	254	1,681	3,358	
	Jun	117	851	251	353	201	1,118	2,890	
	Jul	134	662	234	391	293	918	2,632	
	Aug	184	621	337	394	220	1,318	3,075	
	Sep	220	706	239	332	227	883	2,608	
	Oct	151	750	432	346	258	959	2,896	
	Nov	104	719	220	341	235	1,006	2,625	
	Dec	152	716	210	408	256	837	2,579	
	2007	Jan	192	582	600	419	298	941	3,032
		Feb	155	761	318	281	235	965	2,715
		Mar	138	673	267	388	191	994	2,651
		Apr	121	746	199	391	280	1,310	3,048
May		222	793	369	448	188	1,188	3,208	
Jun		135	538	392	438	224	1,271	2,998	
Jul		151	627	268	444	203	827	2,521	
Aug		109	597	193	307	205	1,279	2,689	
Sep		145	600	485	416	160	1,099	2,905	
Oct		128	595	380	301	265	918	2,587	
Nov		146	733	312	398	197	1,169	2,955	
Dec		164	632	405	443	185	1,042	2,871	
2008	Jan	132	514	306	470	212	850	2,484	
	Feb	116	557	854	409	216	797	2,950	
	Mar	103	426	296	540	151	1,101	2,617	
	Apr	134	413	397	759	187	1,116	3,005	
	May	140	517	353	405	96	740	2,250	
	Jun	141	352	491	360	137	659	2,141	
	Jul	155	313	411	636	129	672	2,315	
	Aug	152	226	460	466	265	738	2,307	
	Sep	108	320	225	539	103	942	2,237	
	Oct	R 154	255	314	387	177	773	2,060	
	Nov	P 93	277	161	655	107	518	1,813	
	Dec	P 68	302	844	510	128	542	2,394	

1. Excludes orders for home improvement work

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Table 3: Volume of orders for new construction in Great Britain ¹
Constant (2000) prices
£ million

		Public Housing ¹	Private Housing ¹	Infra- structure	Public (excl infrastructure)	Private Industrial	Private Commercial	All new Work	
2006		1,721	8,359	3,287	4,413	2,961	12,734	33,476	
2007		1,806	7,877	4,189	4,674	2,630	13,003	34,180	
2008		1,483	4,500	4,942	6,066	1,891	9,414	28,296	
2007	Q1	650	2,108	1,217	1,099	701	2,995	8,770	
	Q2	431	2,145	1,141	1,231	680	3,843	9,471	
	Q3	346	1,877	922	1,252	600	3,254	8,250	
	Q4	380	1,747	909	1,092	649	2,911	7,688	
2008	Q1	471	1,567	1,379	1,421	555	2,838	8,230	
	Q2	394	1,324	1,475	1,409	406	2,493	7,500	
	Q3	344	875	1,092	1,758	522	2,398	6,989	
	Q4	274	734	997	1,479	409	1,685	5,577	
2006	May	85	727	379	261	276	1,800	3,528	
	Jun	100	960	220	392	193	1,229	3,094	
	Jul	132	687	203	479	322	1,114	2,937	
	Aug	131	644	388	414	232	1,229	3,038	
	Sep	185	710	218	302	223	836	2,474	
	Oct	134	712	334	413	253	879	2,724	
	Nov	83	671	210	313	250	1,019	2,545	
	Dec	125	542	149	333	234	692	2,076	
	2007	Jan	216	643	638	444	267	945	3,152
		Feb	171	759	287	291	212	960	2,678
		Mar	263	707	293	365	223	1,090	2,940
		Apr	159	733	310	333	253	1,136	2,924
May		150	800	476	406	209	1,291	3,333	
Jun		122	611	354	492	218	1,417	3,214	
Jul		147	668	234	548	224	1,019	2,840	
Aug		74	649	233	327	219	1,191	2,693	
Sep		124	559	455	377	158	1,044	2,717	
Oct		117	594	305	364	263	845	2,487	
Nov		119	698	310	368	213	1,197	2,905	
Dec		145	456	294	359	173	869	2,296	
2008	Jan	148	567	316	494	188	849	2,562	
	Feb	127	554	747	422	193	789	2,831	
	Mar	196	446	316	505	174	1,200	2,837	
	Apr	175	404	601	642	168	962	2,952	
	May	93	521	442	365	106	800	2,327	
	Jun	126	399	432	402	132	730	2,222	
	Jul	150	332	348	779	140	824	2,574	
	Aug	103	245	540	493	281	684	2,346	
	Sep	92	297	205	485	101	890	2,070	
	Oct	139	254	245	466	174	707	1,985	
	Nov	76	263	155	602	116	528	1,740	
	Dec	59	217	597	411	119	450	1,852	

1. Excludes orders for home improvement work

P Provisional

R Revised

These tables and additional breakdowns are available in Excel from
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=720>

Table 4: Value of orders for new construction in Great Britain ¹
Current prices

£ million

		Public Housing ¹	Private Housing ¹	Infra- structure	Public (excl infrastructure)	Private Industrial	Private Commercial	All new Work
2006		2,653	13,468	4,319	6,162	3,634	17,528	47,764
2007		2,964	13,109	5,633	7,324	3,306	18,288	50,624
2008	P	2,511	7,645	6,330	9,419	2,429	13,211	41,544
2007	Q1	1,056	3,473	1,677	1,651	876	4,189	12,922
	Q2	707	3,547	1,533	1,912	851	5,386	13,934
	Q3	568	3,150	1,225	1,992	756	4,588	12,279
	Q4	634	2,939	1,198	1,770	824	4,125	11,489
2008	Q1	797	2,658	1,780	2,283	711	3,982	12,211
	Q2	669	2,268	1,895	2,211	526	3,510	11,078
	Q3	582	1,502	1,389	2,681	669	3,360	10,183
	Q4	462	1,218	1,266	2,244	523	2,359	8,072
2006	May	130	1,168	497	364	336	2,466	4,962
	Jun	154	1,558	292	547	236	1,687	4,474
	Jul	205	1,112	272	669	394	1,534	4,186
	Aug	203	1,054	524	580	285	1,696	4,342
	Sep	289	1,151	293	424	275	1,157	3,589
	Oct	210	1,148	447	581	313	1,218	3,918
	Nov	130	1,080	279	441	310	1,416	3,657
	Dec	197	886	199	469	291	964	3,006
2007	Jan	348	1,069	878	661	333	1,319	4,609
	Feb	278	1,241	397	436	264	1,344	3,962
	Mar	429	1,163	402	554	278	1,526	4,352
	Apr	261	1,194	421	511	317	1,590	4,294
	May	246	1,333	638	630	261	1,807	4,915
	Jun	199	1,020	474	770	273	1,988	4,725
	Jul	241	1,119	312	866	281	1,433	4,253
	Aug	122	1,096	309	521	276	1,680	4,004
	Sep	205	935	604	604	199	1,476	4,022
	Oct	193	992	403	588	333	1,197	3,707
	Nov	198	1,181	410	599	271	1,700	4,358
	Dec	242	766	385	583	220	1,228	3,424
2008	Jan	249	958	410	798	240	1,194	3,850
	Feb	215	952	962	679	247	1,104	4,160
	Mar	333	748	407	805	224	1,684	4,201
	Apr	297	681	773	1,015	217	1,354	4,337
	May	159	898	570	572	137	1,129	3,465
	Jun	214	688	553	624	171	1,027	3,277
	Jul	254	577	444	1,196	181	1,157	3,807
	Aug	174	416	685	748	360	957	3,341
	Sep	154	509	260	737	129	1,246	3,035
	Oct	234	436	311	707	223	990	2,901
	Nov	128	432	197	913	148	739	2,557
	Dec	100	350	758	624	152	629	2,614

1. Excludes orders for home improvement work

P Provisional

R Revised

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