

2 October 2008

Coverage
Great Britain

Theme
Natural and Built
Environment



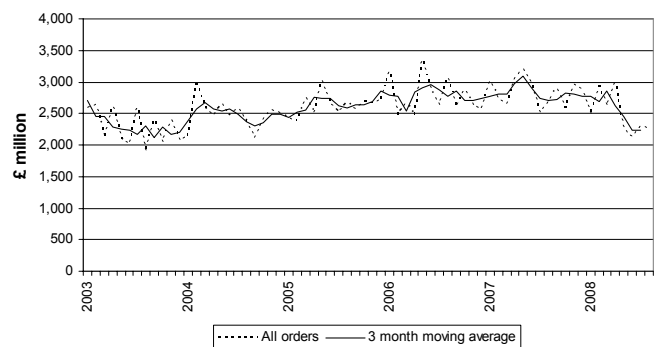
New orders in the construction industry

August 2008

Orders in the three months to August 2008 fell by 15 per cent compared with the previous three month period. Private housing orders fell by 33 per cent compared with the previous

three month period. Orders in the 12 months to August 2008 fell 7 per cent compared with the previous 12 months and orders in three months to August 2008 fell by 18 per cent compared with the same period a year earlier. All orders figures quoted are seasonally adjusted and in constant (2000) prices.

All orders for new construction



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		1,808	7,877	4,189	4,674	2,630	13,003	34,181
2008	Q1	356	1,497	1,456	1,411	579	2,748	8,047
2008	Q2 r	421	1,282	1,239	1,500	419	2,510	7,372
2008	Jan	133	514	306	468	212	850	2,484
2008	Feb	118	557	854	407	216	797	2,949
2008	Mar	105	426	296	535	151	1,101	2,614
2008	Apr	136	413	397	749	187	1,116	2,998
2008	May r	142	517	353	398	96	740	2,246
2008	Jun r	143	352	489	353	136	654	2,127
2008	Jul r	158	321	414	612	122	681	2,309
2008	Aug p	132	239	453	449	253	740	2,267

r = revised p = provisional

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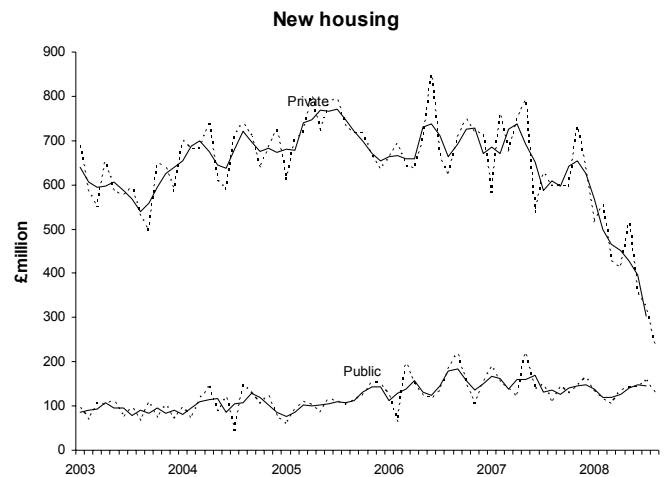
Next publication date
6 November 2008

Private and public housing

Private housing orders in the three months to August 2008 fell by 33 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and fell by 48 per cent compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Private housing orders in the year to August 2008 fell by 28 per cent compared with those in the previous 12 months.

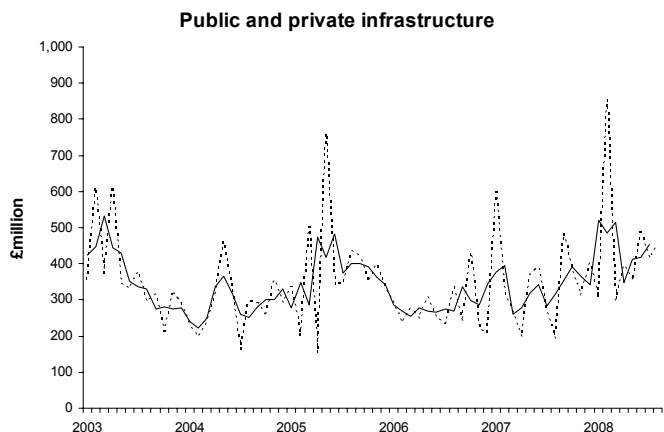
Public housing and housing association orders in the three months to August 2008 rose by 13 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and rose by 10 per cent compared with the same three month period a year earlier.

Public housing and housing association orders fell by 11 per cent in the 12 months to August 2008 compared with the previous 12 months. All comparisons in this sector are affected by large variations due to its relatively small size.



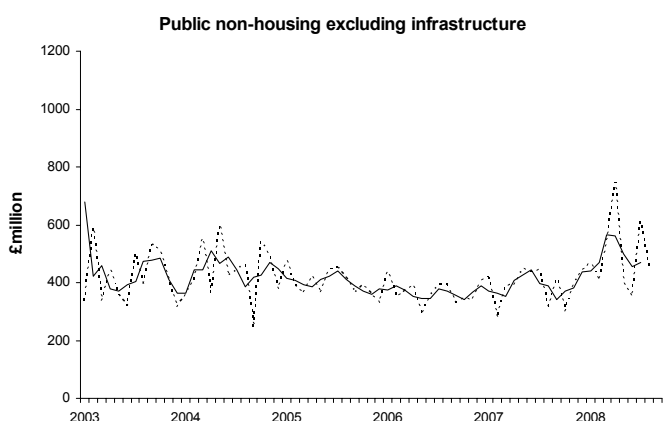
Private and public infrastructure

Infrastructure orders in the three months to August 2008 rose by 30 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and rose by 59 per cent when compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Orders in the year to August 2008 rose by 39 per cent compared with the previous 12 months.



Public non-housing

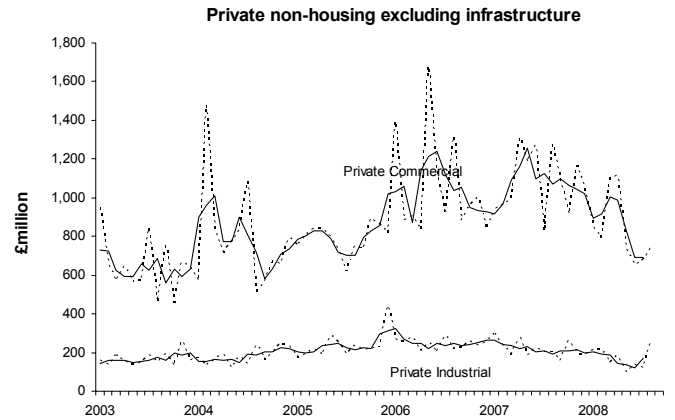
Public non-housing orders (excluding infrastructure) in the three months to August 2008 fell by 16 per cent compared with the previous three month period, and rose by 19 per cent compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Orders in the 12 months to August 2008 rose by 22 per cent compared with the previous 12 month period.



Private non-housing

Private commercial orders in the three months to August 2008 were 30 per cent lower compared with the previous three month period, and fell by 39 per cent compared with the same period a year earlier. Orders in the 12 months to August 2008 were 12 per cent lower than in the previous 12 months.

Private industrial orders in the three months to August 2008 rose by 18 per cent compared with the previous three month period, but fell by 19 per cent compared with the same three month period a year earlier. Private industrial orders in the 12 months to August 2008 fell by 22 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
2007	January	-4.0	-4.0	0.0
	February	2.4	2.4	0.0
	March	3.7	3.7	0.0
	April	2.2	2.2	0.0
	May	7.0	7.0	0.0
	June	10.2	10.2	0.0
	July	3.7	3.7	0.0
	August	-7.8	-7.8	0.0
	September	-12.3	-12.3	0.0
	October	-6.2	-6.2	0.0
	November	2.9	2.9	0.0
	December	3.7	3.7	0.0
2008	January	1.6	1.6	0.0
	February	-1.7	-1.7	0.0
	March	-4.4	-4.4	0.0
	April	3.0	3.0	0.0
	May	-5.4	-5.4	0.0
	June	-8.4	-8.0	-0.4
	July	-22.0	-21.6	-0.4

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 from the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform to the Office for National Statistics on 1st March 2008. Details of the transfer can be found at:
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/constats1007.pdf>

Accuracy

4. 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.
5. Figures marked r indicate that the data have been revised since the last edition.

Deflation and seasonal adjustment

6. 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.
7. Seasonal adjustment aids interpretation by removing annually recurring fluctuations, for example, due to the financial year. Unadjusted data are also available.

Further information

8. 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>
9. 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/>
10. 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>
11. 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

12. 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.
13. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.
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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
2003		119.4	117.2	88.9	132.3	77.4	80.1	97.8
2004		139.1	134.8	68.5	138.5	84.9	97.6	106.2
2005		145.1	141.3	91.9	125.3	110.2	97.1	112.3
2006		189.1	137.4	65.8	115.7	114.4	130.9	119.0
2007		198.6	129.4	83.9	122.5	101.6	133.7	121.6
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	178.0	119.9	75.8	122.4	87.8	131.8	115.4
	Q4	193.5	128.8	87.9	119.7	99.8	128.7	119.7
2008	Q1	156.4	98.4	116.7	148.0	89.5	113.0	114.5
	Q2	R 184.9	84.3	99.3	157.3	64.7	103.2	104.9
2006	Jan	162.2	130.3	69.8	138.7	124.0	171.7	135.5
	Feb	83.9	137.1	57.2	111.0	119.0	109.0	106.2
	Mar	260.4	126.5	66.4	117.2	130.4	111.4	114.0
	Apr	198.9	125.8	59.7	123.8	97.6	103.0	105.7
	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	252.4	114.7	144.3	131.9	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	191.4	118.4	116.5	130.8	74.2	135.6	124.0
	Oct	169.4	117.3	91.4	94.7	122.7	113.2	110.4
	Nov	193.2	144.5	75.1	125.2	91.1	144.2	126.1
	Dec	217.9	124.7	97.3	139.1	85.7	128.5	122.5
2008	Jan	175.8	101.4	73.6	147.3	98.3	104.9	106.0
	Feb	155.3	109.8	205.3	128.1	100.2	98.3	125.8
	Mar	138.2	84.1	71.1	168.4	69.9	135.8	111.6
	Apr	179.2	81.4	95.4	235.7	86.7	137.6	127.9
	May	R 187.0	101.9	84.8	125.3	44.5	91.3	95.9
	Jun	R 188.5	69.5	117.7	110.9	62.9	80.7	90.8
	Jul	R 208.8	63.3	99.5	192.4	56.8	84.0	98.5
	Aug	P 174.5	47.1	108.9	141.2	117.3	91.3	96.7

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
2003		1,087	7,132	4,440	5,046	2,002	7,794	27,502
2004		1,267	8,205	3,420	5,283	2,197	9,491	29,862
2005		1,321	8,597	4,588	4,779	2,853	9,447	31,585
2006		1,721	8,359	3,287	4,413	2,961	12,734	33,476
2007		1,808	7,877	4,189	4,674	2,630	13,003	34,181
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	8,116
	Q4	440	1,960	1,098	1,141	646	3,129	8,414
2008	Q1	356	1,497	1,456	1,411	579	2,748	8,047
	Q2	R 421	1,282	1,239	1,500	419	2,510	7,372
2006	Jan	123	661	290	441	267	1,392	3,174
	Feb	64	695	238	353	257	883	2,489
	Mar	198	641	276	372	281	903	2,672
	Apr	151	638	248	394	211	835	2,477
	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	2,906
	Oct	129	595	380	301	265	918	2,587
	Nov	147	733	312	398	197	1,169	2,955
	Dec	165	632	405	442	185	1,042	2,872
2008	Jan	133	514	306	468	212	850	2,484
	Feb	118	557	854	407	216	797	2,949
	Mar	105	426	296	535	151	1,101	2,614
	Apr	136	413	397	749	187	1,116	2,998
	May	R 142	517	353	398	96	740	2,246
	Jun	R 143	352	489	353	136	654	2,127
	Jul	R 158	321	414	612	122	681	2,309
	Aug	P 132	239	453	449	253	740	2,267

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
2003		1,087	7,132	4,440	5,046	2,002	7,794	27,502
2004		1,267	8,205	3,420	5,283	2,197	9,491	29,862
2005		1,321	8,597	4,588	4,779	2,853	9,447	31,585
2006		1,721	8,359	3,287	4,413	2,961	12,734	33,476
2007		1,808	7,877	4,189	4,674	2,630	13,003	34,181
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	8,251
	Q4	382	1,747	909	1,091	649	2,911	7,690
2008	Q1	477	1,567	1,379	1,412	555	2,838	8,227
	Q2 R	400	1,324	1,473	1,386	404	2,488	7,476
2006	Jan	138	702	299	460	236	1,380	3,217
	Feb	70	692	213	365	229	866	2,435
	Mar	341	702	296	347	323	976	2,985
	Apr	197	609	378	334	189	715	2,422
	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	2,488
	Nov	119	698	310	368	213	1,197	2,906
	Dec	146	456	294	359	173	869	2,296
2008	Jan	149	567	316	493	188	849	2,562
	Feb	129	554	747	420	193	789	2,830
	Mar	199	446	316	500	174	1,200	2,836
	Apr	177	404	601	634	168	962	2,947
	May R	95	521	442	359	106	800	2,323
	Jun R	127	399	430	394	131	725	2,207
	Jul R	153	341	350	750	134	835	2,563
	Aug P	90	259	532	475	268	686	2,309

1. Excludes orders for home improvement work

P Provisional

R Revised

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<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
2003		1,340	9,471	4,894	6,142	2,383	9,721	33,951
2004		1,697	12,153	3,772	6,847	2,593	12,026	39,089
2005		1,951	13,171	5,532	6,694	3,421	13,163	43,932
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
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 R	669	2,268	1,895	2,211	526	3,510	11,078
2006	Jan	209	1,103	377	638	288	1,887	4,502
	Feb	106	1,110	269	505	279	1,187	3,456
	Mar	518	1,120	379	481	394	1,337	4,229
	Apr	302	978	490	463	231	980	3,444
	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 R	214	688	553	624	171	1,027	3,277
	Jul P	256	591	451	1,183	176	1,188	3,845
	Aug P	151	439	683	745	354	981	3,351

1. Excludes orders for home improvement work

P Provisional

R Revised

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