



Press release

PB03-60
28 March 2003
9:30 AM

Slump in housing construction

According to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands, the number of finished dwellings fell to 67 thousand in the year 2002. This is the lowest number since the early 1950s. In 2002 the greatest drop in newly constructed dwellings occurred in the provinces Overijssel, Flevoland and Utrecht.

The number of dwellings for which a building permit was granted, on the other hand, increased by 8 percent, also to 67 thousand.

More building permits granted for dwellings

The number of new dwellings for which a building permit was granted increased. In 2002, building permits were granted for over 67 thousand dwellings. This is an 8 percent increase on 2001. The number of dwellings for which a building permit was granted is low when placed in a historical perspective. In the 1990s, for example, the figure was between 82 thousand and 108 thousand dwellings. The number of building permits granted is an indication for the housing construction that can be expected.

Quarter of building permits for dwellings in South Holland

One in four dwellings for which a building permit was granted in 2002 will be built in the province of South Holland. The number of dwellings for which a building permit was issued increased most in the provinces Flevoland, Gelderland and South Holland. The strongest decrease occurred in the three northern provinces and Overijssel.

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Table 1 Housing construction: building permit and finished dwellings in 2001 en 2002.

	Building permits			Finished dwellings		
	2001	2002	change	2001	2002	change
	<i>number</i>		<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>		<i>%</i>
Netherlands	62 326	67 183	8	72 958	66 704	-9
Groningen	3 173	1 758	-45	2 171	2 433	12
Friesland	2 886	2 432	-16	2 701	2 299	-15
Drenthe	2 317	2 092	-10	1 974	2 308	17
Overijssel	4 816	3 754	-22	5 002	3 811	-24
Flevoland	2 285	4 002	75	4 651	3 592	-23
Gelderland	5 880	7 548	28	6 468	6 539	1
Utrecht	5 030	5 698	13	7 026	5 444	-23
North Holland	10 144	10 075	-1	11 153	10 512	-6
South Holland	13 289	16 360	23	16 965	17 004	0
Zeeland	1 155	1 392	21	1 343	1 303	-3
North Brabant	7 897	8 843	12	9 558	7 939	-17
Limburg	3 454	3 229	-7	3 946	3 520	-11

Source: CBS

Table 2 Housing construction per year.

	Building permit	Finished
	<i>number</i>	
1990	89 745	97 384
1991	82 162	82 888
1992	87 034	86 164
1993	89 534	83 689
1994	107 764	87 369
1995	98 405	93 836
1996	102 119	88 934
1997	101 501	92 315
1998	87 673	90 516
1999	84 201	78 625
2000	78 563	70 650
2001	62 326	72 958
2002	67 183	66 704

Source: CBS

