

## Number of residential building permits down 15 pct over Jan - May

**The number of residential building permits issued in the first five months of 2020 amounted to 13,997, down by 15 percent from the year-ago period, the National Institute of Statistics (INS) said in a release.**

The development regions to see a decline in the number of permits in the reporting period are Bucharest-Ilfov (-571 permits), South-East (-520), South-Muntenia (-348), North-East (-325), Center (-321), South-West Oltenia (-237) and West (-167). The North-West region was the only one with a rise in the number of residential building permits (+15).

As many as 3,062 residential building permits were released this May, 69.3 percent of which for the rural area; this number was by 33.7 percent higher compared to April and 25.9 percent down YoY.

The number of permits released in May 2020 was by 772 higher compared to April, with a breakdown by development regions as follows: North-East (+155 permits), South-Muntenia (+133), West (+113), Center (+100), South-East (+96), North-West (+76), South-West Oltenia (+55), and Bucharest-Ilfov (+44).

A year-on-year comparison reveals an overall decrease in the number of residential building permits in May 2020 (-1,071 permits), with the following distribution by development regions: North-East (-244), South-Muntenia (-198), South-East (-191), South-West Oltenia (-134), North-West (-125), Bucharest-Ilfov (-119), and Center (-87). The West development region saw the number of issued building permits rise by 27.