



The [European Construction Sector Observatory](#) aims to inform European policymakers and industry stakeholders on the market conditions and policy developments through regular analysis and comparative assessments. Visit the [ECSO website](#) and gain access to a wide range of industry data and analysis, from evidence on Member States' performance towards the five thematic objectives of the [Construction 2020 Strategy](#), to insights on national policy developments, trends and experiences.

[28 Country Fact Sheets](#), [60 Policy Measures Fact Sheets](#) and [3 Analytical Reports](#) are now online

[28 Country Fact Sheets](#) are now online, giving insight into the construction sector of each EU Member State, providing an assessment of key economic drivers, issues and barriers, innovation in the sector, national and regional policy and regulatory frameworks, as well as progress towards European Commission's Construction 2020 objectives.

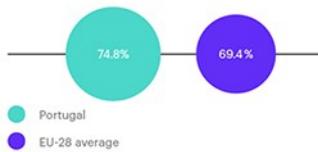
[60 Policy Measures Fact Sheets](#) profile relevant initiatives that have been implemented at national level and provide an assessment of their effectiveness and impact, in terms of actual or expected results, stakeholder perspectives and lessons learned.

[3 Analytical Reports](#) focus on specific thematic objectives of the EU's Construction 2020 Strategy: '[Stimulating favourable investment conditions](#)', '[Improving the human capital basis](#)' and '[Fostering the international competitiveness of EU construction enterprises](#)'.

UPDATED COUNTRY FACT SHEETS



Home ownership 2016



Portugal

The Portuguese construction sector is still suffering from the effects of the economic crisis. To address these issues, the government introduced several housing schemes to stimulate construction of affordable social housing, support access to rental housing by young people and low-income households, as well as measures to improve the rental market and renovation of the existing residential building stock. [Find out more.](#)

Poland

The Polish construction sector is composed by mostly small companies and several large players, totalling 333,632 firms in 2016. The Polish economy is predicted to grow and GDP will stand at 3.5% and 3.2% annually in 2017 and 2018, respectively, due to social transfers, low interest rates and the spending of EU funds. [Find out more.](#)

Expected construction sector growth



Malta

The Maltese construction sector suffers from both labour and skill shortages, particularly with respect to professions such as concrete placers and finishers, thus affecting the ability to carry out the numerous infrastructural projects in the pipeline. To address this issue, the Building Industry Consultative Council launched the skill card system to facilitate the recognition of qualifications and skills of construction workers. [Find out more.](#)

Luxembourg

Investment in construction is picking up after the crisis and increased by 33.9% over 2010–2016. Strategic importance for infrastructure development is placed on sustainable transport. In this respect, LuxTram, a tram going through Luxembourg City, is considered one of the flagship projects, requiring investments of EUR 345.8 million. [Find out more.](#)

↑ 33.9%

Total investment in construction increase 2010-2016]

↓ 58.8%

Production in the construction of buildings dropped between 2010 and 2016

Greece

The Greek construction sector is showing some signs of improvement in recent years, especially due to the continuation of TAP construction, after being severely hit by the economic crisis. However, the sector has not yet recovered, as the number of enterprises operating in the broad construction sector are 18.6% lower than in 2010 and production in the construction of buildings dropped by 58.8% between 2010 and 2016. [Find out more.](#)

Finland

Finland is recognised as a leader in eco-innovation, ranking second in the 2016 Eco-innovation index (score of 137), behind Luxembourg and Germany, respectively scoring 139 and 140, and above the EU average (100). Indeed, over 40% of the Finnish public R&D funding goes into the energy and environment sector, and over 30% of public R&D investments are made in cleantech. [Find out more.](#)



↑ 43.9%

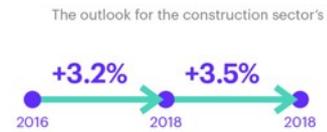
Production in the construction of buildings increase between 2010 and 2016

Estonia

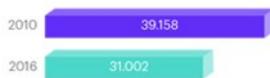
The Estonian construction sector suffered from the boom and bust cycle linked to the global economic crisis and gradually recovering since. Production in construction experienced a 43.9% increase between 2010 and 2016. The total turnover of the broad construction sector amounted to EUR 7.8 billion in 2016, having gradually recovered from a sharp decline over 2008–2009 (–31.9%). [Find out more.](#)

Denmark

A number of flagship projects such as the Copenhagen metro and the Fehmarnbelt Tunnel, as well as planned investments in transport infrastructure in height of DKK 100 billion (EUR 13.5 billion), underpin growth in the civil engineering segment. EU support from various instruments will also contribute to infrastructure investment. [Find out more.](#)



Number of granted residential building permits



Czech Republic

The housing market is characterised by an increase in demand, fuelled by record-low mortgage rates and rising household incomes. However, supply is lagging behind, partly due to slow administrative procedures for obtaining construction permits, resulting in a 12.5% increase in the house price index over 2010–2016. The number of dwellings completed fell from 36,442 to 27,322 over 2010–2016 (–25%). [Find out more.](#)

Bulgaria

The Bulgarian construction sector is still suffering from the effects of the crisis, particularly with regard to employment and production. The workforce in the broad construction sector experienced a 15.1% decline between 2010 and 2015.

[Find out more.](#)

↓ 21.2%

Construction of buildings
production 2010-2016

↑ 11.6%

House price index 2010-2016

Belgium

The Belgian housing market has been relatively stable and unaffected by the economic crisis, displaying a steady growth in house prices, good availability of mortgage credit and low household indebtedness. The house price index in Belgium has experienced an 11.6% increase over 2010–2016, thus evidencing the recovering demand in the housing market.

[Find out more.](#)

Austria

Austria's construction sector is returning to growth, driven by the overall growing economy and crucial rail infrastructure investment. The workforce in the broad construction sector rose by 8.9% between 2010 and 2016. This was accompanied by a 1.2% increment in production in construction of buildings and a 10.8% growth in production in civil engineering over 2010–2016. [Find out more.](#)

Total turnover of the broad construction sector increase between 2010 and 2016

↑ 13.2%

↓ 20%

Turnover between 2010 and 2016

Slovenia

The construction industry in Slovenia started to stabilise in 2014 after several years of slowdown, though it declined further in 2016 following the completion of EU-funded projects. The number of companies in the broad construction sector declined by 2.4% between 2010 and 2016, to 91,336, and the workforce fell by 20.5% over the same period, reaching 91,336 workers. [Find out more.](#)

Related news

[National Construction Summit 2018](#)

2nd May, Dublin, Ireland

Topic: Energy efficiency in buildings – Insights from the European Construction Sector Observatory

Abstract: The European Union and its Member States have set out ambitious targets for their climate and energy performance over the coming decades. Improving the energy efficiency of buildings is one of the most cost effective ways to support the transition to a low carbon economy and to implement the Paris Agreement. It is also an effective way to create investment opportunities, growth and employment within the construction



industry. The presentation from Tsvetelina Blagoeva will cover key findings from the forthcoming European Construction Sector Observatory report on the drivers, obstacles and policies to promote investment in energy efficiency in buildings in Europe, with an emphasis on the situation in Ireland.

[Recovery for the Circular Economy Symposium](#)

14–15 May, London, United Kingdom

Topic: Commercial viability of recycling CDW, looking at the barriers and obstacles: Business models.

[Worldwide interest in the Eurocodes.](#)

Many countries outside EU–EFTA have shown interest or have already adopted the Eurocodes. The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission collects, assesses and disseminates up-to-date information on the international interest in the Eurocodes adoption in partnership with relevant Directorates–General of the European Commission, the European Standardisation Committee (CEN), National Standards Bodies and contact points at national level.

Information collected by the JRC includes expression of interest on the Eurocodes by third countries, planned and performed dissemination activities, needs and implementation progress in countries of interest.

For more information, check the [updated Eurocodes Map](#).

Do you wish to provide updated information on the status of Eurocodes interest/adoption in your country? [You can contact the JRC](#).