



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 [ECSSO 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](#) 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.

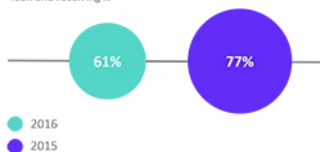
[60 Policy Measures Fact Sheets](#) profile relevant initiatives that have been implemented at national level and provide an assessment of their effectiveness and impact, in terms of actual or expected results, stakeholder perspectives and lessons learned.

[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



SMEs applying for a loan and receiving it



Croatia

Access to finance is considered one of the most problematic factors for doing business in Croatia, with affordability and availability of financial services scoring 150th and 110th, respectively, and availability of venture capital ranking 114th according to data from the

World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report 2017–2018. [Find out more.](#)

Cyprus

The construction sector in Cyprus is showing signs of recovery after a severe economic and financial crisis coupled with a housing crisis. Notably, production in construction dropped overall by 47% from 2010 to 2016. Nevertheless, since 2014, it has picked up by 13.2%. [Find out more.](#)

↓ 47%

Production in construction, 2010-2016

Production in construction of buildings, 2010-2016 ↑ 13.9%

France

2017 was a record year in France in terms of residential construction, with 497,200 dwellings having received authorisation for construction in 2017 and 418,900 being started. [Find out more.](#)

Germany

The investment in construction increased by 9.5% over 2008–2015. Following a long period of low public investment in public infrastructure, measures taken by the federal government to unlock investment at federal, regional and municipal level have already shown some effect. [Find out more.](#)

Investment in construction, 2008-2015 ↑ 9.5%

↑ 15.6%

House price index, 2010-2016

Hungary

Hungary experienced a boom in its housing market over the last four years, characterised by a sharp rise in housing prices. The house price index increased by 15.6% between 2010 and 2016. High demand for new and existing dwellings was associated with a surge of housing credit, favourable labour market conditions and rising average income. [Find out more.](#)

Ireland

The revival of the Irish construction sector, underway since 2013, is expected to continue over the coming years, with output being forecast to grow at an annual average of 9% over 2017–2020, reaching EUR 20.2 billion in 2020. [Find out more.](#)

Production in construction of buildings, 2010-2016 ↑ 38.7%

Italy

 **32.2%**
Production in construction,
2010-2016

The overall number of enterprises in the broad construction sector declined by 8.9% between 2010 and 2016. During this period the overall number of enterprises has decreased gradually every year, except for 2016 when there was a small 1.6% increase. Production in construction experienced a continuous decline, dropping by 32.2% between 2010 and 2016. [Find out more.](#)

Latvia

The housing market has revived since 2010, supported by low mortgage rates and greater household purchasing power, with the house price index for total dwellings increasing by 35.4% over 2010–2016 and the number of real estate transactions growing by 10.5% in 2016. [Find out more.](#)

 **35.4%**
House price index for dwellings,
2010-2016

 **32.4%**
Number of people employed in the
broad construction sector, 2010-2016

Lithuania

The Lithuanian economy has been recovering since 2010, exceeding the 2008 pre-crisis level in 2016. The number of people employed in the broad construction sector increased by 23.4% between 2010 and 2016. Turnover increased by 54% from 2010 to 2016, but still remains far below 2008 figures. [Find out more.](#)

The Netherlands

The Dutch housing market is traditionally associated with a limited supply due to the limited development space in major cities. The number of households in the Netherlands has experience a continuously increasing trends, having risen by 5.3% over 2010–2016, from 7.3 million to 7.7 million. [Find out more.](#)

 **5.3%**
Number of households, 2010-2016



Romania

Residential construction and the housing market suffered following the crisis, with house prices decreasing by 18.7% between 2010 and 2014, but subsequently picking up by 9.0% until 2016. [Find out more.](#)

Spain

The turnover of the broad construction sector amounted to EUR 182.7 billion in 2016,

decreasing from 2010 to 2013 by 44%, especially in narrow construction (2.6%). The trend reversed since 2013, increasing by 17.6% between 2013 and 2016. [Find out more.](#)

Turnover of the broad construction sector, 2010-2016



↑ 21.4%
Number of companies in the construction sector, 2010-2016

Sweden

The Swedish construction sector has been experiencing strong growth in the recent years. The number of companies in the sector grew by 21.4% in 2016 compared to 2010, to 213,434. Similarly, production in the construction of buildings has been on the upswing, exceeding the 2010 level by 19.2% in 2016. [Find out more.](#)

United Kingdom

The UK is considered an Innovation Leader, according to the European Innovation Scoreboard 2017, with its innovation performance increased by 11.7% relative to that of the EU in 2010. Business enterprise R&D expenditure (BERD) in the broad construction sector has shown an increasing trend over the past years. [Find out more.](#)

↑ 11.7%
Innovation performance, 2010-2016

Related news

The Construction Observatory wishes you an enjoyable summer.
Our Newsletter will be back in September

