

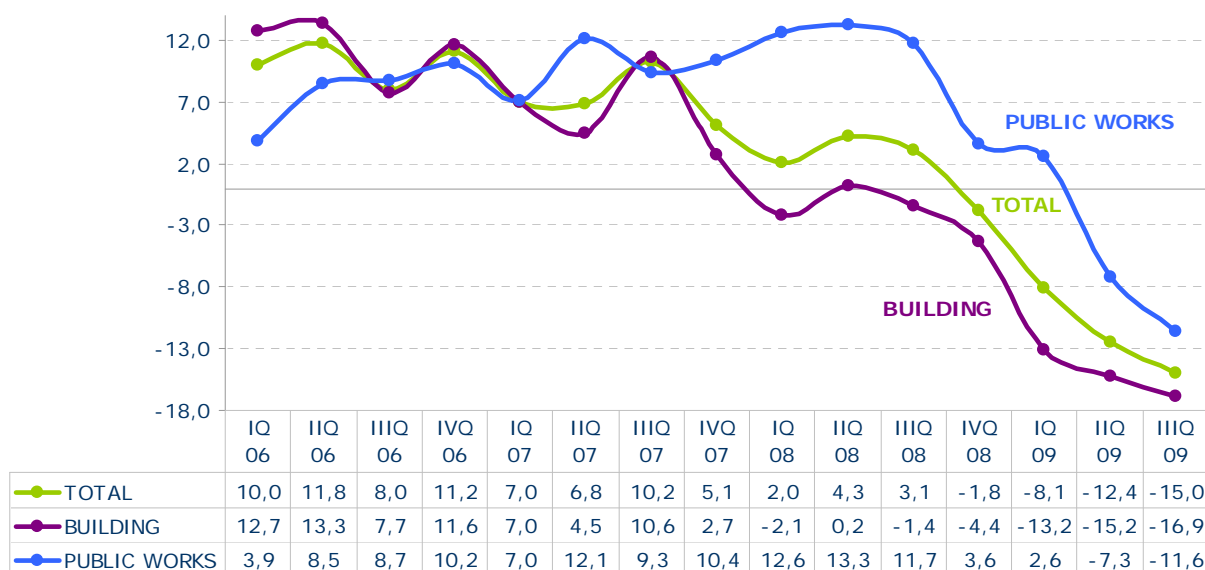
## The construction sector in the Basque Country fell by 15.0% in the third quarter of 2009

### *Building was down by 16.9%, while Civil Works dropped by 11.6%*

Construction in the Basque Country registered a year-on-year nominal downturn of 15.0% in the third quarter of 2009, in homogeneous terms of the working calendar, according to EUSTAT data.

Once corrected for seasonal factors, the construction sector fell by 3.2% in the third quarter of 2009 compared to the second quarter of 2009.

**Graph 1: Year-on-year quarterly growth of the corrected Construction Index of the Basque Country Total, Building and Civil Works. (%)**



Source: Eustat

The drop in the construction sector, in the third quarter of 2009, was mainly due to the negative performance of the Building sub-sector, which registered a year-on-year downturn of 16.9%, compared to an 11.6% fall posted by Civil Works.

In quarter-on-quarter terms, if the activity of the sector in the third quarter of 2009 is compared to the previous quarter, both Building and Civil Works sub-sectors performed negatively, by -2.6% in the case of Civil Works and -3.6% in the case of the Building sub-sector.

Employment in the construction sector registered a downturn of 1.6% compared to the second quarter of 2009.

**Table 1: Construction Index, Basque Country 3rd quarter 2009. Variation Rates (%).**

Concept	Corrected		Deseasonalised	
	3rd Q09 / 3rd Q08	At/At-1 (1)	3rd Q09 / 2nd Q09	2nd Q09 / 1st Q09
<b>Production Index</b>	-15,0	-12,0	-3,2	-4,1
Building	-16,9	-15,1	-3,6	-3,3
Public Works	-11,6	-6,0	-2,6	-5,6
<b>Indices of employed personnel</b>	-	-	-1,6	-1,4

(1) Year on year variation rate of the accumulated period from the first quarter to the last quarter of year t compared to the same period of the year t-1

Source: EUSTAT

**For further information:**

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