



Construction site in Duesseldorf, Germany | © Getty Images/Westend61

Building Industry Landscape

Germany is Europe's leading construction market and home to the continent's largest building stock. A number of drivers have led to a boom in German construction investment and this is largely expected to continue in the foreseeable future.

As part of its ongoing transition to a sustainable energy system, Germany aims to have an almost climate-neutral building stock by 2050. Three quarters of buildings in Germany were built before 1980, making the renovation of existing stock key to meeting energy efficiency targets. With buoyant demand and tight building codes, Germany offers providers of energy efficient building products and services a highly dynamic market.

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Fact Sheet - Construction and Green Building in Germany

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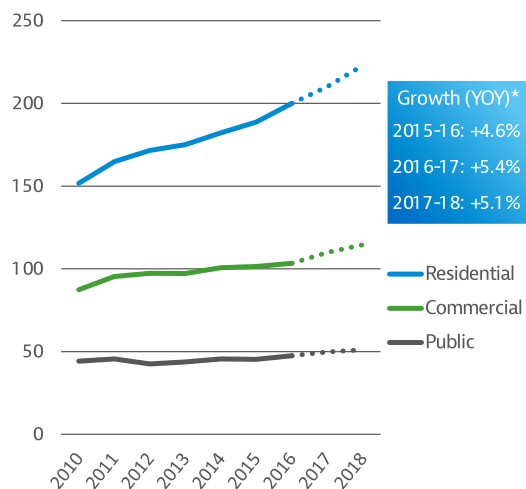
Germany's thriving construction market

The construction sector is booming in Germany. Population growth, demographic changes, and a favorable economic environment are driving high demand for residential buildings. There are also interesting niches, such as multigenerational houses, micro-apartments, and prefabricated buildings. Green building technologies - from the architect's office to building materials and components - will be paramount in achieving the country's climate protection targets. There is no better time to approach Germany's growing and green construction market!

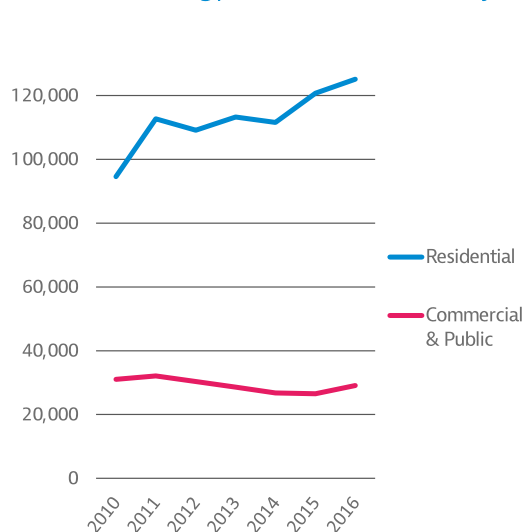
Under construction

Strong growth in residential builds to continue in the mid-term

Construction volume in Germany by building type¹
In EUR billion (in respective year's prices)



Number of building permits issued in Germany²



Sources: ¹2010-2012: DIW Berlin, DIW Wochenbericht Nr. 1 +2/2017, January 2017; 2013-2018: DIW Berlin, Strukturdaten zur Produktion und Beschäftigung im Baugewerbe, July 2017 / ²Federal Statistical Office, 2017 / *Prognosis

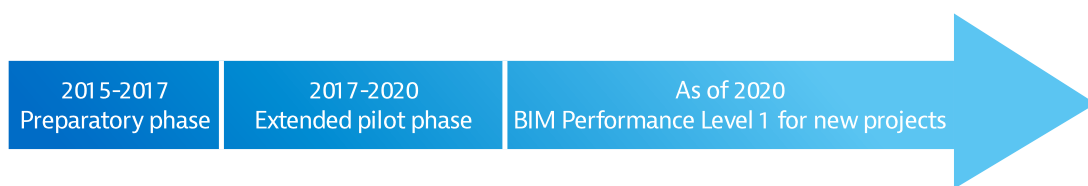
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Digitizing the construction industry: Building Information Modeling (BIM)

Whether it is tracking systems for construction machinery, digital construction files, or drones flying above a building site to control the construction status – digitization has arrived in the German construction industry. The Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) has developed a “Road Map for Digital Design and Construction”, which promotes the development and utilization of Building Information Modeling (BIM) as a standard planning tool for all federal infrastructure projects as of 2020. The goal is to clarify legal and technical requirements and develop standards for BIM.

The technology promises an integrated planning process, efficient and sustainable use of resources in buildings, and the immediate transfer of information between all stakeholders in the planning and construction process. However, a study by the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering found that 41% of the construction firms and planners surveyed had never used BIM. To change this, architects, engineers, construction companies, scientists, and other stakeholders are collaborating and exchanging knowledge in 16 BIM clusters (as of May 2017) across Germany. Innovative foreign companies are invited to join the process of turning integrated digital planning and construction from a vision of the future into a standard in construction.

Road Map for Digital Design and Construction



Note: schematic illustration
Source: Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure 2016

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