



المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية

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Department of Statistics:

Number of building permits issued in Jordan increased by 5.4% during the first five months of 2026

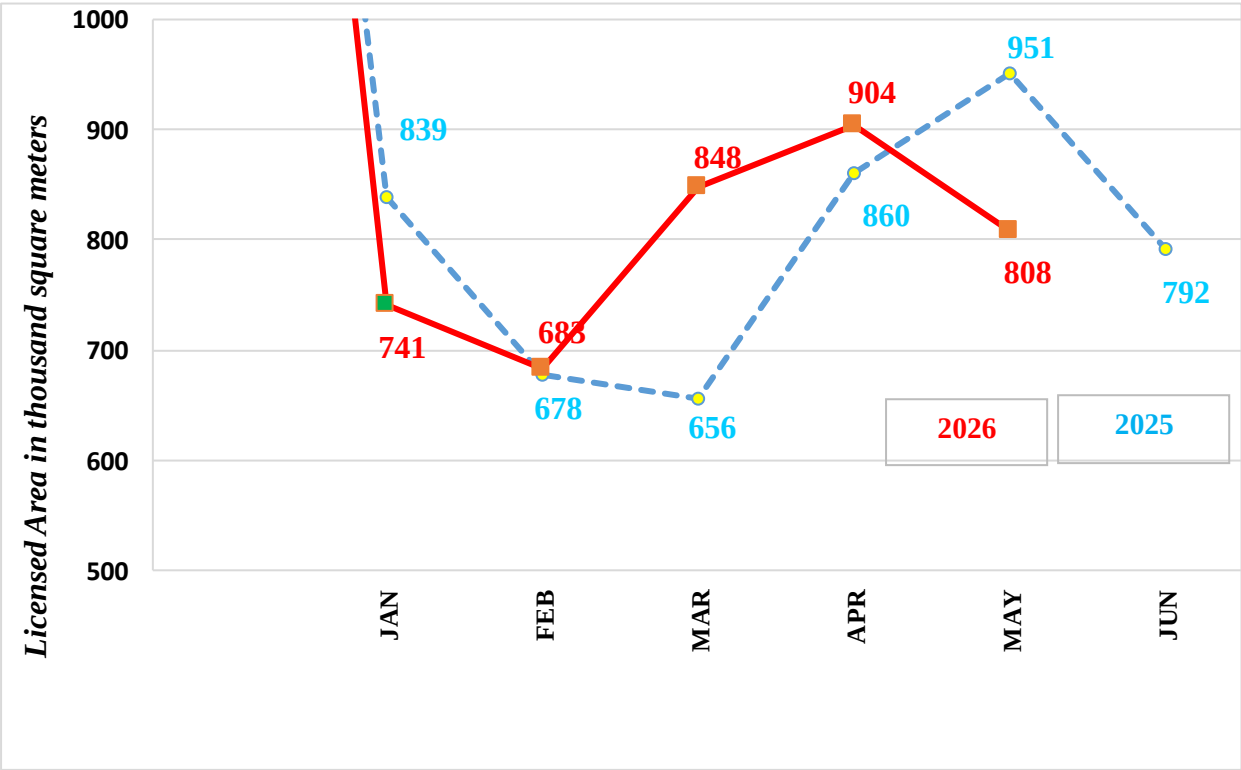
Areas of licensed residential buildings increased by 13% during the first five months of 2026

Licensed areas for new buildings and additions to existing buildings constituted 56.3% during the first five months of 2026

The Department of Statistics (DoS) issued its monthly report on construction activity and building permits in Jordan during the first five months of 2026. The total number of building permits issued reached 10,104 compared to 9,585 permits during the same period in 2025, indicating an increase of 5.4%. The total area of licensed buildings during the first five months of 2026 reached 3.985 million square meters compared to 3.983 million square meters for the same period in 2025, indicating an increase of 0.1%.

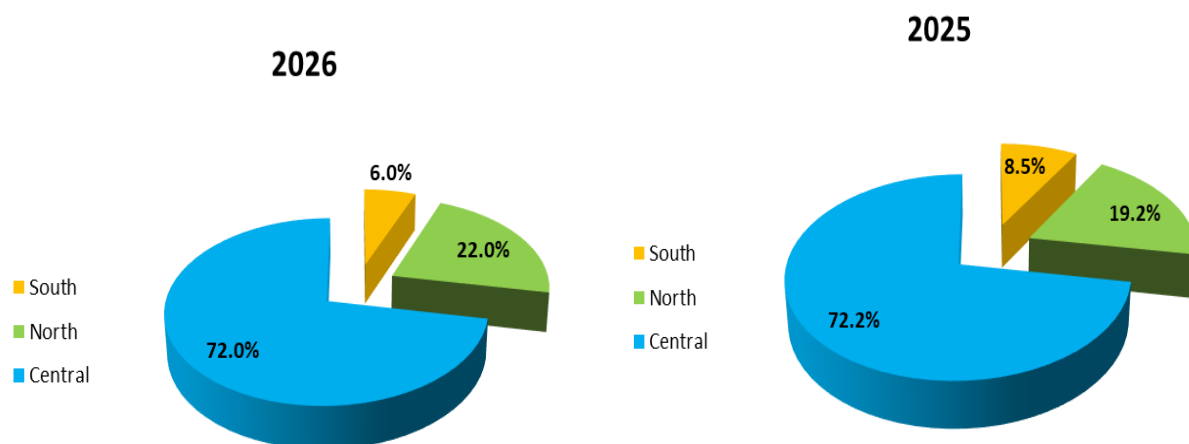
As for licensing purposes, the area licensed for residential purposes reached approximately 3.373 million square meters during the first five months of 2026 compared to 2.981 million square meters during the same period in 2025, indicating an increase of 13%. Meanwhile, the area of buildings licensed for non-residential purposes reached 612 thousand square meters compared to 1.002 million square meters during the same period in 2025, representing a decrease of (39%). The area of buildings licensed for residential purposes constituted 85% of the total licensed areas, while 15% was for non-residential purposes.

Figure (1): Monthly licensed building area during the years 2025 and 2026 (in thousand square meters)



At the regional level, the Central region accounted for 72% of the total licensed building area in Jordan during the first five months of 2026, a decrease of (0.03) percentage points compared to the same period in 2025. Meanwhile, the Northern region accounted for 22%, an increase of 14.6 percentage points, and the Southern region for 6%, a decrease of (30) percentage points compared to the same period in 2025.

Figure (2): Relative Distribution of the Licensed Areas by Region During the first third of 2025 & 2026



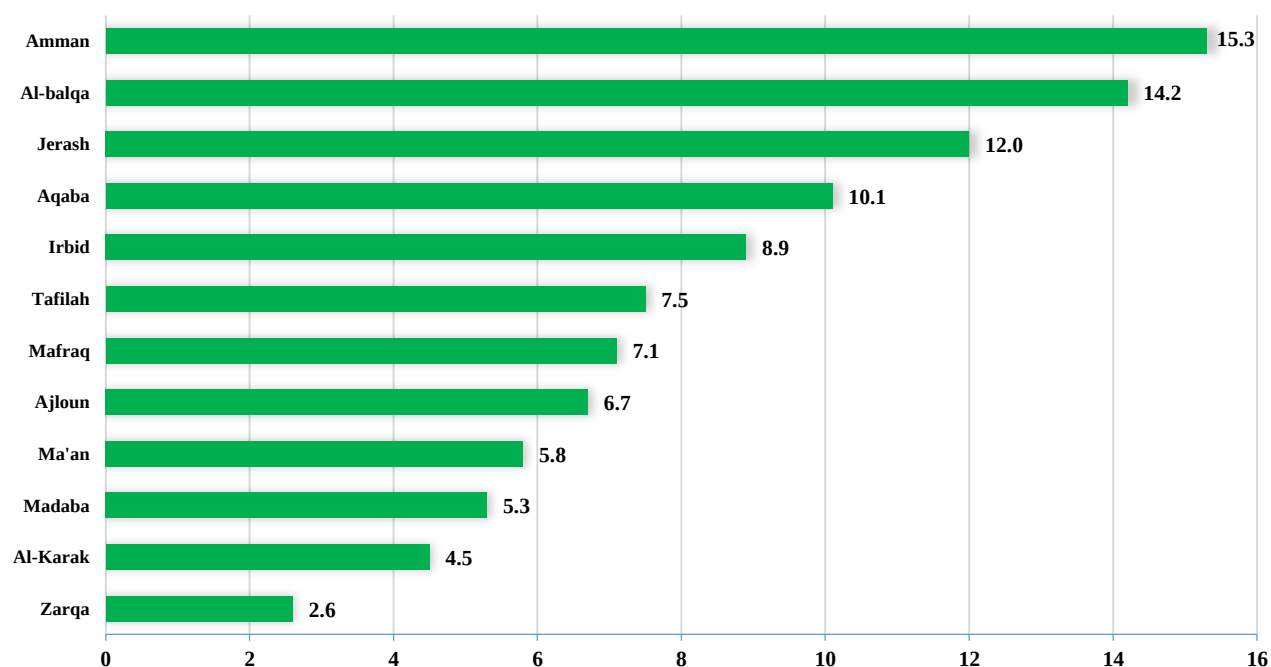
As for the relative distribution of licensed residential areas by governorate and population, Amman recorded the highest percentage, reaching 15.3% with an area of 0.407 m² per capita, while Zarqa Governorate recorded the lowest percentage of the per capita share from the new licensed areas, reaching 2.6% with an area of 0.069 m² per capita.

Table (1): Per Capita Share from the Area of New Licensed Buildings for Residential Purposes During the first five months of 2026 by Governorate

Governorate	Population	Licensed area for residential purposes (m ²)	Per Capita share from licensed area (m ²)	Relative distribution of per capita share from the licensed area by governorate
Amman	5,004,600	2,037,286	0.407	15.3
Al-Balqa	614,000	231,263	0.377	14.2
Jerash	296,000	94,405	0.319	12.0
Aqaba	250,900	67,316	0.268	10.1
Irbid	2,210,500	521,532	0.236	8.9

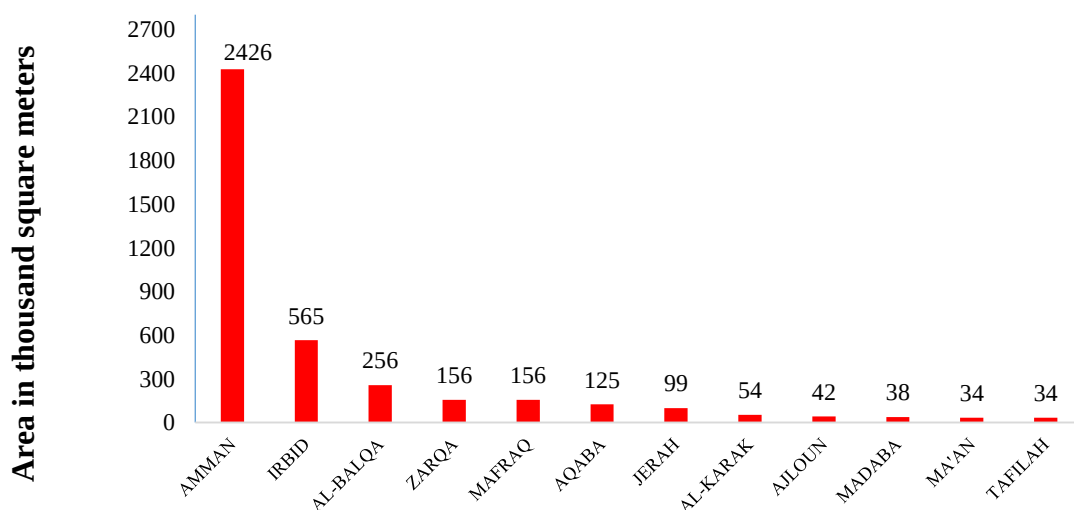
Tafilah	120,300	23,977	0.199	7.5
Mafrq	686,800	128,678	0.187	7.1
Ajloun	219,900	39,225	0.178	6.7
Ma'an	197,900	30,566	0.154	5.8
Madaba	236,200	33,032	0.140	5.3
Al-Karak	395,400	47,448	0.120	4.5
Zarqa	1,704,500	118,431	0.069	2.6
Total	11,937,000	3,373,159	0.283	100

Figure (3): Relative Distribution of Per Capita Share from the Licensed Buildings for Residential Purposes During the first five months of 2026 by Governorate



The licensed area for new buildings and additions to existing buildings constituted 56.3% of the total licensed building area during the first five months of 2026, while the licensed area for existing buildings constituted 43.7%. An existing building is defined as a building that has been constructed for years without a permit and received a permit during the month in which the data was collected. An addition to an existing building is defined as the issuance of a permit for a new addition to an existing licensed building. The total licensed building area for new buildings and additions to existing buildings amounted to approximately 2.242 million square meters, compared to approximately 2.606 million square meters during the same period in 2025, indicating a decrease of (14%).

Figure (4): Area of Licensed Buildings by Governorate During Q1 2026 (in 1000 m²)



Through its monthly census of building permits, DoS provides data on the number of building permits, the area of licensed buildings, and the types of building occupancy in Jordan by governorate. These statistics aim to provide planners, policymakers, and decision-makers with indicators of construction activity, an important part of the construction sector. Meanwhile, government expenditures on buildings, roads, infrastructure, and other projects constitute the complementary part of the construction sector. These projects are covered in other surveys, except the government projects that are licensed by the licensing authorities, which are included in this census.

Building permit indicators reflect the reality of construction activity; because the permits likely indicate the actual commencement of construction. At the same time, the construction design contracts and architectural drawings that other parties rely on represent future construction plans and a stage of the licensing process that may not be accomplished.

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