

**Table 51 Mortgage arrears and repossessions**

| Year                                   | 1970   | 1975   | 1980   | 1985    | 1990    | 1991    | 1992    | 1993    | 1994    | 1995    | 1996    | 1997    | 1998    | 1999   | 2000   | 2001   | 2002   | 2003   | 2004   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Number of mortgages at year end (000s) | 4,171  | 5,076  | 6,210  | 7,717   | 9,415   | 9,815   | 9,922   | 10,137  | 10,410  | 10,521  | 10,637  | 10,738  | 10,821  | 10,982 | 11,173 | 11,247 | 11,364 | 11,452 | 11,512 |
| Repossessions during year              | 3,760  | 4,870  | 3,480  | 19,300  | 43,890  | 75,540  | 68,540  | 58,540  | 49,190  | 49,410  | 42,560  | 32,770  | 33,870  | 29,990 | 22,870 | 18,280 | 11,970 | 7,830  | 6,230  |
| Cases in mortgage arrears              |        |        |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 12+ months arrears                     | -      | -      | -      | 13,120  | 36,100  | 91,740  | 147,040 | 151,810 | 117,110 | 85,200  | 67,020  | 45,200  | 34,880  | 29,520 | 20,820 | 19,720 | 16,490 | 12,680 | 11,210 |
| 6 - 12 months arrears                  | 21,140 | 16,760 | 15,530 | 57,110  | 123,110 | 183,610 | 205,010 | 164,620 | 133,700 | 126,670 | 100,960 | 73,840  | 74,040  | 57,120 | 47,830 | 43,140 | 34,040 | 29,200 | 26,920 |
| 3 - 6 months arrears                   | -      | -      | -      | -       | -       | -       | -       | 193,660 | 169,080 | 177,910 | 139,250 | 117,840 | 129,090 | 96,690 | 95,300 | 81,370 | 66,580 | 51,910 | 53,960 |
| 3 - 5 months arrears                   | -      | -      | -      | 97,000  | 206,600 | 305,500 | 275,400 | 242,050 | 191,590 | -       | -       | -       | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      |
| 2 months arrears                       | -      | -      | -      | 140,000 | 237,500 | 269,800 | 207,800 | 198,400 | 135,840 | -       | -       | -       | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      |

Sources: Compendium of Housing Finance Statistics & Housing Finance, Council of Mortgage Lenders; Janet Ford, Roof (figures for 2 & 3-5 months arrears for years 1985 to 1994).

Notes: Properties taken into possession include those voluntarily surrendered. The CML 3-6, 6-12 & 12+ months arrears figures are for the end of the year. The Janet Ford survey figures for 2 & 3-5 months arrears are for March of the year. Her survey of mortgage arrears figures has now been discontinued from publication following the introduction of the CML 3-6 months arrears series. Changes in the mortgage rate have the effect of changing monthly repayments and hence the number of months in arrears which a given amount represents.