

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	2005		
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	11,596		
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	10,310		
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	14,380		
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	34,630		
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	62,920		
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.