

# **Statistical Release**

# 20 June 2018

# **Residential Mortgage Arrears & Repossessions Statistics: Q1 2018**

#### New Presentation of Mortgage Arrears Statistics

The presentation of the data underlying the mortgage arrears statistics has been redesigned for Q1 2018. The new tables contain all the data previously released plus a new file with a breakdown by entity type. The changes are aimed at making the data more easily accessible to users, including undertaking time series analysis. The new files can be accessed <u>here</u>.

### Summary

- The number of mortgage accounts for principal dwelling houses (PDHs) in arrears over 90 days continued to decline in Q1 2018, marking the eighteenth consecutive quarter of a fall in the number of accounts in this category.
- While the number of accounts in arrears over 720 days continued to fall, and Q1 2018 marked the
  eleventh consecutive decline, accounts in arrears over 720 days now constitute 41 per cent of all
  accounts in arrears, and at €2.6 billion represent 90 per cent of arrears balances outstanding.
- The number of PDH mortgage accounts that were classified as restructured at end-March was 117,334. Of these restructured accounts, 86 per cent were deemed to be meeting the terms of their current restructure arrangement, a slight reduction on last quarter.
- Non-bank entities now hold 7 per cent of all PDH mortgage accounts outstanding; 5 per cent are held by regulated retail credit firms with the remaining 2 per cent held by unregulated loan owners. Unregulated loan owners hold 19 per cent of all PDH mortgages in arrears over 720 days. Table 1 below further displays the breakdown of PDH mortgages and the arrears profile held by banks and non-bank entities.

		Non-Bank Entities				
	Banks	Retail Credit Firms	Unregulated Loan Owners			
% of all PDH loans	93%	5%	2%			
% of all PDH mortgages in arrears	79%	11%	11%			
% of all PDH mortgages in arrears over 90 days	75%	12%	14%			
% of all PDH mortgages in arrears over 720 days	73%	8%	19%			

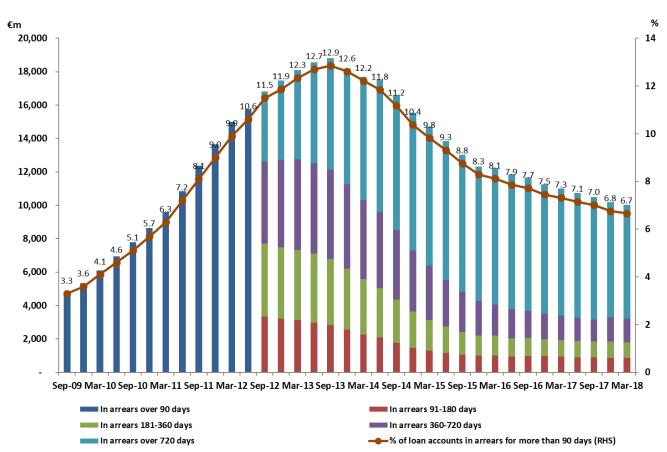
#### Table 1: Breakdown of PDH Mortgages and Arrears Profile held by Banks and Non-Bank Entities

# **Residential Mortgages on Principal Dwelling Houses**

#### Arrears

At end-March 2018, there were 728,575 private residential mortgage accounts for principal dwellings held in the Republic of Ireland, to a value of  $\notin$ 98.7 billion. Of this total stock, 71,833 accounts were in arrears, representing an increase of 316 accounts or 0.4 per cent over the quarter. Some 48,538 accounts (7 per cent) were in arrears of more than 90 days.<sup>1</sup>

At end-March, the number of accounts in arrears increased, compared with end-December 2017. This is due to 'Storm Emma' impacting people being able to make payments at their branch. The increase was seen in the number of accounts in arrears up to 90 days. The number of accounts in arrears over 90 days fell by 1.7 per cent over the quarter, marking the eighteenth consecutive decline in this category. The outstanding balance on all lenders' PDH mortgage accounts in arrears of more than 90 days was €10 billion at end-March, equivalent to 10 per cent of the total outstanding balance on all PDH mortgage accounts.





Note: The breakdown of arrears greater than 90 days is not available pre-September 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The figures published here represent the total stock of mortgage accounts in arrears of more than 90 days, as reported to the Central Bank of Ireland by mortgage lenders and credit service providers. They include mortgages that have been restructured and are still in arrears of more than 90 days, as well as mortgages in arrears of more than 90 days that have not been restructured.

The number of accounts in arrears over 360 days fell to 37,348 at end-March, equivalent to 5 per cent of the total stock of PDH mortgage accounts and representing a fall of 532 accounts over the quarter. For all institutions, the value of accounts in longer-term arrears over 360 days remains large, amounting to just over €8.2 billion at end-March 2018.

Accounts in arrears of between 361 and 720 days showed a decrease of 223 accounts or 2.8 per cent over the quarter. The number of accounts in arrears over 720 days declined by 309 accounts in March, or 1 per cent. This was the eleventh consecutive decline in this category. Accounts in arrears over 720 days now constitute 41 per cent of all accounts in arrears, and at €2.6 billion represent 90 per cent of arrears balances outstanding.

#### **Restructuring Arrangements<sup>2</sup>**

A total stock of 117,334 PDH mortgage accounts were categorised as restructured at end-March 2018. This reflects a reduction of 1,519 accounts compared to end-December 2017. The share of interest only arrangements and reduced payment arrangements fell further over to quarter to end-March, to a combined total of 8.5 per cent, indicating a continuing move out of short-term arrangements. In contrast, split mortgage arrangements increased over the quarter, accounting for nearly one quarter of all restructure arrangements. Arrears capitalisation<sup>3</sup> continued to account for the largest share of restructured accounts at 33 per cent at end-March. A breakdown of restructured mortgages by type is presented in Figure 2.

A total of 5,446 new restructure arrangements<sup>4</sup> were agreed during the first quarter of 2018, the lowest figure recorded since end-September 2012. The data on arrears and restructures indicate that of the total stock of 71,833 PDH accounts that were in arrears at end-March, 25,950 (36 per cent) were classified as restructured at that time. Of the total stock of 48,538 PDH accounts that were in arrears of more than 90 days, 29 per cent were classified as restructured; up slightly since last quarter.

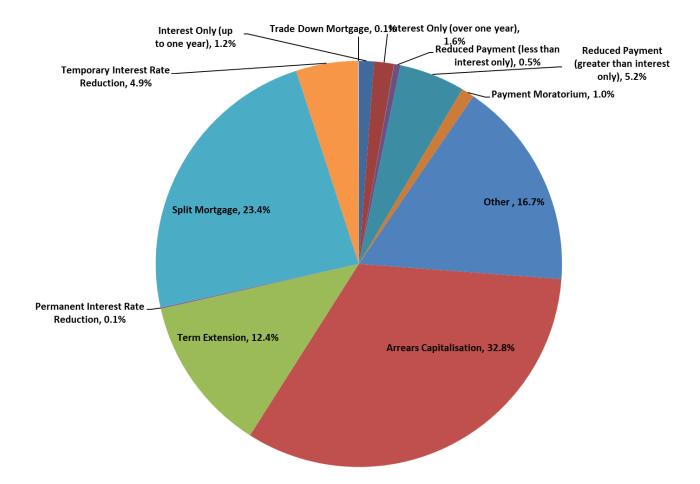
Some 78 per cent of restructured accounts were not in arrears at end-March 2018. Restructured accounts in arrears include accounts that were in arrears prior to restructuring where the arrears balance has not yet been eliminated, as well as accounts that are in arrears on the current restructuring arrangement. At end-March, 86 per cent of restructured PDH accounts were deemed to be meeting the terms of their arrangement. This means that the borrower is, at a minimum, meeting the agreed monthly repayments according to the current restructure arrangement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See <u>Annex 2</u> for further information on restructuring arrangements/forbearance techniques and meeting the terms of the arrangement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Arrears capitalisation is an arrangement whereby some or all of the outstanding arrears are effectively added to the remaining principal balance, to be repaid over the life of the mortgage.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This includes first-time restructures and further modifications of existing restructures.

#### Figure 2: Restructured PDH Mortgage Accounts by Restructure Type, end-March 2018



Inability to meet the terms of the arrangement implies that the restructure agreement put in place may not have been suitable. Table 2 shows the percentage of restructured accounts that were deemed to be meeting the terms of their arrangement at end-March 2018, broken down by arrangement type. Lower numbers indicate a greater number of borrowers are not currently meeting terms of new arrangement; this is particularly evident amongst cases in which a permanent interest rate reduction has been granted. As the figures in Table 2 only reflect compliance with the terms of the current restructure arrangement, we should expect to see a higher percentage of compliance among the restructure types that are likely to be shorter-term.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, the figures show that of the total stock of accounts in the arrears capitalisation category, some 22 per cent of PDH accounts are not meeting terms of current restructure arrangement, i.e. the arrears balance has increased since the arrangement was put in place.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> It should also be noted that some categories reflect only a small number of arrangements, particularly in the case of BTL accounts.

%	PDH	BTL
Total	85.9	86.3
Interest Only - up to one year	89.8	83.0
Interest Only - over one year	94.6	94.1
Deferred Interest Scheme	81.8	n/a
Reduced Payment (less than interest only)	78.4	78.3
Reduced Payment (greater than interest only)	82.5	91.1
Temporary Interest Rate Reduction	91.0	95.4
Payment Moratorium	91.5	94.7
Arrears Capitalisation	77.8	71.9
Term Extension	93.0	94.6
Permanent Interest Rate Reduction	85.6	100.0
Split Mortgage	92.9	89.2
Other	85.2	87.2

#### Legal Proceedings and Repossessions<sup>6</sup>

During the first quarter of 2018, legal proceedings were issued to enforce the debt/security on a PDH mortgage on 828 accounts. During Q1 2018, there were 501 mortgage accounts where court proceedings concluded but arrears remained outstanding. In 252 accounts, the Courts granted an order for repossession or sale of the property. There were 1,658 properties in the lenders' possession at the beginning of the first quarter. A total of 321 properties were taken into possession by lenders during the quarter, up from 311 properties in the previous quarter. Of the properties taken into possession during the quarter, the majority of properties, at 258, were voluntary surrendered or abandoned. The remainder, at 63, were repossessed on foot of a Court Order. During the quarter, 174 properties were disposed of. As a result, lenders were in possession of 1,802 PDH properties at end-March 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Legal proceedings record steps to repossess a property and include cases where a formal application has been made to a court to begin repossession proceedings, along with subsequent adjournments and judgement proceedings.

Table 2: PDH Mortgage Arrears Repossessions and Restructures		Q4 2017		Q1 2018			
	Number	Balance	Arrears	Number	Balance	Arrears	
		€000	€000		€000	€000	
Mortgages							
Total residential mortgage loan accounts outstanding	730,856	99,044,761	-	728,575	98,681,367	-	
Arrears							
Total residential mortgage arrears cases outstanding	71,517	13,326,822	2,899,953	71,833	13,252,710	2,904,147	
of which:							
in arrears up to 90 days	22,131	3,134,336	28,098	23,295	3,221,819	33,857	
in arrears 91 to 180 days	5,627	874,532	30,930	5,480	853,020	28,435	
in arrears 181 to 360 days	5,879	969,411	58,901	5,710	932,273	56,411	
in arrears 361 to 720 days	8,062	1,450,533	168,366	7,839	1,417,472	164,006	
in arrears over 720 days	29,818	6,898,010	2,613,658	29,509	6,828,126	2,621,438	
Total arrears cases over 90 days outstanding	49,386	10,192,486	2,871,855	48,538	10,030,891	2,870,290	
% of loan accounts in arrears for more than 90 days	6.8%	10.3%		6.7%	10.2%		
Repossessions	-						
Residential properties in possession - at the beginning of quarter	1,717			1,658			
Residential properties repossessed on foot of an Order during quarter	138			63			
Residential properties voluntarily surrendered/abandoned during the quarter	173			258			
Residential properties disposed of during this quarter	406			174			
Residential properties in possession – at end of quarter <sup>1</sup>	1,658			1,802			
Total residential mortgage accounts restructured	-						
Restructures	118,853	16,173,507	412,852	117,334	15,832,798	413,962	
Restructures not in arrears	93,228	11,945,146	,	91,384	11,617,937	- )	
Total restructures by type:							
Interest Only - up to one year	1,687	272,793	16,575	1,409	230,853	14,819	
Interest Only - over one year	1,884	374,828	2,990	1,849	363,760	2,573	
Reduced Payment (greater than interest only)	6,240	1,354,839	159,878	6,128	1,324,944	165,755	
Reduced Payment (less than interest only)	531	103,151	7,816	569	113,137	9,041	
Term Extension	14,784	1,565,186	40,013	14,607	1,536,551	41,618	
Arrears Capitalisation	39,203	5,973,693	103,412	38,498	5,840,435	101,938	
Payment Moratorium	1,334	214,228	7,031	1,216	193,129	7,142	
Deferred Interest Scheme	21	3,900	547	22	4,078	587	
Permanent Interest Rate Reduction	117	20,127	224	118	20,024	27	
	27,475	2,747,799	10,539	27,514	2,739,541	11,520	
Split Mortgage							
	62	9,632	0	63	9,524	1	
Split Mortgage Trade Down Mortgage Temporary Interest Rate Reduction	62 5,956	9,632 1,167,542	0 16,507	63 5,802	9,524 1,121,852	1 16,180	

\*Note that the 'Other' category mainly comprises accounts that have been offered a long-term solution, pending the completion of six months of successful payments. When these accounts transition into their permanent arrangement, the figures will be updated accordingly. The 'Other' category also includes a small number of simultaneously-agreed term extensions and arrears capitalisation arrangements.

<sup>1</sup> The number of properties in possession at the end of the quarter can also be impacted by reclassification issues.

# **Residential Mortgages on Buy-to-Let Properties**

#### Arrears

At end-March 2018, there were 121,029 residential mortgage accounts for buy-to-let (BTL) properties held in the Republic of Ireland, to a value of  $\in$ 21.7 billion. Some 22,545 (19 per cent) of these accounts were in arrears, compared to 23,282 accounts at end-December 2017, reflecting a decrease of 3.2 per cent over the quarter. Of the total BTL stock, 18,363 or 15 per cent were in arrears of more than 90 days, reflecting a decrease of 3.4 per cent over the quarter. The outstanding balance on all BTL mortgage accounts in arrears of more than 90 days was  $\in$ 5 billion at end-March, equivalent to 24 per cent of the total outstanding balance. The number of BTL accounts that were in arrears of more than 180 days was 17,040 at end-March 2018, reflecting a quarter-on-quarter fall of 2.7 per cent. BTL accounts in arrears greater than 720 days decreased by 3.2 per cent in the first quarter of 2018. Accounts in arrears of over 720 days now number 13,362 or 60 per cent of all BTL accounts in arrears. The outstanding balance on these accounts was  $\in$ 4 billion at end-March, equivalent to 18 per cent of the total outstanding balance on all BTL mortgage accounts.

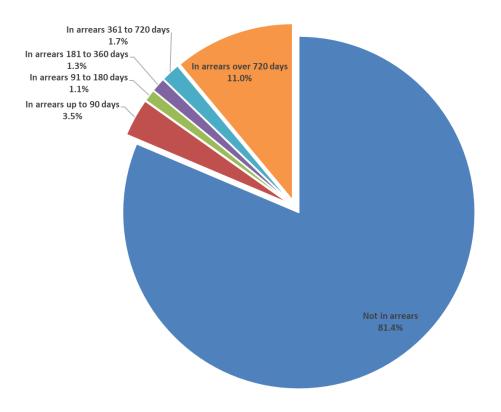


Figure 3: BTL Mortgage Accounts by Arrears Category, end-March 2018

#### **Restructuring Arrangements**

A total stock of 21,276 BTL mortgage accounts were categorised as restructured at end-March 2018, reflecting a decrease of 1,211 accounts over the quarter. Of the total stock of restructured accounts recorded at end-March, 80 per cent were not in arrears, while 86 per cent were meeting the terms of their current restructure arrangement. A total of 977 new restructure arrangements were agreed during the first quarter of the year, the lowest number of new restructures agreed in a quarter since this series began in 2012. On the BTL side, the largest cohort of restructure arrangements. The data on arrears and restructures indicate that of the total stock of 22,545 BTL accounts that were in arrears at end-March, 4,308 (or 19 per cent) were classified as restructured.

#### Legal Proceedings and Repossessions

During the first quarter of 2018, rent receivers were appointed to 314 BTL accounts, bringing the stock of accounts with rent receivers appointed to 5,935; this is up from 5,894 accounts in the previous quarter. There were 1,789 BTL properties in the banks' possession at the beginning of Q1 2018. A total of 154 properties were taken into possession by lenders during the quarter. Of the total BTL repossessions in the quarter, 26 were repossessed on foot of a Court Order, while the remaining 128 were voluntarily surrendered or abandoned. During Q1 2018, 85 properties were disposed of. As a result, lenders were in possession of 1,839 BTL properties at end-March 2018.

Table 4: BTL Mortgage Arrears Repossessions and Restructures		Q4 2017			Q1 2018		
	Number	Balance €000	Arrears €000	Number	Balance €000	Arrears €000	
Mortgages		6000	£000		6000	£000	
Total residential mortgage loan accounts outstanding	123,269	22,293,946	-	121,029	21,691,808	-	
Arrears							
Total residential mortgage arrears cases outstanding	23,282	6,178,468	2,056,534	22,545	5,934,232	2,083,123	
of which:							
in arrears up to 90 days	4,264	873,118	27,840	4,182	836,418	35,336	
in arrears 91 to 180 days	1,503	294,175	39,751	1,323	293,598	27,029	
in arrears 181 to 360 days	1,545	364,929	63,540	1,575	343,951	53,393	
in arrears 361 to 720 days	2,166	517,367	101,065	2,103	509,354	97,316	
in arrears over 720 days	13,804	4,128,879	1,824,338	13,362	3,950,911	1,870,049	
Total arrears cases over 90 days outstanding	19,018	5,305,350	2,028,694	18,363	5,097,814	2,047,787	
% of loan accounts in arrears for more than 90 days	15.4%	23.8%		15.2%	23.5%		
Repossessions							
Residential properties in possession - at the beginning of quarter	731			1,789			
Residential properties repossessed on foot of an Order during quarter	39			26			
Residential properties voluntarily surrendered/abandoned during the quarter	1,191			128			
Residential properties disposed of during this guarter	178			85			
Residential properties in possession – at end of quarter <sup>1</sup>	1,789			1,839			
Total residential mortgage accounts restructured							
Restructures	22,487	5,210,388	225,088	21,276	4,889,643	191,203	
Restructures not in arrears	17,642	3,977,264	-	16,968	3,799,919	-	
Total restructures by type:							
Interest Only - up to one year	920	214,663	19,759	765	176,143	16,571	
Interest Only - over one year	1,317	370,776	18,705	1,279	350,612	12,042	
Reduced Payment (greater than interest only)	5,120	1,510,484	68,321	4,395	1,301,500	53,197	
Reduced Payment (less than interest only)	52	11,252	1,168	46	9,763	826	
Term Extension	3,642	590,126	20,423	3,611	586,258	17,943	
Arrears Capitalisation	5,035	1,008,717	59,720	4,850	971,362	55,133	
Payment Moratorium	256	44,116	1,587	208	34,613	1,370	
Deferred Interest Scheme	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Permanent Interest Rate Reduction	2	1,045	402	2	1,057	429	
Split Mortgage	2,058	270,937	612	2,046	270,282	891	
Temporary Interest Rate Reduction	113	23,315	215	108	21,795	268	
Other	3,972	1,164,957	34,176	3,966	1,166,258	32,533	
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\*Note that the 'Other' category mainly comprises accounts that have been offered a long-term solution, pending the completion of six months of successful payments. When these accounts transition into their permanent arrangement, the figures will be updated accordingly. The 'Other' category also includes a small number of simultaneously-agreed term extensions and arrears capitalisation arrangements.

## **Residential Mortgages held by Non-Bank Entities**<sup>7</sup>

#### Arrears

At end-March 2018, non-bank entities accounted for 7 per cent of the total stock of PDH mortgage accounts outstanding. For BTLs the proportion was higher at 12 per cent. Overall, non-bank entities accounted for just over 7 per cent of the total stock of residential mortgage accounts outstanding (PDH and BTL) at end-March 2018 (10 per cent in value terms).

In terms of PDH mortgages held by non-bank entities, 75 per cent were held by regulated retail credit firms at end-March 2018. For retail credit firms, 16 per cent of accounts were in arrears over 90 days, with 7 per cent in arrears of over 720 days (Table 5). The equivalent figures for unregulated loan owners was 53 per cent and 45 per cent, respectively. Restructuring activity was lower among retail credit firms, with 18 per cent of loans restructured at end-March, compared to 22 per cent for unregulated loan owners.

In terms of BTL mortgages held by non-bank entities, slightly over 50 per cent of BTL accounts were held by retail credit firms. For retail credit firms, 23 per cent of accounts were in arrears, with 16 per cent of accounts in arrears of 720 days. The number of BTL accounts in arrears for unregulated loan owners was particularly high, with 78 per cent accounts in arrears, and over 65 per cent of all accounts in arrears over 720 days at end-March 2018.

Non-bank entities held 9,430 restructured PDH mortgage accounts. Of those accounts held by retail credit firms, 72 per cent were meeting the terms of the arrangement. For unregulated loan owners, this falls to 61 per cent. Non-bank entities held 684 restructured BTL mortgage accounts, which accounted for just 3 per cent of all restructured BTL mortgage accounts. Less than half of BTL mortgages held by unregulated loan owners were meeting the terms of the restructuring arrangement.

#### Legal Proceedings and Repossessions

There were 441 properties in non-bank entities' possession at the end of the first quarter, with 109 properties held by retail credit firms, and 332 held by unregulated loan owners. Some 43 properties were taken into possession by non-bank entities during the quarter, up from 28 properties in the previous quarter. Of the properties taken into possession during the quarter, 14 were repossessed on foot of a Court Order, while the remaining 29 were voluntarily surrendered or abandoned. During the quarter, 30 properties were disposed of.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Non-bank entities comprise regulated retail credit firms and unregulated loan owners. Unregulated loans owners include owners of mortgages not regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland, that have purchased mortgage loans secured on Irish residential properties. The Consumer Protection (Regulation of Credit Servicing Firms) Act, 2015 was enacted to ensure that relevant borrowers, whose loans are sold to third parties, maintain the same regulatory protections they had prior to the sale.

		Non-Bank Entities Q1 2018							
Table 4: PDH Mortgage Arrears Repossessions and Restructures of Non-Bank           Entities	Retail Credit Firms			Unregulated loan owners					
	Number	Balance	Arrears	Number	Balance	Arrears			
		€000	€000		€000	€000			
Mortgages									
Total residential mortgage loan accounts outstanding	36,259	5,775,680		12,404	2,626,690				
Arrears									
Total residential mortgage arrears cases outstanding	7,563	1,543,583	280,797	7,743	1,977,894	988,080			
% of total	21%	27%		62%	75%				
of which:									
in arrears over 90 days	5,632	1,252,998	277,191	6,593	1,809,000	982,092			
% of total	16%	22%		53%	69%				
in arrears over 720 days	2,434	635,644	225,081	5,579	1,659,986	965,798			
% of total	7%	11%		45%	63%				
Repossessions									
Residential properties in possession – at end of quarter	101			229					
Total residential mortgage accounts restructured									
Restructures	6,641	1,078,911	20,479	2,789	500,765	135,963			
% of total	18%	19%		22%	19%				
Meeting the terms of the arrangement	4,753	762,071	4,626	1,709	244,776	9,681			
% of total resturctures	72%	71%		61%	49%				
In arrears over 90 days, of which restructured	961	180,433	19,317	1,017	266,472	134,817			
% of total in arrears > 90 days	17%	14%		15%	15%				

Note: See footnote 7.

		Non-Bank Entities Q1 2018							
Table 6: BTL Mortgage Arrears Repossessions and Restructures of Non-Bank Entities	Retail Credit Firms			Unregulated loan owners					
	Number	Balance €000	Arrears €000	Number	Balance €000	Arrears €000			
Mortgages		·			·				
Total residential mortgage loan accounts outstanding	7,007	1,178,822		6,948	1,894,558				
Arrears									
Total residential mortgage arrears cases outstanding	1,627	428,187	261,926	5,434	1,560,643	844,877			
% of total	23%	36%		78%	82%				
of which:									
in arrears over 90 days	1,405	396,448	261,376	5,080	1,477,862	831,427			
% of total	20%	34%		73%	78%				
in arrears over 720 days	1,139	353,148	253,221	4,513	1,355,811	807,054			
% of total	16%	30%		65%	72%				
Repossessions									
Residential properties in possession – at end of quarter	8			103					
Total residential mortgage accounts restructured									
Restructures	302	56,378	5,395	382	142,072	67,437			
% of total	4%	5%		5%	7%				
Meeting the terms of the arrangement	239	44,164	2,078	171	69,312	26,547			
% of total resturctures	79%	78%		45%	49%				
In arrears over 90 days, of which restructured	96	19,035	5,345	245	109,131	67,243			
% of total in arrears > 90 days	7%	5%	2%	5%	7%	8%			

Note: See footnote 7.

#### Annex 1: Mortgage Arrears Data and Further Information

The mortgage arrears data, along with a set of explanatory notes, are available in the Mortgage Arrears section of the Statistics portal of the Central Bank of Ireland website: <a href="http://www.centralbank.ie/polstats/stats/mortgagearrears/Pages/Data.aspx">http://www.centralbank.ie/polstats/stats/mortgagearrears/Pages/Data.aspx</a>.

The Central Bank of Ireland has produced a number of consumer guides to assist consumers who are in arrears or facing arrears, including

- Mortgage Arrears A Consumer Guide to Dealing with your Lender;
- Mortgage Arrears Frequently Asked Questions; and
- Guide to Completing a Standard Financial Statement.

The above guides, that include information on the protections that are available to consumers in financial difficulty, are available to download from the <u>consumer information section</u> of the Central Bank website.

#### **Annex 2: Restructuring Arrangements**

Forbearance techniques include: a switch to an interest only mortgage; a reduction in the payment amount; a temporary deferral of payment; extending the term of the mortgage; and capitalising arrears amounts and related interest. The figures also include advanced modification options such as split mortgages and trade-down mortgages, which have been introduced to provide more long-term solutions for customers in difficulty.

It is important to note that 'meeting the terms of the arrangement' is not a measure of sustainability, as not all restructure types represent longer-term sustainable solutions as defined within the Mortgage Arrears Resolution Targets. For instance, short-term interest only restructures are, in general, not part of longer-term sustainable solutions. The MART sustainability targets also include a significant number of accounts in arrears which are part of a legal process. These accounts are not classified as restructured within the Mortgage Arrears Statistics. Arrears associated with such accounts are recorded in full in the data.