Main Features

Preliminary estimated resident population at Sept 2003:
Queensland 3,816,985
Percentage share of Australia 19.1%
Australia 19,941,335

Population increase (12 months to Sept 2003):
Queensland ↑ 2.3%
Australia ↑ 1.3%

Queensland components of population increase:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Sept qtr</th>
<th>% of Aust</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural increase</td>
<td>5,623</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net interstate migration</td>
<td>9,141</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net overseas migration</td>
<td>5,446</td>
<td>17.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20,210</td>
<td>33.8</td>
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Commentary

- Queensland’s preliminary estimated resident population at September 2003 was 3,816,985 persons, an increase of 20,210 persons in the quarter and 86,147 over the previous 12 months. This increase includes natural population increase (births minus deaths), net interstate migration and net overseas migration.

- Over the year to September 2003, Queensland’s population increased by 2.3 per cent. In comparison, the Australian population increased by 1.3 per cent. The increase for Queensland was the highest rate of growth recorded since the year ending September 1995, when growth reached 2.4%.

- Natural increase for Queensland was 5,623 persons in September quarter 2003 and 24,135 in the year ending September 2003, up 2.6% on the figure of 23,540 in the year ending September 2002.

- Net interstate migration to Queensland continues to be the highest of all Australian states and territories. In September quarter 2003, 9,141 more persons moved to Queensland than moved away. In the year ending September 2003, net interstate migration to Queensland was 38,502, up 8.7% on the figure of 35,425 in the year ending September 2002.

- Net overseas migration to Queensland was 5,446 persons in September quarter 2003. In the year ending September 2003, net overseas migration was 23,510, up 0.4% on the figure of 23,405 in the year ending September 2002.

- Net interstate migration was the largest contributor to population change in Queensland in the September quarter (45.2%), with natural increase accounting for 27.8% and net overseas migration 26.9%.

- Queensland’s annual population growth has risen steadily over the past four years. This acceleration in growth has been mainly due to higher levels of net interstate migration, but also to an increase in net overseas migration over this period.

Figure 1: Components of population increase, Queensland, year ending September, 1983 to 2003

Figure 2: Population annual growth rate, Queensland and Australia, September, 1983 to 2003

Figure 3: Population growth rate, Australia and states and territories, year ending September 2003