Main Features

Preliminary estimated resident population at March 2004:
Queensland 3,863,554
Percentage share of Australia 19.3%
Australia 20,061,774

Population growth (12 months to March 2004):
Queensland ↑ 2.2%
Australia ↑ 1.2%

Queensland components of population increase:
Natural increase 5,311 20.2
Net interstate migration 7,971 n.a.
Net overseas migration 5,867 15.6
Total 19,149 29.9

Commentary

• Queensland’s preliminary estimated resident population at March 2004 was 3,863,554 persons, an increase of 19,149 persons in the quarter and 82,345 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 March 2004, Queensland’s population increased by 2.2% compared with the Australian population growth of 1.2%. The increase for Queensland was slightly lower than the figure recorded in the previous twelve month period to March 2003 (2.5%).

• Natural increase for Queensland was 5,311 persons in March quarter 2004 and 24,097 in the year ending March 2004, up 3.0% on the figure of 23,384 in the year ending March 2003.

• Net interstate migration to Queensland continues to be the highest of all Australian states and territories. In March quarter 2004, 7,971 more persons moved to Queensland than moved away. In the year ending March 2004, net interstate migration to Queensland was 37,286 persons, down from 39,856 in the year ending March 2003.

• Net overseas migration to Queensland was 5,867 persons in March quarter 2004. In the year ending March 2004, net overseas migration was 20,962 persons, down from 28,670 in the year ending March 2003.

• Net interstate migration was the largest contributor to population change in Queensland in the March quarter (41.6%), with net overseas migration accounting for 30.6% and natural increase 27.7%.

• Queensland’s population growth has eased slightly in the year ending March 2004. This is mainly a result of lower levels of net interstate migration and net overseas migration over this period.