Main Features

Preliminary estimated resident population at December 2004:
Queensland 3,919,467
Percentage share of Australia 19.4%
Australia 20,229,786

Population growth (12 months to December 2004):
Queensland ↑ 2.0%
Australia ↑ 1.2%

Queensland components of population increase:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Dec qtr</th>
<th>% of Aust</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural increase</td>
<td>7,084</td>
<td>22.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net interstate migration</td>
<td>8,121</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net overseas migration</td>
<td>4,643</td>
<td>15.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19,848</td>
<td>32.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commentary

- Queensland’s preliminary estimated resident population at December 2004 was 3,919,467 persons, an increase of 19,848 persons in the quarter and 75,062 over the previous 12 months.
- Over the year to December 2004, Queensland’s population increased by 2.0% compared with the Australian population growth of 1.2%. The increase for Queensland was lower than the figure recorded in the previous twelve-month period to December 2003 (2.3%).
- Natural increase for Queensland was 7,084 persons in December quarter 2004 and 25,447 in the year ending December 2004, up 0.3% on the figure of 25,373 in the year ending December 2003.
- Net interstate migration to Queensland continues to be the highest of all Australian states and territories. In December quarter 2004, there were 8,121 more persons who moved to Queensland than moved away. In the year ending December 2004, net interstate migration to Queensland was 32,801 persons, down from 37,556 in the year ending December 2003.

- Net overseas migration to Queensland was 4,643 persons in December quarter 2004. In the year ending December 2004, net overseas migration was 16,814 persons, down from 22,792 in the year ending December 2003.
- Queensland’s population growth has eased to an increase of 75,062 persons in the year ending December 2004, down from an increase of 85,721 persons in the previous 12 month period. This reflects lower levels of net interstate migration and net overseas migration over this period.

Figure 1: Components of population increase, Queensland, year ending December

Figure 2: Population annual growth rate, Queensland and Australia, year ending December

Figure 3: Population growth rate, Australia and states and territories, year ending December 2004