Main Features

Preliminary estimated resident population at 31 December 2007:
Queensland 4,228,290
Percentage share of Australia 20.0%
Australia 21,180,632

Population growth (12 months to 31 December 2007):
Queensland 2.3%
Australia 1.6%

Queensland components of population increase:
12 mths to Dec 2007 % of growth
Natural increase 35,448 36.6
Net interstate migration 25,647 26.5
Net overseas migration 35,806 37.0
Total 96,901 100.0

Commentary

• Data in this publication for 30 September 2001 to 30 June 2006 are final and based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. Data from the 30 September 2006 onwards are preliminary.

• Queensland’s preliminary estimated resident population at 31 December 2007 was 4,228,290 persons. For the first time, Queensland’s population now accounts for 20.0% of the Australian population.

• Queensland’s population increased by 96,901 persons over the 12 months to 31 December 2007, compared with an increase of 87,575 persons in the previous 12-month period. This significant increase was due to large increases in natural increase and net overseas migration.

• Net overseas migration made the largest contribution to population growth in Queensland in the 12 months to 31 December 2007 (37.0%), followed by natural increase (36.6%) and net interstate migration (26.5%).

• Net overseas migration to Queensland was 35,806 persons in the year ending 31 December 2007 (up from 30,033 persons in the previous year). The figure for the latest calendar year was the highest recorded since the introduction of the estimated resident population series by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 1971.

• Natural increase (births minus deaths) in the year ending 31 December 2007 for Queensland was the highest ever recorded (35,448 persons). This was a significant increase on the figure of 28,160 persons recorded in the year ending 31 December 2006. This large increase is due to changes in procedures for processing birth registrations by the Queensland Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. It is uncertain whether this increase in registered births reflects an actual increase in fertility.

• The level of net interstate migration to Queensland continues to be the highest of all Australian states and territories. In the 12 months to 31 December 2007 net interstate migration to Queensland eased slightly to 25,647 persons compared with 25,916 persons a year earlier.

Figure 1: Components of population increase, Queensland, year ending 31 December

Figure 2: Population annual growth rate, Queensland and Australia, year ending 31 December

Figure 3: Population growth rate, Australia and states and territories, year ending 31 December 2007