Main Features

Preliminary estimated resident population at 31 December 2008:
Queensland 4,349,529
Australia 21,643,987
Qld share of national population 20.1%

Population growth (12 months to 31 December 2008):
Queensland 2.5%
Australia 1.9%
Qld share of national growth 26.3%

Queensland components of population increase:
12 mths to Dec 2008 % of growth
Net overseas migration 49,713 46.6
Natural increase 35,799 33.5
Net interstate migration 21,228 19.9
Total 106,740 100.0

Commentary

• Queensland’s preliminary estimated resident population at 31 December 2008 was 4,349,529 persons. Queensland’s population accounts for 20.1% of the Australian population.

• Queensland’s population increased by a record 106,740 persons over the 12 months to 31 December 2008. This was a growth rate of 2.5%, the second-highest growth rate of all states and territories, and higher than the growth rate for Australia (1.9%) (Figure 1).

• Net overseas migration made the largest contribution to population growth in Queensland in the 12 months to 31 December 2008 (46.6%), followed by natural increase (33.5%) and net interstate migration (19.9%).

• Net overseas migration to Queensland was 49,713 persons in the year ending 31 December 2008. The figure for the latest 12-month period 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 2008 for Queensland was 35,799 persons, the highest on record since the introduction of the series by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 1971. The growth in natural increase is due to an increase in the number of registered births.