Main Features

Preliminary* estimated resident population at 31 March 2011:
Queensland 4,561,711
Australia 22,546,321
Old share of national population 20.2%

Population growth (12 months to 31 March 2011):
Queensland 1.6%
Australia 1.4%
Old share of national growth 23.4%

Queensland components of population increase:
12 mths to 31 Mar 2011 % of growth
Natural increase 35,065 47.9
Net overseas migration 30,714 42.0
Net interstate migration 7,391 10.1
Total 73,170 100.0

Commentary

• Queensland’s preliminary estimated resident population at 31 March 2011 was 4,561,711 persons, 20.2% of the Australian population.

• Queensland’s population increased by 73,170 persons over the 12 months to 31 March 2011 (Figure 1). This moderation in population growth was also evident at the national level. Queensland (1.6%) recorded the third highest rate of population growth of all states and territories, and higher than for Australia (1.4%) (Figure 2).

• Natural increase made the largest contribution to population growth in Queensland in the 12 months to 31 March 2011 (47.9%), followed by net overseas migration (42.0%) and net interstate migration (10.1%).

• Natural increase (births minus deaths) in the year ending 31 March 2011 was 35,065 persons, a decrease from the 36,657 persons recorded during the 12 months to 31 March 2010 (Figure 3).

• In the 12 months to 31 March 2011, net overseas migration to Queensland was 30,714 persons. This was slightly lower than the level recorded during the 12-month period to 31 December 2010 (31,595), and significantly below the 40,712 figure in the 12-month period to 31 March 2010.

• Net interstate migration to Queensland was 7,391 persons over the 12 months to 31 March 2011.

* Figures quoted in this brief are preliminary and subject to revision. As such, movements over recent quarters, in particular for net overseas migration, should be treated with caution.