Population growth, Queensland, September quarter 2020

Source: ABS 3101.0, released 18 March 2021, 10:30 am AEST

Key data

Preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) as at 30 September 2020:
Queensland ............................................................ 5,184,847
Australia .............................................................. 25,693,059
Queensland share of national population .................... 20.2%

Population growth (12 months to 30 September 2020):
Queensland ............................................................. 1.3%
Australia ............................................................. 0.9%
Queensland share of national growth .................. 30.9%

Main findings


- Queensland’s preliminary ERP at 30 September 2020 was 5,184,847 persons (20.2% of the Australian population). This reflects an increase of 68,175 persons over the 12 months, and 8,661 persons since 30 June 2020 (Figure 1).

- Queensland recorded a population growth rate of 1.3% in the 12 months to 30 September 2020, above the national average (0.9%) and the highest of all state and territories. (Figure 2).

- Natural increase made the largest contribution to population growth in Queensland in the 12 months to 30 September 2020 (41.9%) followed by net interstate migration (39.8%) and net overseas migration (18.3%) (Table 1).

- In the 12 months to 30 September 2020, natural increase (births minus deaths) was 28,571 persons, an increase from the 28,329 persons recorded during the 12 months to 30 June 2020.

- The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting closure of the international borders have impacted net overseas migration. Net overseas migration to Queensland in the 12 months to 30 September 2020 was 12,489 persons, 56.4% lower than than the 12 months to 30 June 2020. Net overseas migration for September quarter 2020 saw a detraction of 5,696 persons to Queensland’s population, compared with a growth of 10,440 persons in September quarter 2019.

- Net interstate migration contributed 27,115 persons to population change in Queensland over the 12 months to 30 September 2020, an increase from the 25,348 persons recorded during the 12 months to 30 June 2020.

Table 1 Components of population increase, Queensland

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12 months to 30 Sep 2020</th>
<th>Share of growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>persons</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural increase</td>
<td>28,571</td>
<td>41.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net overseas migration</td>
<td>12,489</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net interstate migration</td>
<td>27,115</td>
<td>39.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>68,175</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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Figure 1 Annual population increase by components of population change, Queensland

Figure 2 Population growth rate, Australia and states and territories, year ending 30 September 2020

Figure 3 Annual population growth rate, Queensland and Australia