

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 204**  
**Asked on 21 February 2007**

MR KNUTH asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

QUESTION:

How many babies were delivered in Charters Towers Hospital in 1990 and how many babies were delivered in Charters Towers Hospital in 2004, 2005 and 2006?

ANSWER:

The number of babies born in the years specified in the question were as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Births</b>
1990	121
2004	61
2005	75
2006	43

Charters Towers Hospital is staffed to care for low risk and some medium risk maternity patients. High risk patients are referred to Townsville.

Another factor which may be contributing to the decrease in numbers of babies born in Charters Towers is that women may choose to have their babies in the larger centres, such as Townsville where facilities such as the Neonatal Unit and other specialist services are more readily accessible.