

**Question on Notice
No. 696
Asked on 22 May 2007**

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

QUESTION:

With reference to physiotherapists employed by Queensland Health at Bundaberg Base Hospital—

- (1) Will he detail how many physiotherapists have been employed at the Bundaberg Hospital for the years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 (year-to-date) reported separately?
- (2) Are there plans to hire any additional physiotherapists at Bundaberg Base Hospital and, if not, why not?

ANSWER:

- (1) Physiotherapists employed by the Bundaberg Base Hospital for the years in question are as follows:

Year	No. of Physiotherapists Employed
2001-02	4.2 FTE
2002-03	4.2 FTE*
2003-04	4.2 FTE
2004-05	4.7 FTE
2005-06	5.7 FTE July - December
	6.7 FTE January 2006*
2006-07	6.7 FTE July – December
	8.7 FTE January 2007*

* There have been difficulties employing Physiotherapists to funded positions during these years due to nation-wide shortages. However, all positions at Bundaberg Hospital are currently filled.

- (2) The Health Action Plan 2005 outlined a commitment to enhancing allied health staff by December 2006. Bundaberg has received four additional Physiotherapy staff as a result of this commitment. Queensland Health will continue to increase Physiotherapy staff numbers as further new services are implemented at Bundaberg Base Hospital.