

STATE OF THE REGION'S HEALTH

2002
Focus on Asthma



Introduction

The State of the Region's Health report is published annually as a summary of the health status of residents of Peel region. It is intended to highlight key health issues and trends for the population of Peel.

The *State of the Region's Health 2002* report focuses on asthma, a common chronic respiratory disease that affects individuals of all ages but is more prevalent in children and adolescents.

This report describes the occurrence of asthma in Canada, Ontario and Peel region. It also outlines what is known about the risk factors that can lead to the development of asthma, and the “triggers” that can provoke symptoms in individuals who already have asthma. In addition, the relationship between asthma and air pollution is described.

At the end of this report, a section titled *Peel Health Facts* (see page 15) highlights the most recent health indicator data, including population, leading causes of mortality and premature mortality, leading causes of hospitalization and selected reproductive health statistics, for Peel region.