

Peel's Children

(0 to 6 years)

Introduction

The population of children in the Region of Peel is influenced by annual numbers of births and deaths, and by migration to and from the region. This chapter will describe births, the population structure and population growth of children in the Region of Peel, with comparisons to Ontario. Infant and child mortality is described in the chapters titled *Infant Health—The First Year of Life* (see page 29) and *Early Childhood Health* (see page 41).

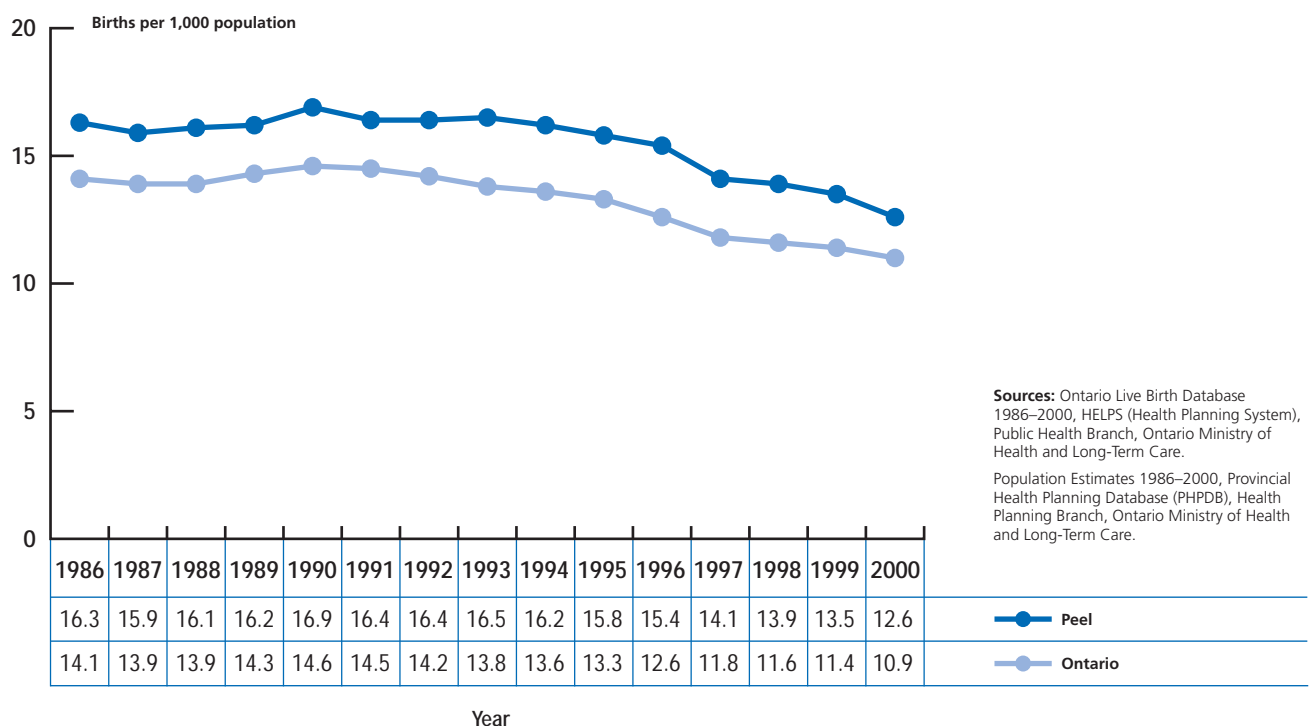


Births

In 2000, the most recent year for which official data are available, there were 12,759 live births in the Region of Peel, which represents 10% of all live births in Ontario.

Crude birth rates* in Peel were consistently higher than rates in Ontario over the 15-year period between 1986 and 2000. After reaching a peak in 1990, crude birth rates in Peel declined slowly to 12.6 births per 1,000 in 2000. Ontario rates also decreased over this same period (see Figure 1.1).

Figure 1.1: Crude Birth Rates, Region of Peel and Ontario, 1986–2000



* Crude birth rates are defined as the number of live births per 1,000 total population.

This difference in crude birth rates between Peel and Ontario is due to a higher proportion of women of reproductive age and higher fertility rates among women in this age group in Peel.

The number of live births in Peel increased by 35% between 1986 and 1996. Since 1996, the number of live births has declined by 6% to 12,759 births in 2000, as shown in Table 1.1. However, recent local data indicate that the number of births has since been on the rise (data not shown).

The distribution of live births in Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon consistently reflects the population distribution in Peel. From 1986 to 2000, approximately 63% of Peel's population lived in Mississauga, 32% in Brampton and 5% in Caledon. On average, proportions of live births by municipality of maternal residence were 62%, 34% and 4% respectively for the same period (*see Table 1.1*).

Table 1.1: Number of Live Births by Municipality of Maternal Residence, Region of Peel, 1986–2000

Year	Mississauga	Brampton	Caledon	Peel
1986	6,177	3,445	438	10,060
1987	6,398	3,405	455	10,258
1988	6,775	3,641	462	10,878
1989	7,184	3,894	476	11,554
1990	7,826	4,195	469	12,490
1991	7,760	4,194	477	12,431
1992	8,118	4,238	495	12,851
1993	8,459	4,383	498	13,340
1994	8,736	4,333	443	13,512
1995	8,531	4,535	500	13,566
1996	8,459	4,627	494	13,580
1997	8,142	4,285	532	12,959
1998	8,040	4,533	571	13,145
1999	8,058	4,497	640	13,195
2000	7,646	4,537	576	12,759

Source: Ontario Live Birth Database 1986–2000, HELPS (Health Planning System), Public Health Branch, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Seventy-four per cent of all live births to mothers living in the Region of Peel occurred within Peel's borders: the highest was for mothers in Brampton (79%) and lowest for mothers in Caledon (22%) (*see Table 1.2 on following page*). The City of Toronto was the next most frequent place of birth, with 21% of newborns in Peel delivered in Toronto. For Caledon mothers, almost half (48%) of newborns were delivered in Toronto.

Table 1.2: Location of Live Birth by Municipality of Maternal Residence, Region of Peel, 2000

Location of Live Birth	Municipality of Residence of Mother							
	Mississauga		Brampton		Caledon		Peel	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Peel Region	5,722	74.8	3,566	78.6	126	21.9	9,414	73.8
Toronto	1,586	20.7	856	18.9	276	47.9	2,718	21.3
Halton Region	275	3.6	35	0.8	10	1.7	320	2.5
York Region	11	0.1	35	0.8	61	10.6	107	0.8
Dufferin	NR	NR	25	0.6	84	14.6	111	0.9
Hamilton	26	0.3	NR	NR	5	0.9	34	0.3
Other	24	0.5	17	0.4	14	2.4	55	0.4
Total	7,646	100.0	4,537	100.0*	576	100.0	12,759	100.0

NR = Not released due to small numbers.

* Per cent totals do not equal 100 due to rounding.

Source: Ontario Live Birth Database 2000, HELPS (Health Planning System), Public Health Branch, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

The Child Population

The child population in Peel is made up of children born to Peel residents (described at the beginning of this chapter) and children who move to Peel from other cities, provinces and countries.

In 2001, there were 98,480 children aged 0 to 6 years living in the Region of Peel, accounting for one-tenth of the population. Peel has a slightly higher proportion of young persons aged 0 to 6 years (10%) compared to Ontario (8.5%).

Table 1.3 shows that the distribution of children aged 0 to 6 years is similar for each of Peel's municipalities.

Table 1.3: Number and Proportion of Population 0–6 Years by Place of Residence, Region of Peel, 2001

Age Group	Mississauga		Brampton		Caledon		Peel	
	M(%)	F(%)	M(%)	F(%)	M(%)	F(%)	M(%)	F(%)
0–6 years	29,825 (9.9)	28,455 (9.2)	18,110 (11.2)	16,925 (10.3)	2,665 (10.5)	2,515 (9.9)	50,590 (10.3)	47,875 (9.6)
Total Population	302,190	310,735	161,590	163,840	25,275	25,320	489,055	499,890

Note: Per cent calculations based on total population by municipality.

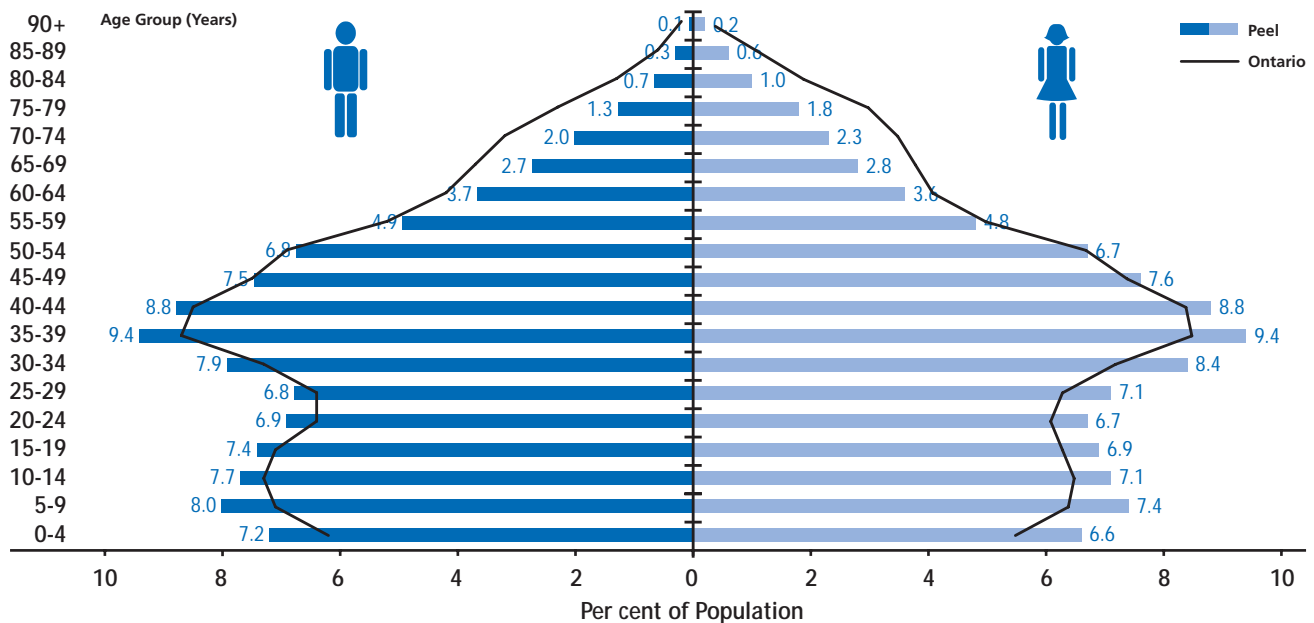
Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census.

Map 1.1, found at the end of this chapter, displays the proportion of children aged 0 to 6 years by census tract for the Region of Peel in 2001. Higher proportions of children aged 0 to 6 years reside in the area of newly established subdivisions in the northeast of Brampton, southwest Brampton, and in other pockets within west Brampton. Similarly, higher proportions of children in this age group reside in selected areas within northern Mississauga and the eastern section of Bolton in Caledon.

Figure 1.2 is a population pyramid, which shows the age and sex distribution of Peel’s population in 2001. This population pyramid shows the relative proportion of males and females in each age group and highlights the following issues:

- The age structure of Peel and Ontario populations differ. Although the shape of the population pyramid is similar for Peel and Ontario, in Peel in 2001, there was a higher proportion of residents aged 44 years and younger compared to Ontario. In contrast, there were lower proportions of older adults (aged 45 years and older) in Peel compared to Ontario.
- In Peel, the higher proportion of adults (25 to 39 years) may be explained by high numbers of new immigrants to the Region who are typically within this age category.
- Population estimates for 2004 indicate that there is still a higher proportion of adults in the reproductive age groups (data not shown). Persons within these age groups will likely continue to influence the number of births in the Region of Peel in the years ahead.

Figure 1.2: Population by Sex and Age Group, Region of Peel and Ontario, 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census.

Although the proportion of children will decline, the number of children in Peel Region aged 0 to 6 years is expected to grow by 2011. Population projections for the 0 to 6 year age group are not available, however, projections for children aged 0 to 4 and 5 to 9 years are shown in Table 1.4 (see following page).

Table 1.4: Total Population and Proportion of Population by Age Group, Region of Peel and Ontario, 2001, 2011 and 2021

Age Group	Peel			Ontario		
	2001	2011	2021	2001	2011	2021
0–4 years	68,115 (6.9%)	74,533 (5.7%)	84,441 (5.5%)	671,250 (5.9%)	685,068 (5.2%)	746,146 (5.1%)
5–9 years	76,030 (7.7%)	77,707 (6.0%)	84,713 (5.5%)	772,655 (6.8%)	708,988 (5.4%)	755,690 (5.2%)
Total 0–9 years	144,145 (14.6%)	152,240 (11.7%)	169,154 (11.0%)	1,443,905 (12.7%)	1,394,056 (10.6%)	1,501,836 (10.3%)
Total Population	988,950	1,301,790	1,534,867	11,410,050	13,198,971	14,508,544

Note: Per cent calculations based on total population.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census.

Projections* 2011 and 2021 from Population Projections 1986–2028, Provincial Health Planning Database (PHPDB), Health Planning Branch, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

*Population projections are a way to estimate the number of people at a given year in the future, if a given set of assumptions (mortality, fertility and migration) were to prevail. The accuracy of the projections depends on the extent to which the assumptions on mortality, fertility and migration are correct.

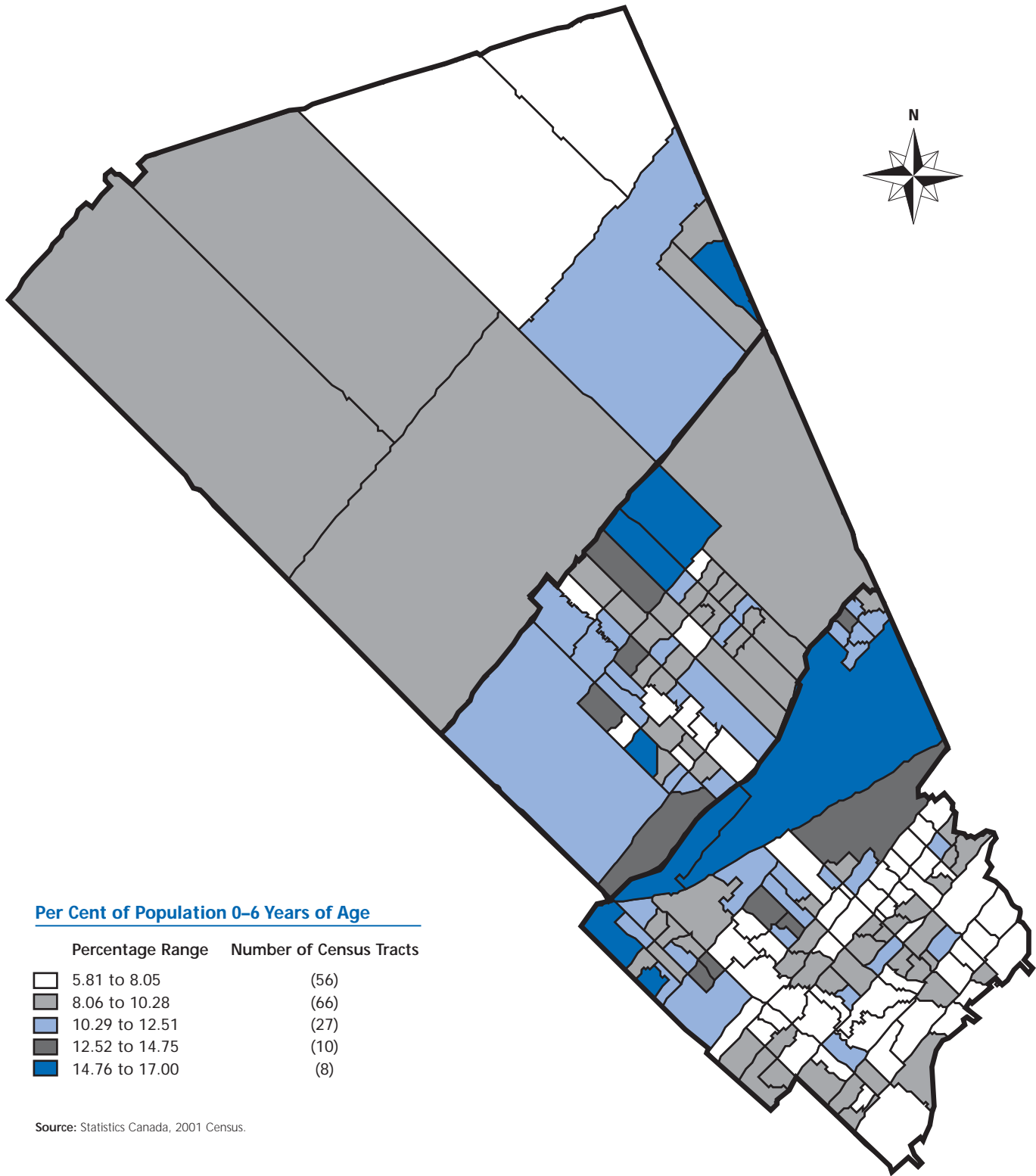
Summary

In 2000, there were 12,759 live births in Peel Region, which made up approximately 10% of all live births within the province. The majority of live births (74%) occurred within Peel Region; however, there were also many births to Peel residents that occurred in other jurisdictions, such as Toronto and Halton. The crude birth rate in Peel was 12.6 births per 1,000 population in 2000; crude rates have declined substantially over time in both Peel and Ontario.

As of 2001, there were 98,480 children aged 0 to 6 years living in Peel Region. The proportion of children aged 0 to 6 years was similar by municipality; however, within municipalities, there were some census tracts that had higher proportions of children within this age group.

Although the proportion of the population composed of children 0 to 9 years will decline over the next 20 years, the overall numbers of children in Peel will increase.

Map 1.1: Proportion of Population Aged 0–6 Years by Census Tract, Region of Peel, 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census.