The 2001 Census data on age and sex was released on July 16, 2002 from Statistics Canada. This Bulletin highlights changes to the distribution of Peel’s population by age over the 10-year period from 1991 to 2001.

**Peel’s Population Characteristics:**

Peel’s 2001 population of 988,945 persons represents a 16% increase over 1996 census levels. In fact, our growth rate remained unchanged from that experienced between 1991 and 1996.

Peel’s median age of 34.4 is well below the national average of 37.6. Brampton registered the youngest median age (32.9) while Caledon had the oldest (35.9). Mississauga’s median age stood at 35.0.

A strong 30% of our population was over 45, while 7% was less than 4 years old.

Peel’s population increased in all age groups over a 10-year period. The most significant gains were noted among seniors (65+) which increased by 69%, and among the older working age (45-64) population which increased by 65%. The least significant growth of 18% was recorded for our pre-school (0-4) population.

Two divergent trends are manifest over a 10-year period. The younger age groups, (0-44) are decreasing as a proportion of the population and the older age groups (45+) are increasing.

Specifically, the most significant change occurred in the 20-44 age group which decreased by 5%. Conversely, prominent gains of 4% were noted in the 45-64 age group.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, 2001

Produced by The Region of Peel Planning Department
Area Municipal Distinctions:

Conditions in 2001

In 2001, the age distribution across the 3 area municipalities was generally the same, however, some exceptions were noted. Across the Region:

Mississauga had the lowest percentage of pre-schoolers (6.5%) and the largest percentage of seniors (8.5%).

Brampton had the highest percentage of pre-schoolers (7.5%), school-age children (23%), and younger working age population (41%).

Caledon exhibited the greatest percentage of the older working age population (24.5%).

Population Distribution by Age: 2001

Trends Between 1991 and 2001

Within the last 10 years, distinct trends in age structure are evident. The most pronounced changes occurred in Brampton and Caledon. Caledon has had a population surge in the younger age groups, while Brampton's population surge has occurred at the other end of the age spectrum.

Specifically, Caledon recorded the most notable increases in the 0-4 (38%), 5-19 (43%), and the 20-44 (36%) age groups.

Brampton’s growth was strongest in the 45-64 (69%) and the 65+ (79%) age groups.