Mississauga Health

Ontario Health Team

Partnering for your health

UNDERSTANDING OUR COMMUNITY TOOL

USER MANUAL

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OVERVIEW

The *Understanding our Community* and *Persons Who Visited the Emergency Department* tools provide member organizations of Mississauga Health, Mississauga's Ontario Health Team, as well as care providers in Mississauga, access to a centralized resource with data and insights on Mississauga's demographics and populations by neighbourhood.

These tools can be used by Mississauga Health members to assist them in health system decision-making and planning, thus improving health outcomes within our region and among Mississauga's populations.

GOAL

Support identifying areas to target for health system planning and serve as a source of truth for decision-makers.

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ABOUT THE DATA

We carefully selected sociodemographic and health attributes linked to data zones in response to member feedback. The *Understanding our Community* tool reflects 2021 census data, and the linked health attributes derive from the 2019 Mississauga Health OHT attributable population. Peel Premature Mortality data is based on analysis from Statistics Canada data spanning from 2000-2020. Peel Community Flourishing data is based on data collected from a survey of Peel residents led by the Institute for Better Health and the Population Health Analytics Lab. The survey's first wave launched in 2024, with approximately 3.8k respondents.

WHAT DOES ATTRIBUTED DATA MEAN?

1. Physician referral networks, not geography, determine attribution. Hospitals assign primary care providers based on where their patients primarily receive medical care. Patients listed with those physicians are considered part of the population.

Data in the *Persons who visited the Emergency Department* tool reflects two priority populations:

- Frail Older Adults: Based on persons who visited the Emergency Department (ED) and were 65 years of age or older, had been diagnosed with dementia, and admitted to the ED for any cause.

- Persons seeking care for Mental Health and Addictions Care: Based on persons who visited the Emergency Department and had a primary diagnosis code related to Mental Health based on ICD-10 diagnosis of F06-F99.

Mississauga Health, in partnership with ICES, shared aggregated data for these populations, providing valuable information not only for the population that is actively seeking care but also to understand the needs of the total attributed population, including those that reside in our community and may not yet be seeking care but could benefit from earlier support in the community.

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DEFINING NEIGHBOURHOODS

These tools use Peel Health Data Zones (PHDZ), rather than postal codes, to define where neighbourhoods are. Peel Health Data Zones, established by Peel Public Health, are custom built geographic areas, derived from census tracts, which are consistent areas with similar economic and social features. This approach aligns with best practices adopted by Ontario Health and other major urban areas, providing users with a more detailed view of the population.

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES: STATISTICS CANADA

Statistics Canada collected this data through the Census Data Survey, which is conducted every five years. This data helps interested parties understand the population's makeup and identify trends and disparities. The survey is based on several categories, including demographics, housing, education, transportation, and employment.

The attributes selected and displayed in the tools come from co-design feedback sessions involving patients, caregivers, member organizations of Mississauga Health, and planning table representatives.

Based on 2021 census data, these attributes focus on the sociodemographic of the population. They are categorized to offer insight into the populations we serve and the environments of our patients.

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HEALTH ATTRIBUTES

The *Persons who visited the Emergency Department* tool displays health attributes based on Trillium Health Partners (THP) Emergency Department visits in fiscal year 2019/20. These attributes represent patients who visited the Emergency Department and are shown as a percentage of the entire population within that category. As per ICES privacy standards, the denominator has been removed to prevent back calculation. However, the displayed percentages and rates offer meaningful insight into patient trends related to the following:

- Reason for visit (Chief complaint of Persons who visited the Emergency Department)
- Alternative Level of Care (ALC) count and days
- Prevalence of Chronic Diseases:
  - Asthma
  - Diabetes
  - Hypertension
  - Stroke
  - Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)
  - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

PREMATURE MORTALITY

Premature mortality is a population health metric that measures deaths of individuals before the age of 75 that could have been avoided through effective treatment, timely care, prevention, and interventions on social determinants of health. To better understand these trends in Peel region, the *Understanding our Community* tool contains premature mortality data segmented into the following groups:

- Premature Mortality in Ages 18-54
- Premature Mortality in Ages 55-74
- Male/Female Premature Mortality by High Material Resource Deprivation (Quintiles 3-5)
- Male/Female Premature Mortality by Low Material Resource Deprivation (Quintiles 1 & 2)

PEEL FLOURISHING DATA

The *Understanding our Community* tool contains data relating to the overall wellbeing and flourishing in the Peel Community. The Peel Community Flourishing Survey is a cross-sectional survey that gathers data on seven domains of flourishing that capture how residents experience health, wellbeing, and community life (domains include: physical and psychosocial, economic, social, cultural, built environment, political, and overall community wellbeing). The first wave was conducted September to November 2024 and had a sample size of 3,805. Several indicators from the survey were incorporated into the tool:

- Experiences of Discrimination
- Experiences of Loneliness
- Community Participation
- Access to Leisure/Cultural Activities Meeting Community Needs
- Household Affordability
- Transportation & Education Meeting Community Needs
- Access to Natural Space and Greenspace Meeting Community Needs
- Access to Services for Older Adults Meeting Community Needs
- General Satisfaction with Health Services

Note: not all indicators and domains were included in the community tool. For a full set of measures, please check the Wave 1 Peel Community Flourishing Report, linked here.

TOOL COMPONENTS

LANDING PAGE

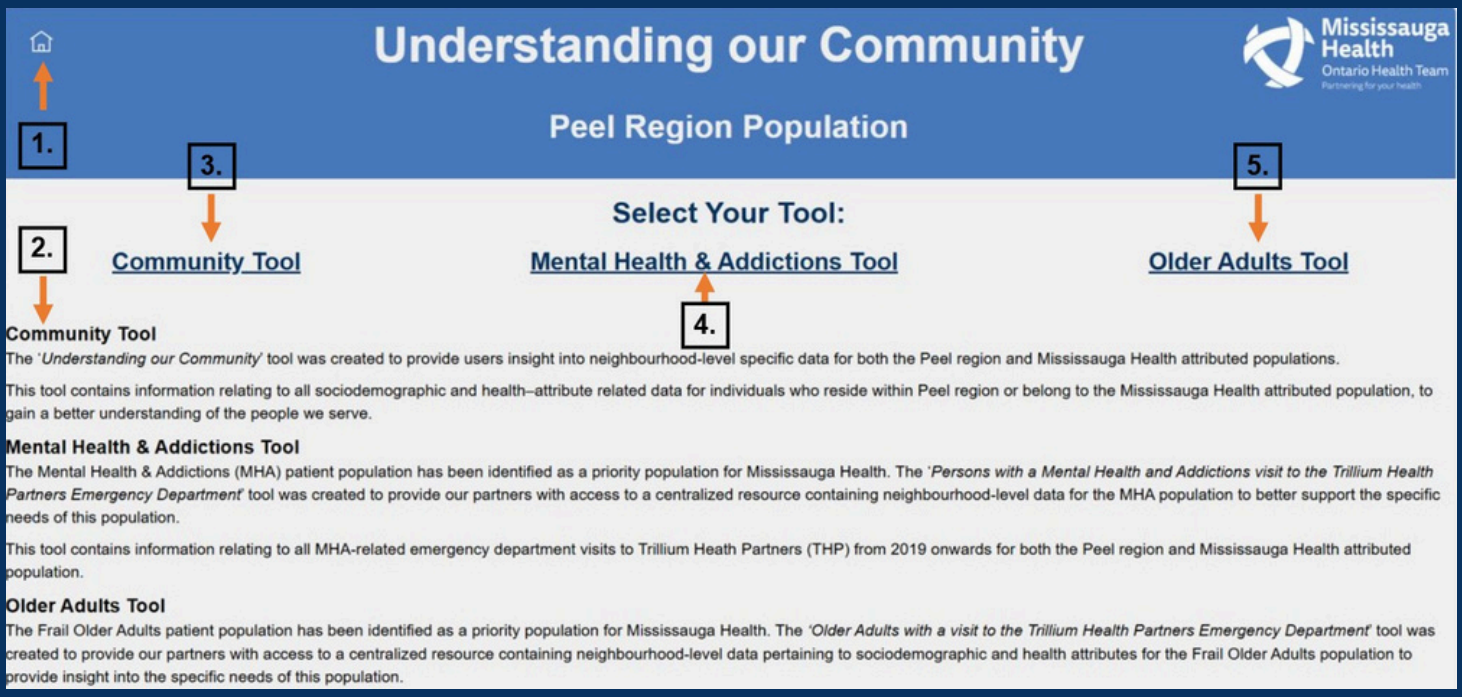
When first accessing the *Understanding our Community* and *Persons who have Visited an Emergency Department* tools, you will be directed to a landing page asking you to select your population of interest:

1. Peel Region Population selection

2. Mississauga Health Attributed Population selection

The landing page also includes information about the data included in both the tools, why the tool was created, and definitions for both populations.

After selecting the population, you will be directed to the Tool Selection page:



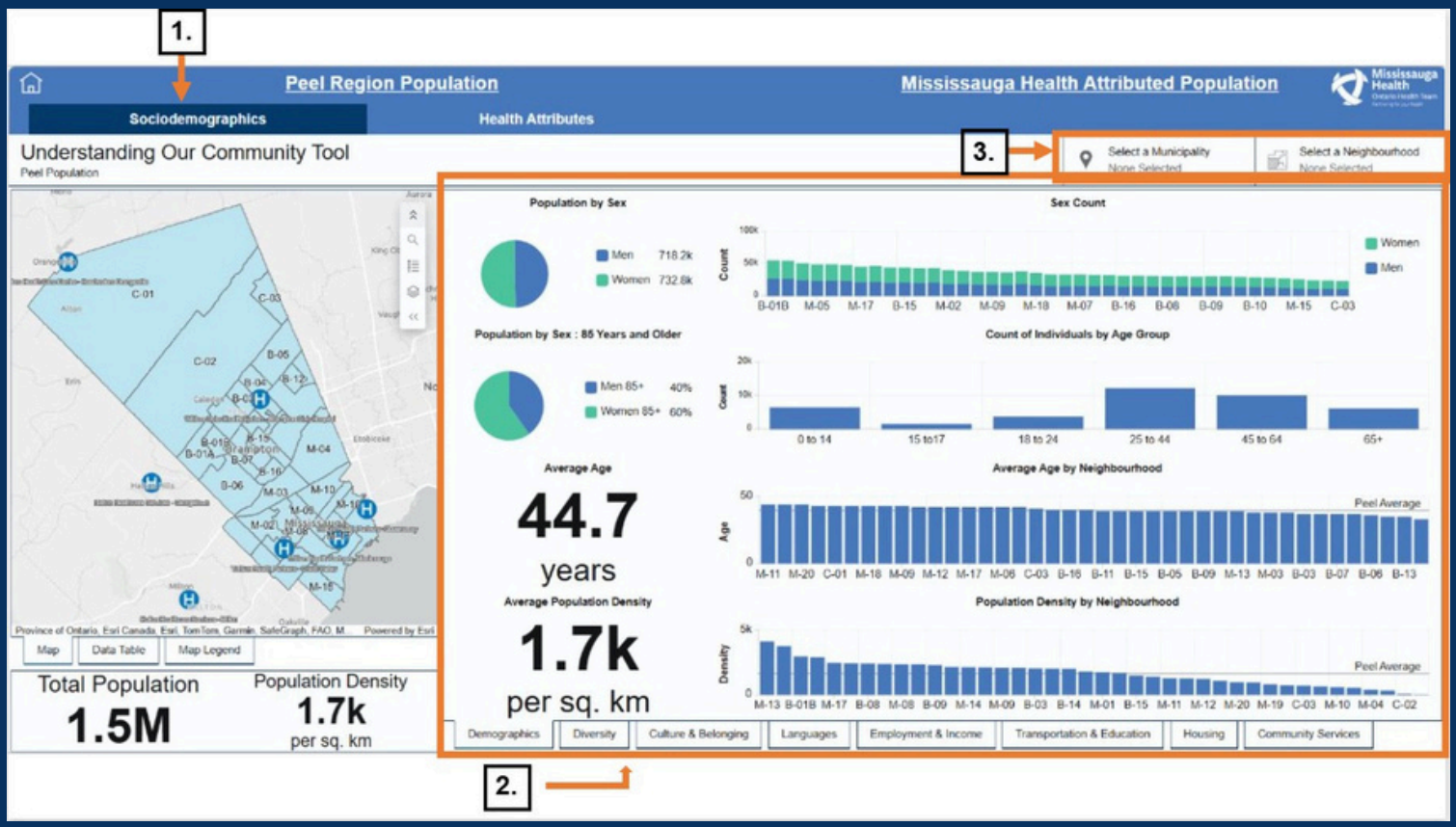
The Tool Selection page contains five key components:

1. A home button that will direct you back to the initial Population Selection landing page

2. Brief descriptions of the different tools and the available data

3.-5. Buttons that will redirect you to either the community, Mental Health & Addictions, and Older Adults tools, respectively

DATA DASHBOARDS

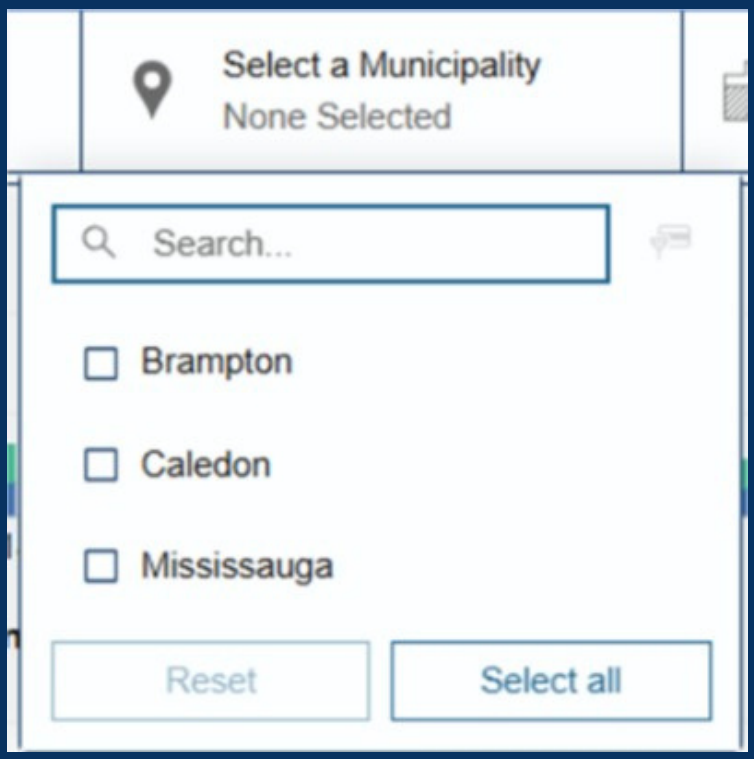


1. Button selectors for the different data groups, the data group you are currently using, will be highlighted in a **dark blue**
   - In the *Understanding our Community Tool*, data is broken into Sociodemographics and Health Attributes
   - In the *Persons Who Have Visited an Emergency Department* Tool the data is categorized into Sociodemographics, Emergency Department Visits, and Health Attributes

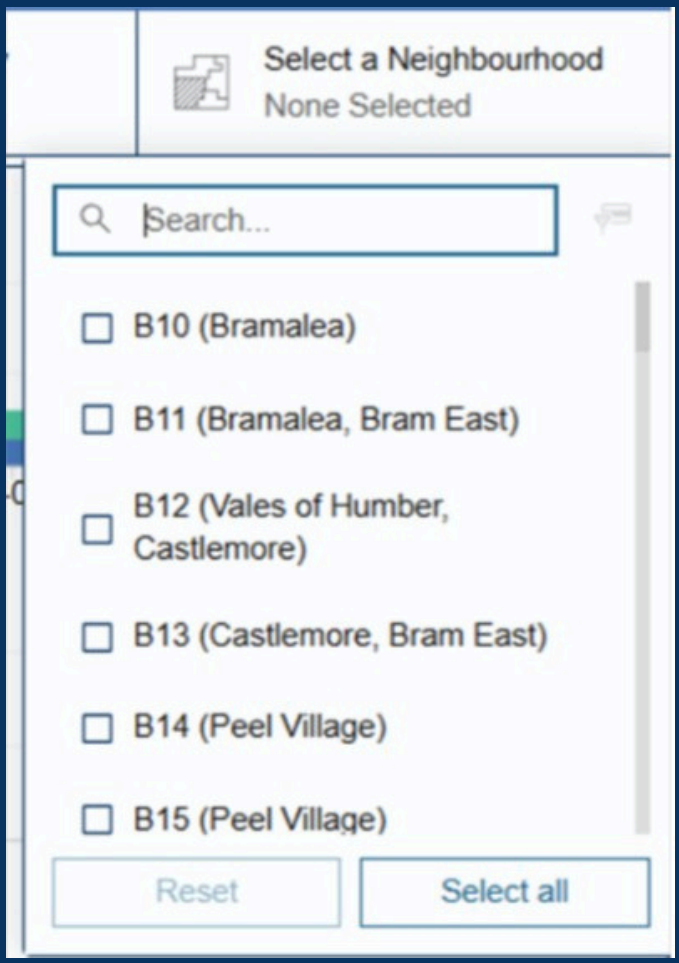
2. Dashboard tabs that organize the data into different related groupings
   - e.g., the Demographics tab contains information relating to age, sex, population size, and population density
     - Diversity tab contains information relating to immigration and racialized population

3. Municipality and Neighbourhood filters
   - All elements of the tool can be filtered to a specific Peel Municipality (i.e., Caledon, Brampton, and/or Mississauga) and/or a specific PHDZ.

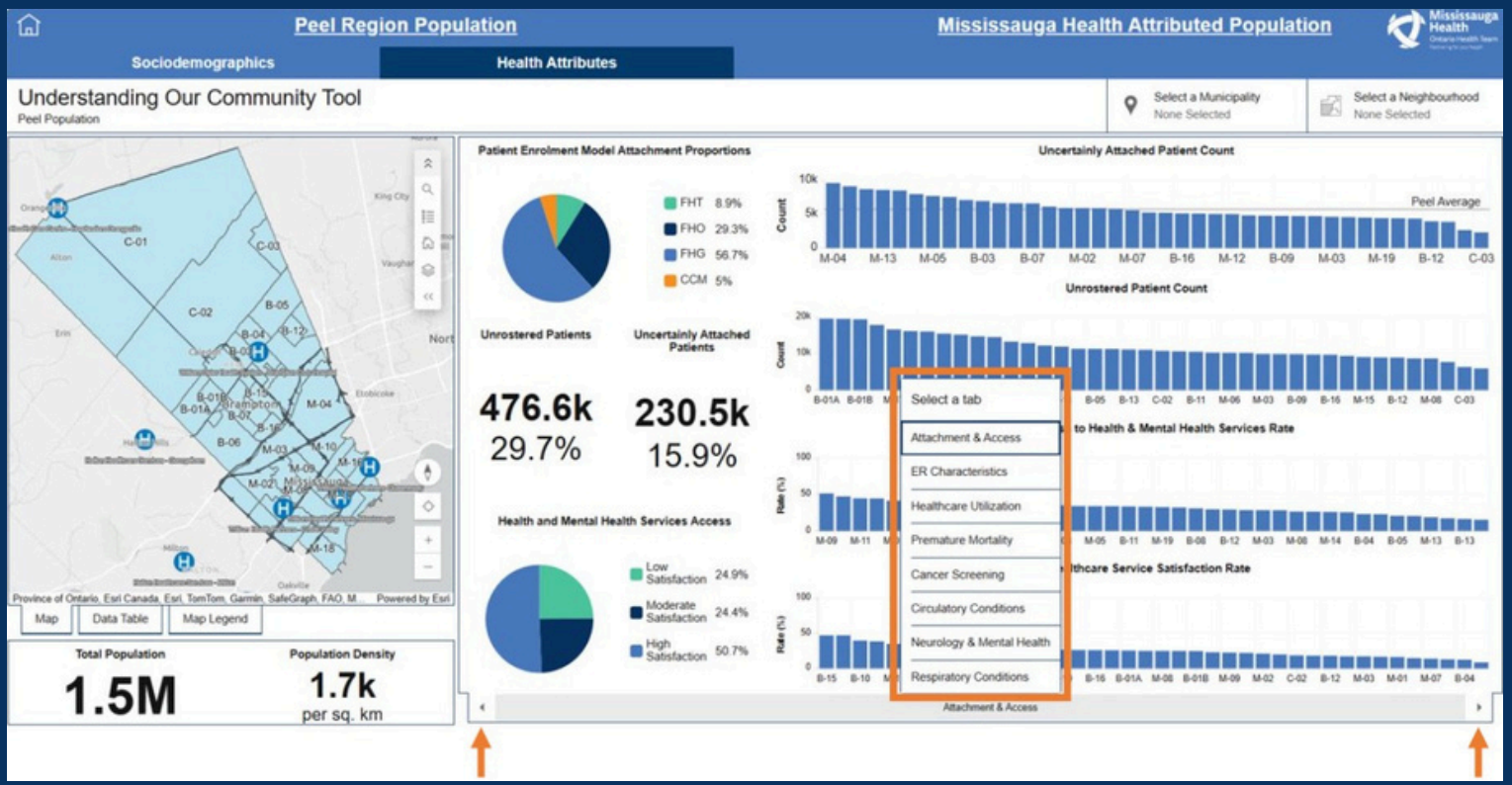
Expanded Municipality filter



Expanded Neighbourhood filter

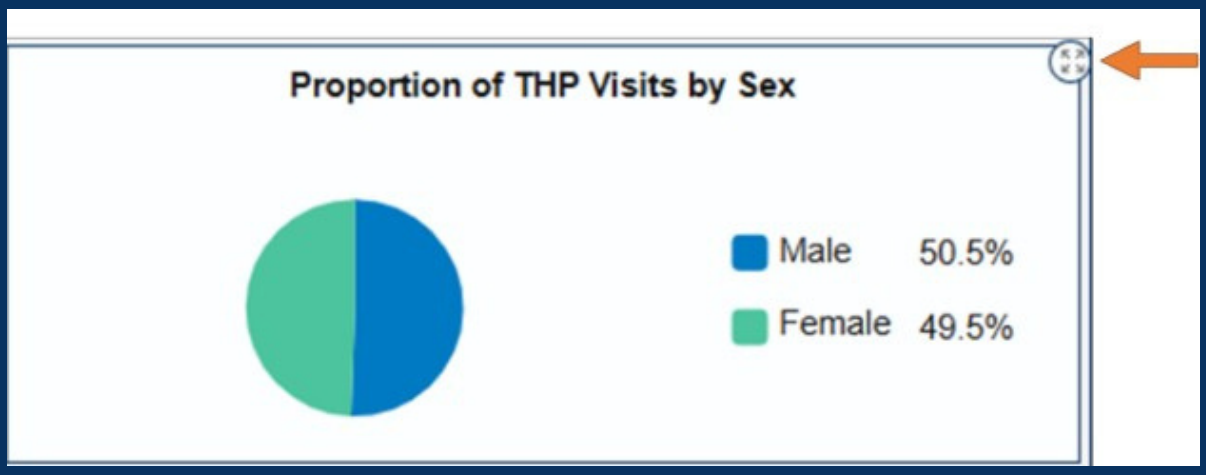


The dashboard tabs (2.) may also be presented like the image below:



Users can use the buttons on the bottom to navigate between tabs, or by clicking on the tabs, you can navigate to a specific tab using the menu.

All elements on the dashboard can be expanded using the button located in the top right corner of the dashboard element.



DATA TYPES: GRAPHS, CHARTS, & INDICATORS

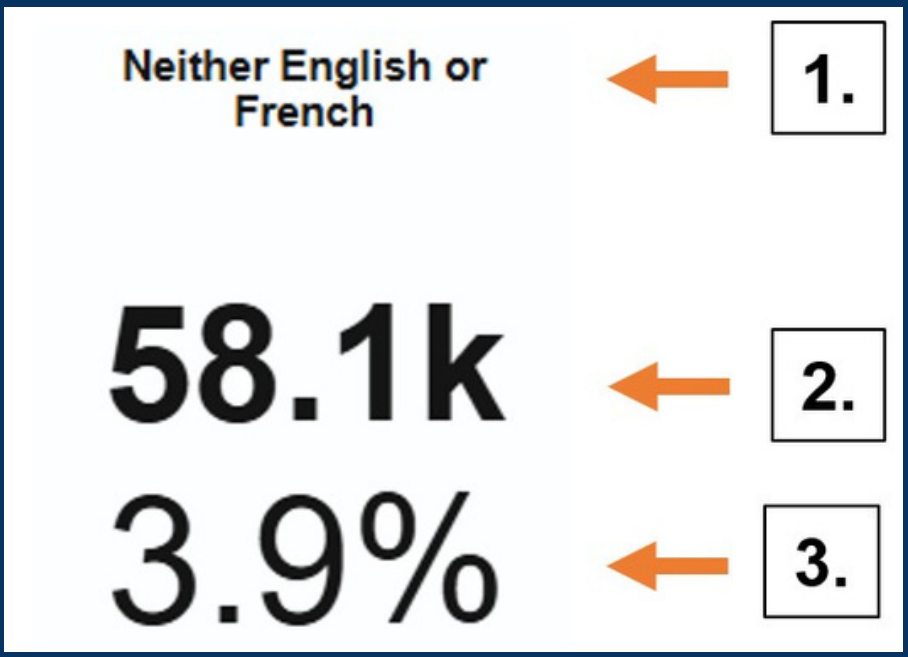
Each data dashboard contains a variety of different data visuals. Examples of the different data visuals and their key features are pictured below.

If you have any questions interpreting any of the data in the tool, please reach out to DataSupport@moht.ca and we would be happy to assist.

TEXT INDICATORS

These data visuals are simple text cards with three components:
1. the title
2. the total count of individuals that fit the description
3. the percentage of the population

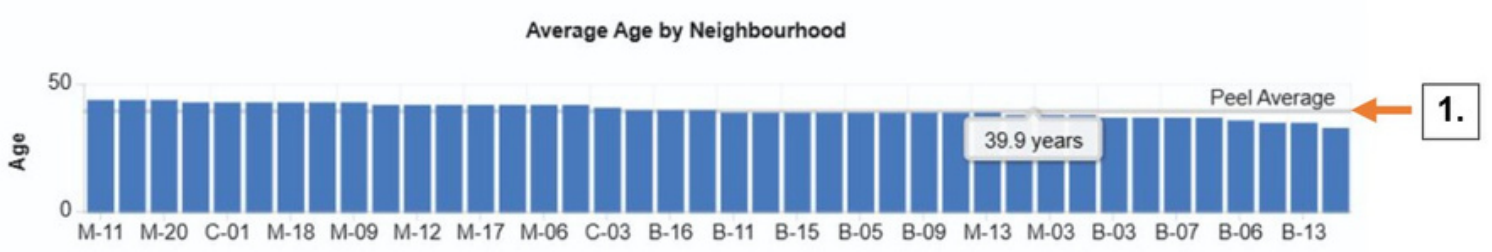
These visuals are useful in quickly capturing the overall average for the selected region or comparing the average for the region against a specific municipality or PHDZ.



BAR GRAPHS

These charts capture the counts or rates of a specific characteristic. In the image below, we can see the average age of each data zone from highest to lowest. Each graph also has a line indicating the average for the region (1.), the value of which can be shown by hovering over the line.

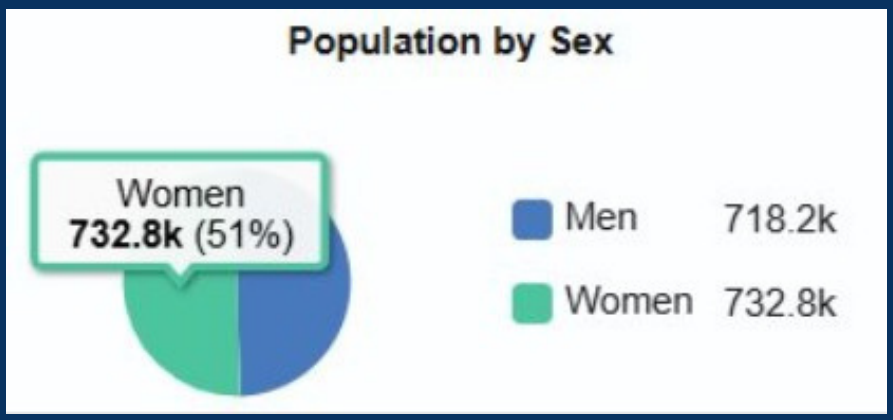
These graphs are great for comparison between PHDZ and seeing which PHDZ fall above or below the population average.



PIE CHARTS

These visuals are used to illustrate the proportions of different characteristics in the population (e.g., age, sex, patient enrolment model types, etc.). The count and/or rate is provided for each chart in the legend, or the user can hover over a slice to have this information pop up.

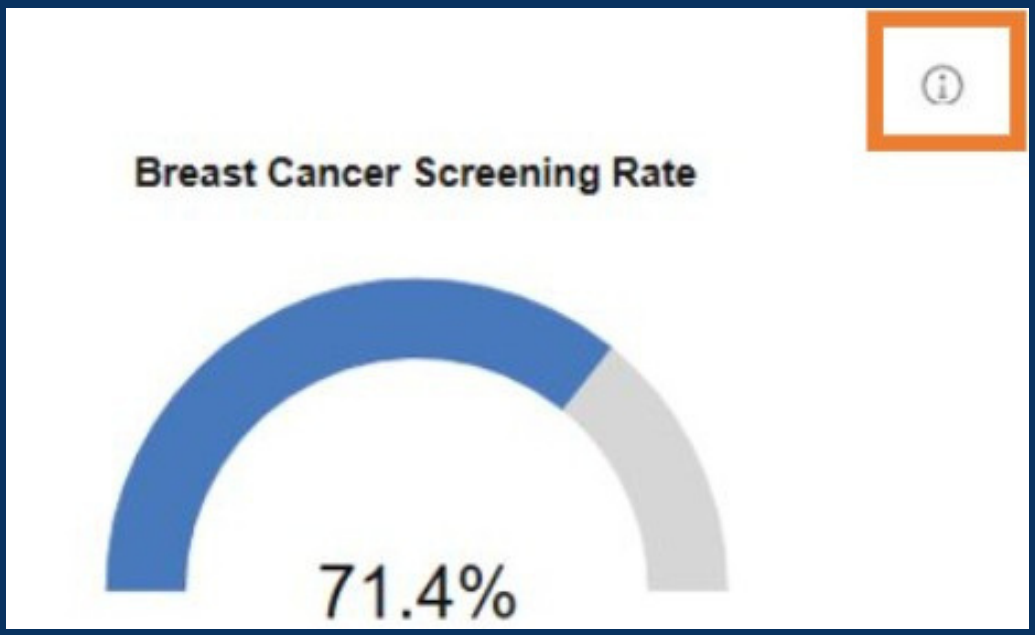
These visuals are most useful to determine the proportions of different population characteristics (ex. what proportion of men vs women in a region?)

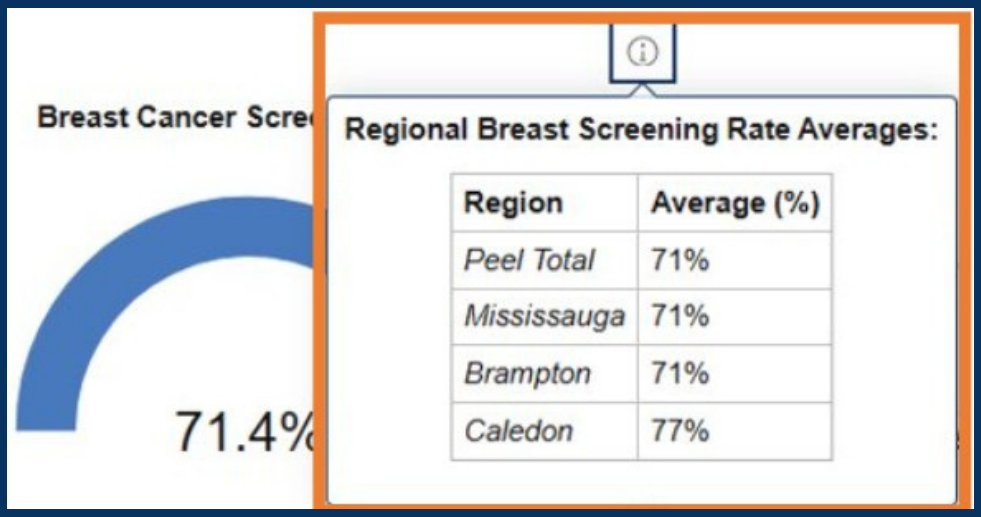


DATA GAUGES

The final data visuals are the gauges that capture the rate of a specific characteristic in the population. Each gauge is a range of 0-100%. Additional information about regional averages can be seen by clicking the “i” button on the top right-hand corner of the visual. This will expand a chart with the average rates for Peel and its municipalities for quick comparison.

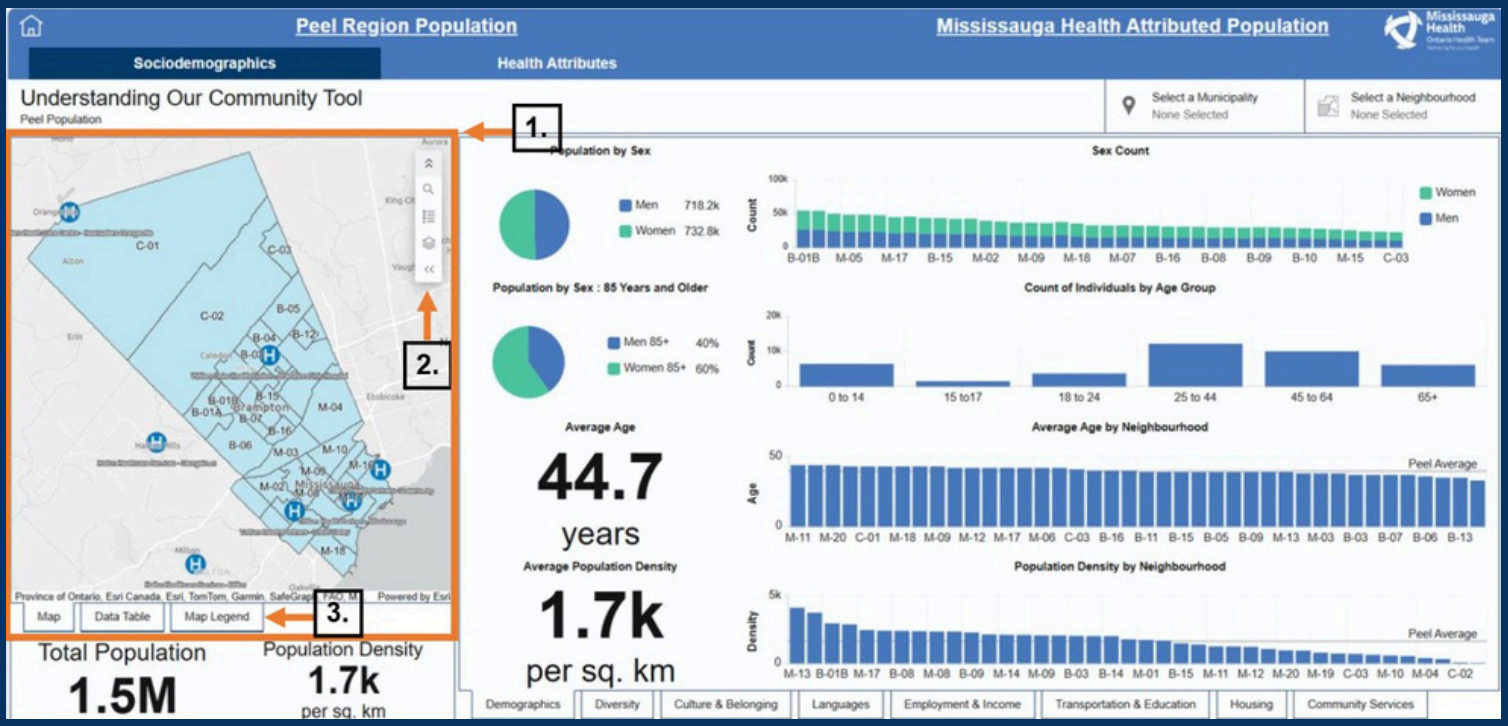
These visuals are useful in getting a quick summary of the overall rate of a characteristic in the community and making comparisons among the selected region to the averages for Peel and/or its municipalities.





MAPS & MAP LAYERS

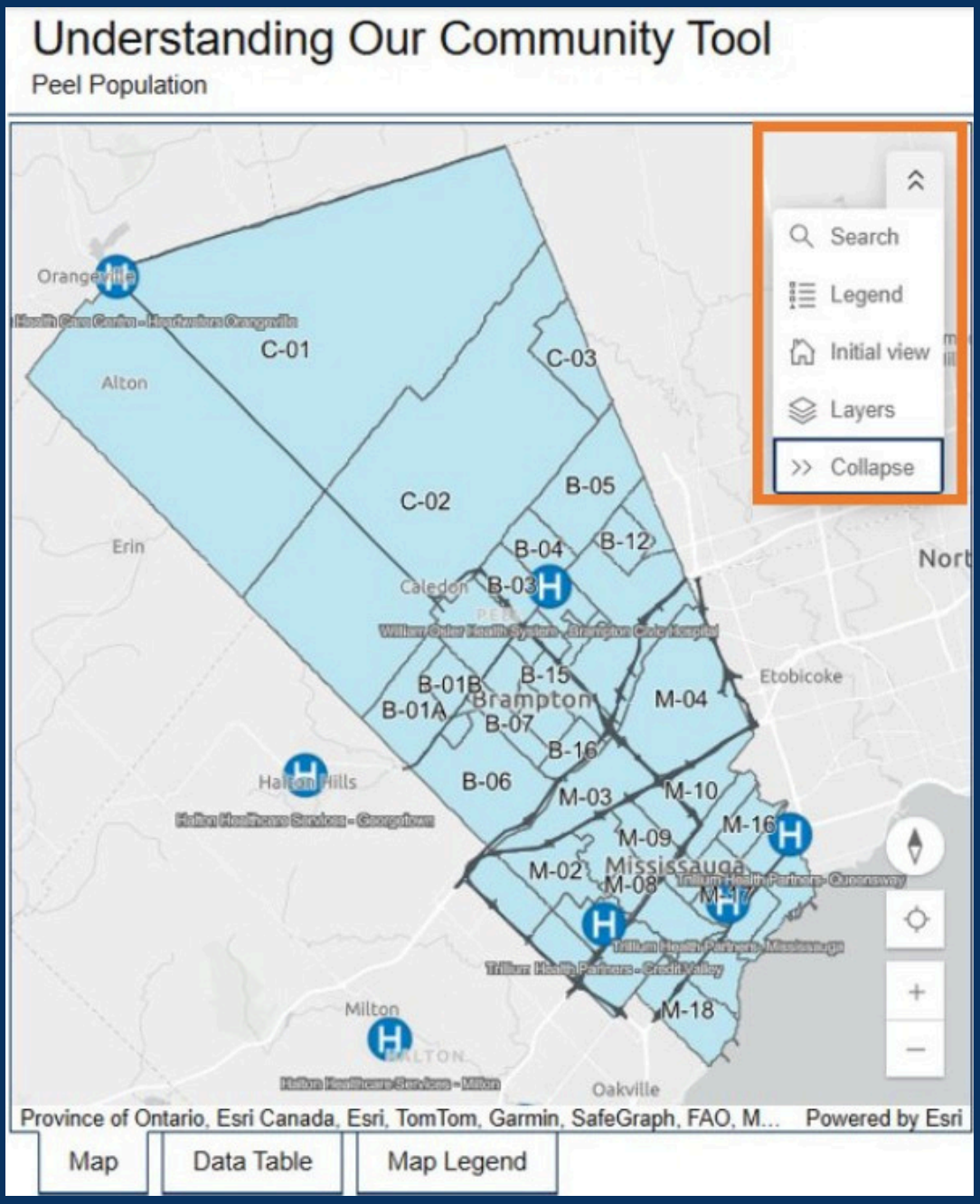
The other major component of the tools are the maps, each containing three key features:



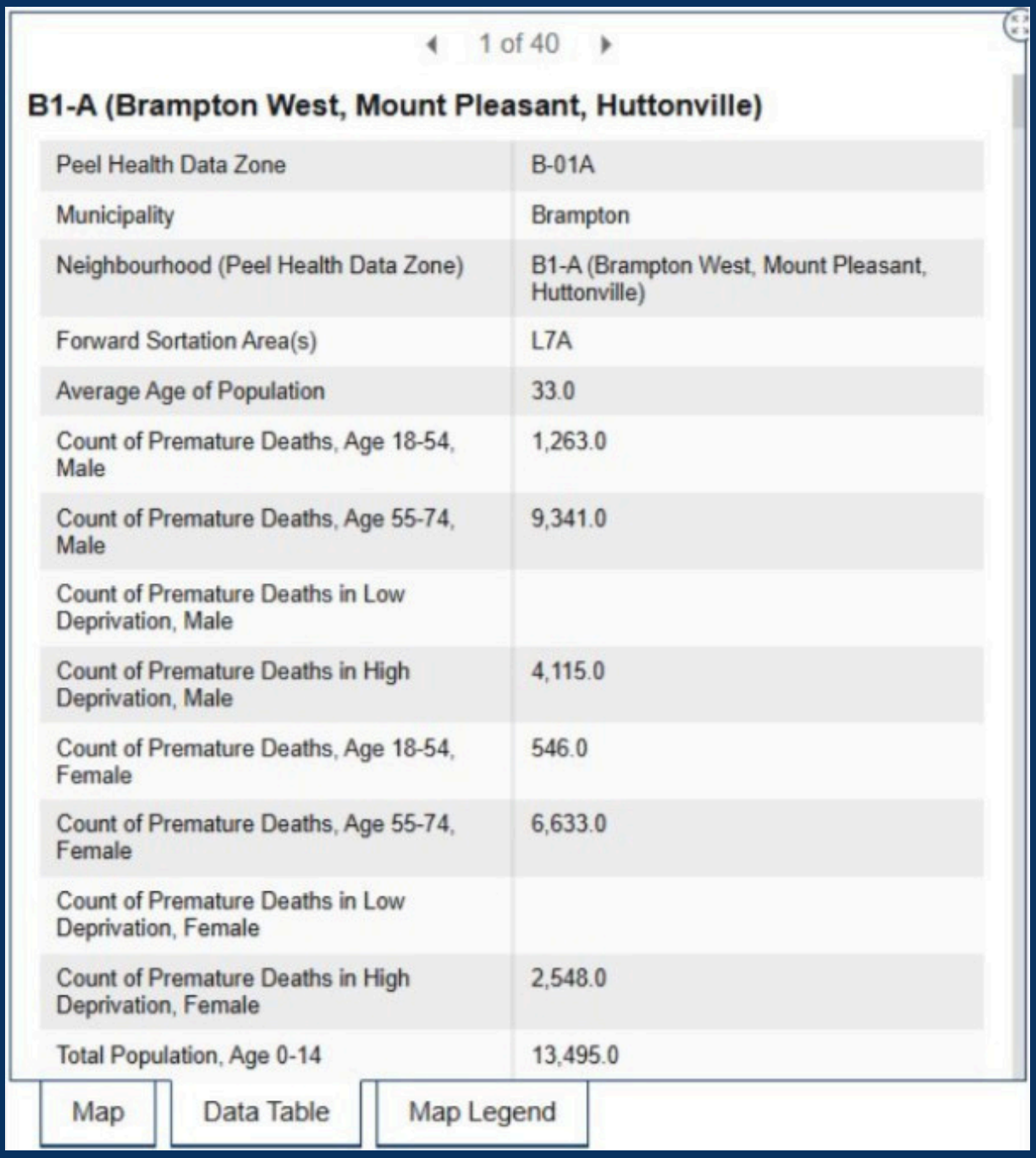
1. The map itself, located on the left-hand side of the page, visualizes Peel Region, its 40 PHDZ, and significant landmarks such as nearby hospitals and major highways

2. A menu that contains a search function, legend, and map layers options

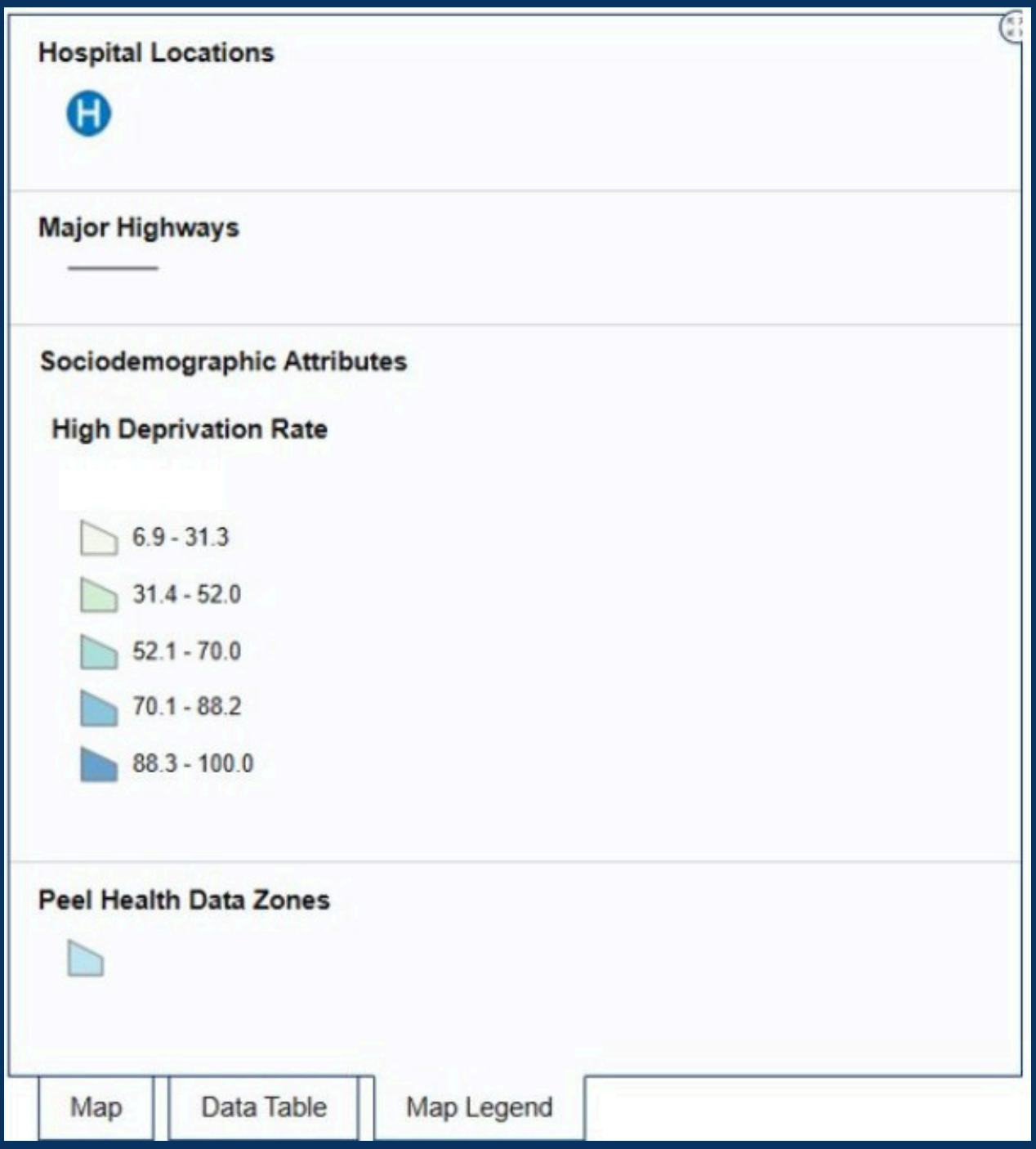
3. Tabs that allow you to change your data view



The menu can be expanded using the bottom button to show the different options



Alternative data view that can be accessed through the “Data Table” tab under the map



The legend for any active layers can be accessed using the “Map Legend” button under the map

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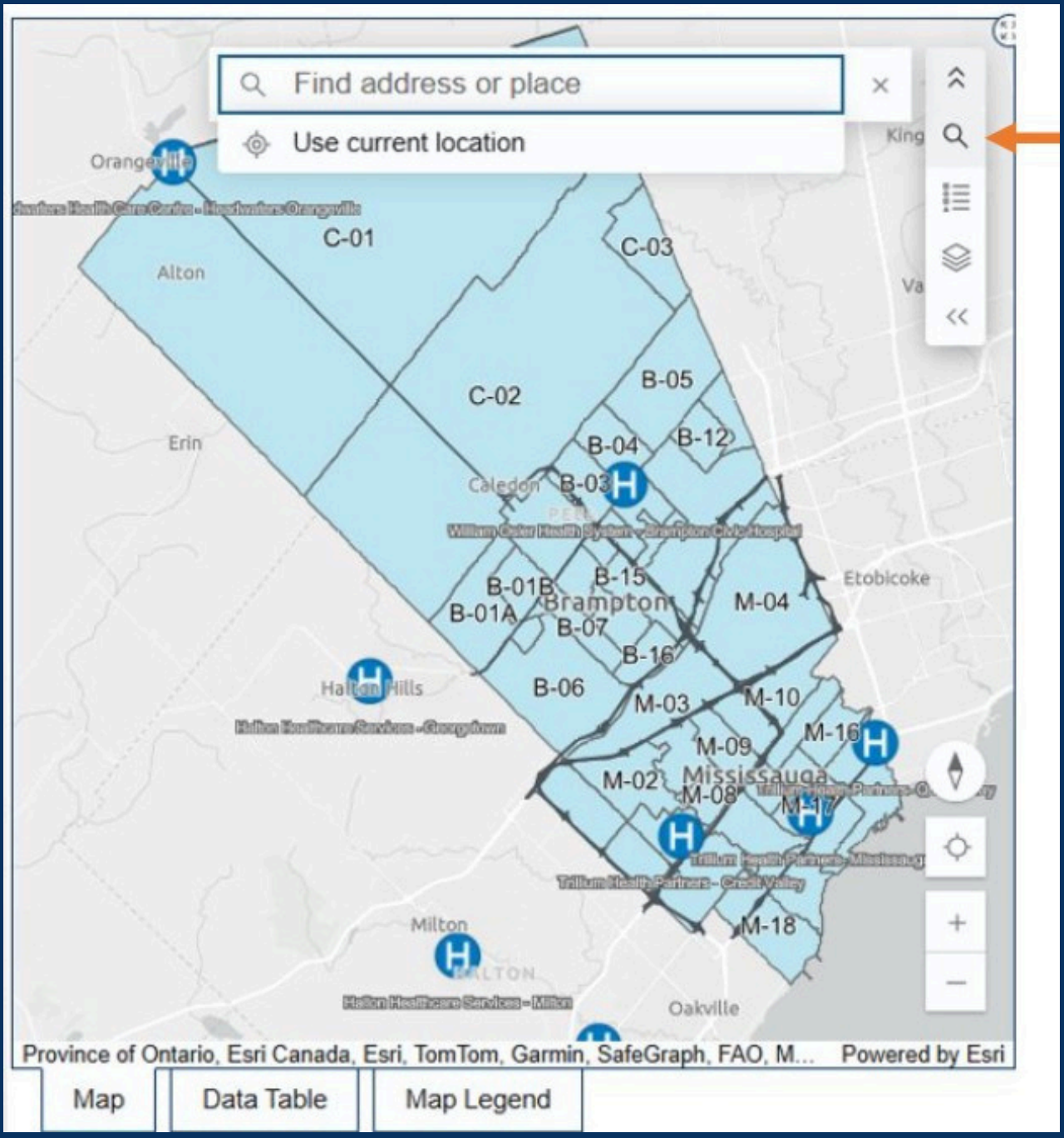
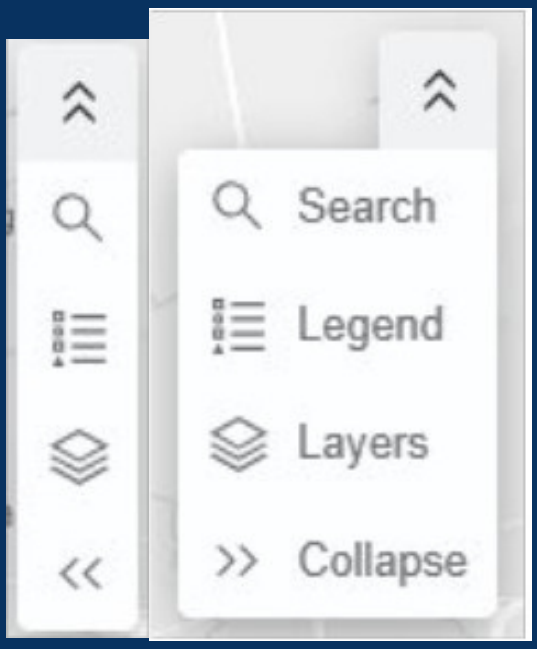
SEARCH FUNCTION

Users can use the magnifying glass (highlighted below) to enter an address to see where the location falls on the map:



LAYERS

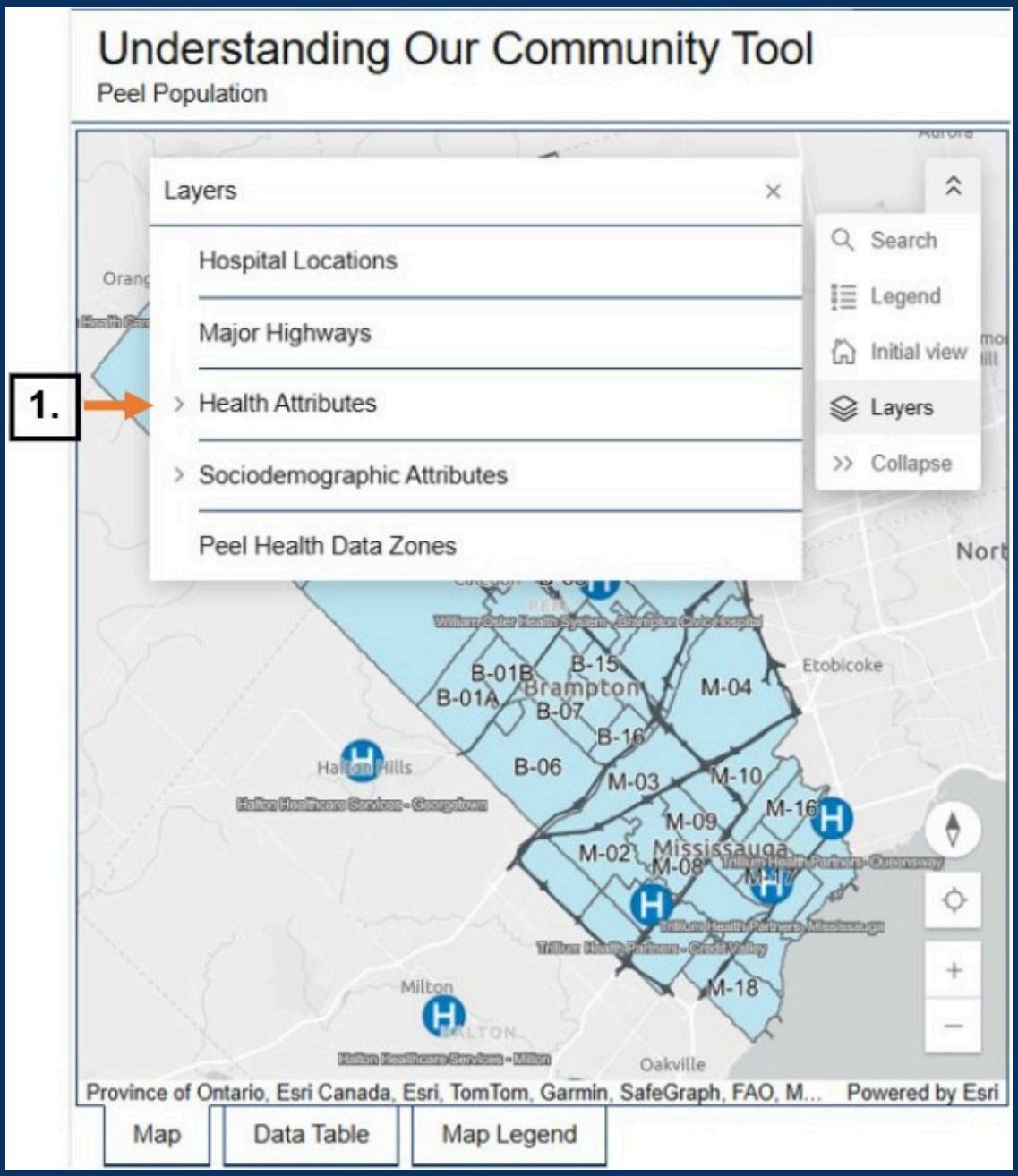
Each tool contains multiple map layers for selected data features as an additional way to visualize trends in the region. Layers can be selected using the “Layers” button in the navigation menu on the map:



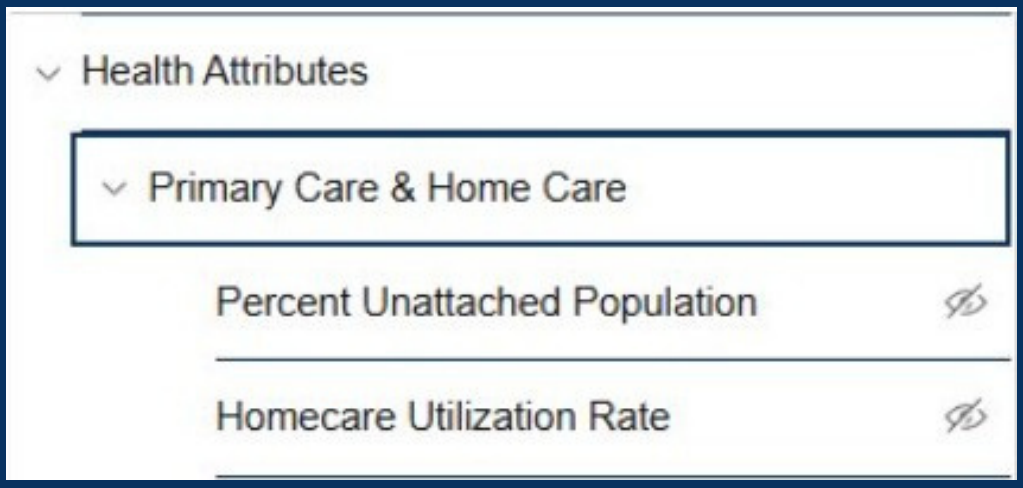
Examples of the navigation menu on the maps

When you select the “Layers” button, an additional menu with layer options will pop out. Some layers are organized into descriptive groups (e.g., sociodemographics, health attributes, etc.) to easily find the type of layer you are interested in visualizing.

It is not recommended to have multiple map layers visible at one time. This method does not provide accurate information about data interactions. If you or your team are interested in answering a specific data question that is not covered in the tool, please contact DataSupport@moht.ca and we would be happy to work with you to answer your question(s).

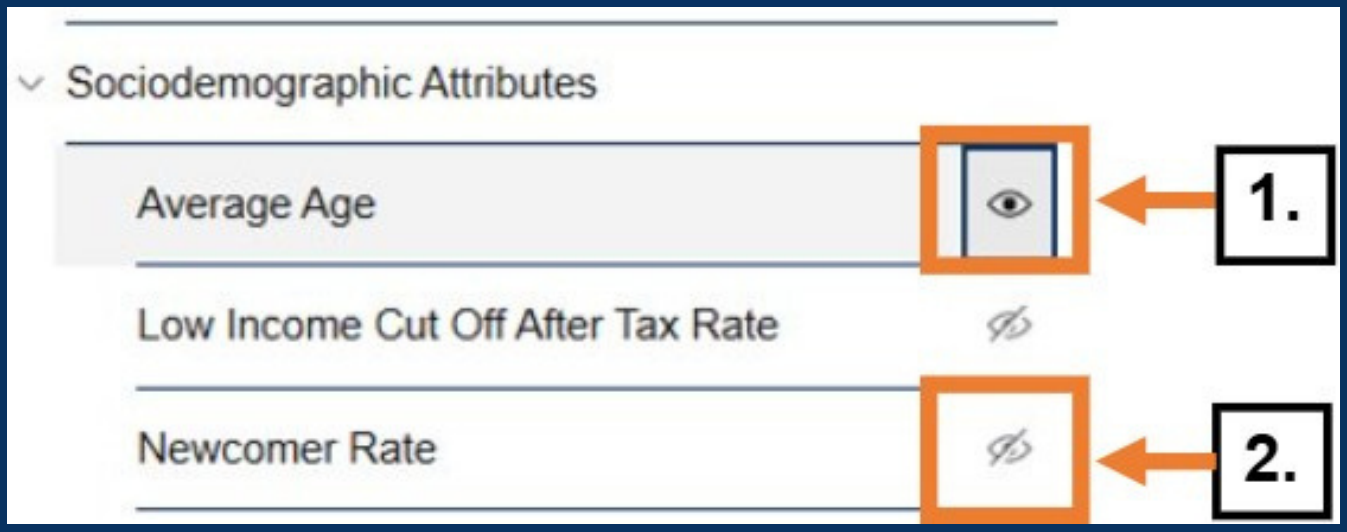


Example of the initial layer options on the pop-out



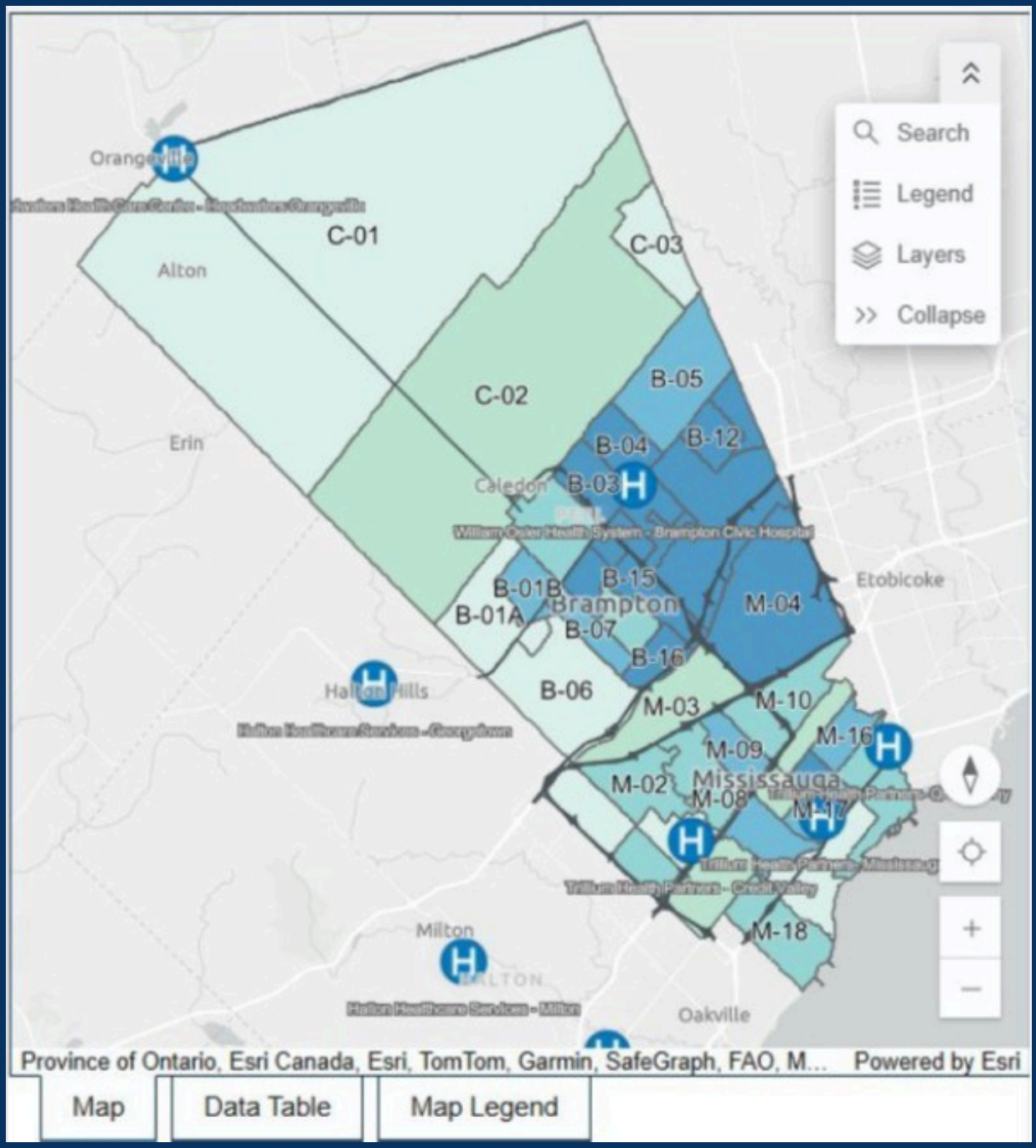
Example of further descriptive groupings; for instance, under the “Primary & Home Care” tab layers for patient attachment and homecare utilization rates can be found.

To toggle a map layer on or off, click the icon.



1. An example where the map layer is visible, since the icon is toggled on, the "Average Age" layer is visible

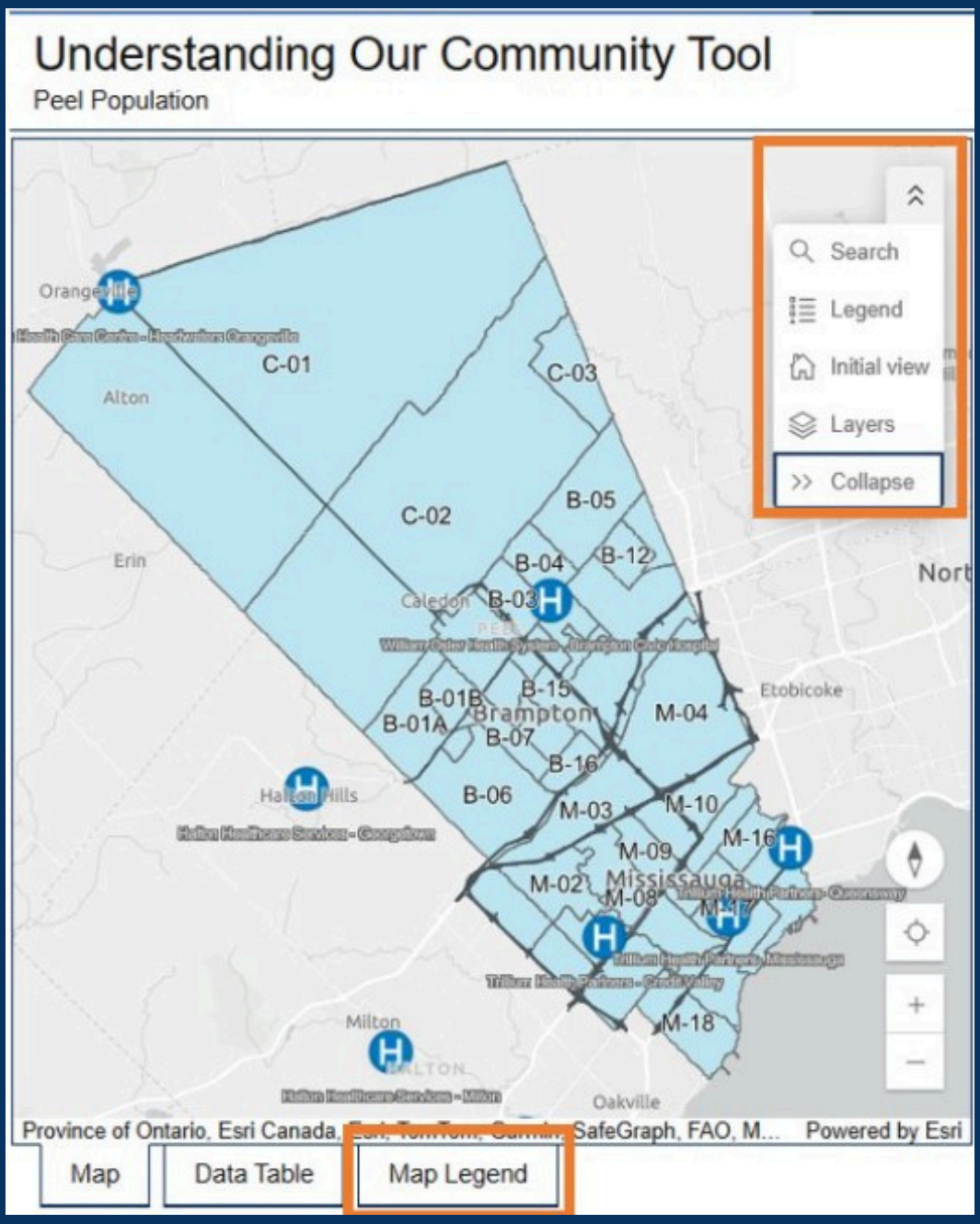
2. An example where the map layer is not visible, since the icon is toggled off, the "Newcomer Rate" layer is not visible



There are two main types of map layers available in the tools, heatmaps and bivariate maps, which are discussed in more detail in the Legends section of the manual.

LEGENDS

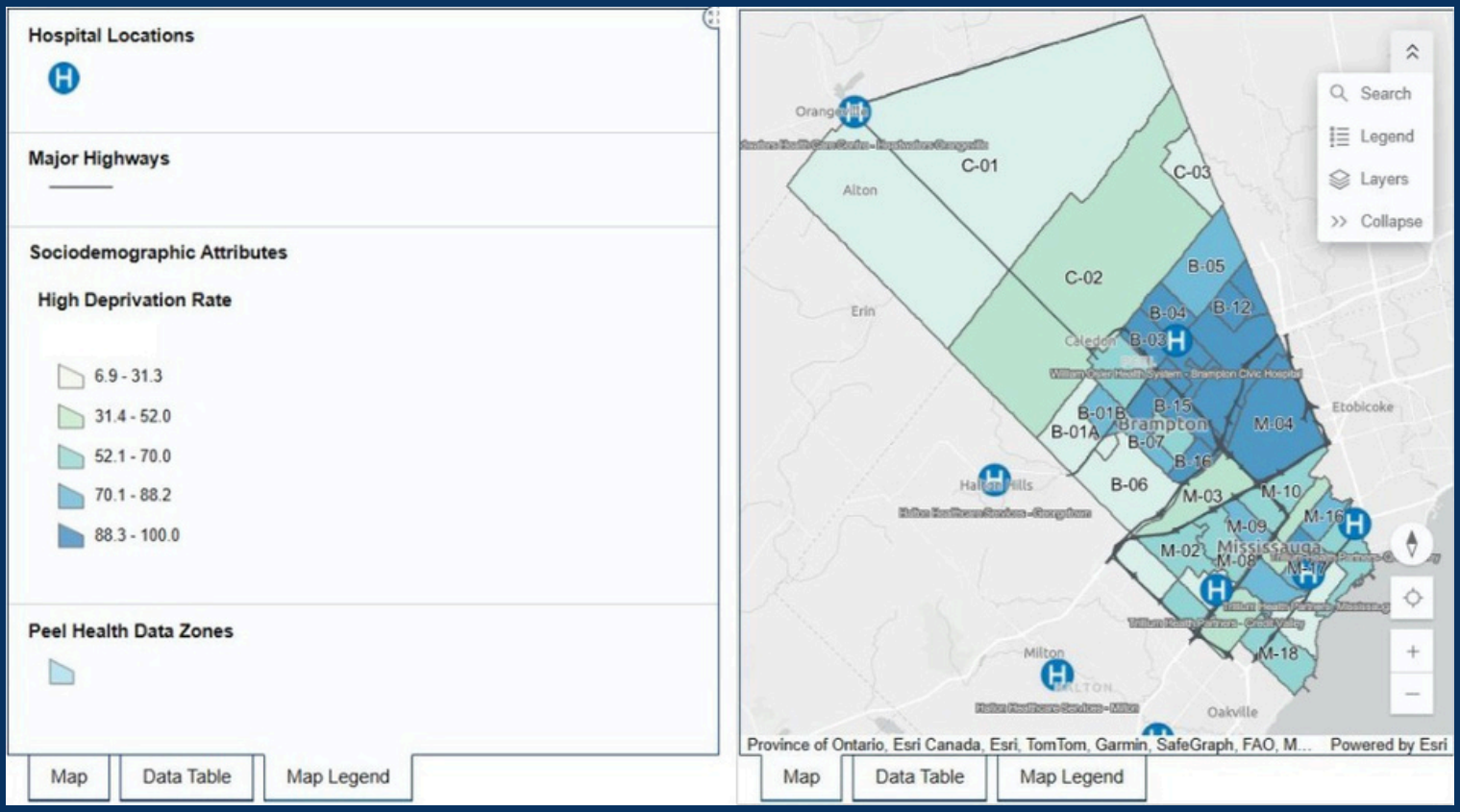
Each map layer has a legend associated with it, illustrating the specific data intervals each colour in the map represents. Map legends can be accessed using the navigation menu in the map or the Map Legend tab beneath the map.



There are two major types of maps and legends in the tool:

HEATMAPS

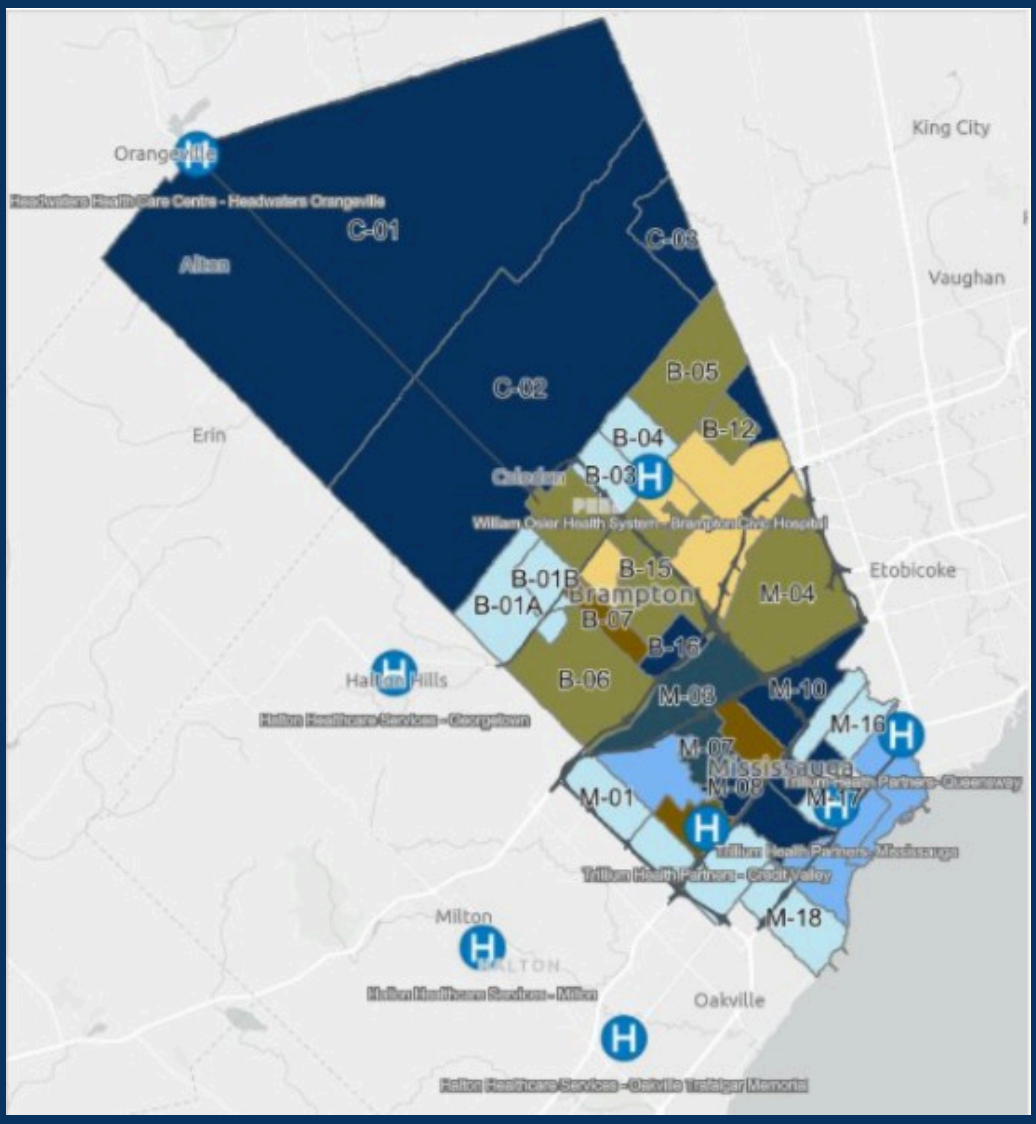
Most maps in the tool are standard heat maps, which use darker colours to represent a higher count/rate of that particular characteristic in the region. An example of this can be seen below, where the darker colours represent a higher average age for the PHDZ:



Here, we can see that the darker colours represent a higher rate of material resource deprivation, with the lightest colour representing rates of 6.9 - 31.3% and the darkest colour representing rates of 88.3 - 100%

BIVARIATE MAPS

This map type is only used for the Premature Mortality layers in the Community Tool for the Peel population. This layer type is used to enable the visualization of the premature mortality rates for males and females at the same time.



An example of a bivariate map, showing the premature mortality rates for males and females ages 18 – 54 years old in Peel region.

Bivariate map legend example

Using the legend above, we can see that different colours represent different rates for males and females aged 18-54 in Peel.

At the **bottom** of the diamond, the light blue colour tells us that the rate of premature mortality rate for both males and females is **low**.

The direction of the arrow tells us whether when the male and/or female premature mortality rates are increasing. Here, ↗ Females tells us that as we move along the **right side** of the diamond (towards the darker blue, low-high section) that the rates of premature mortality for **females increases** while rates for **males are still low**.

Conversely, ↖ Males tells us that as we move along the **left side** of the diamond (towards the orange, high-low section) that the rates of premature mortality for **males increases** while rates for **females are still low.**

Finally, as we move towards the **top** of the diamond, the darkest blue colour, it indicates that rates for **both** males and females are **increasing.**

I***f you have any questions on interpreting maps and their legends, please reach out to DataSupport@moht.ca and we would be happy to assist.***

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EXAMPLE: EXPLORING THE COMMUNITY TOOL

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Your organization is looking to set up a new initiative, which requires translating intake forms into various languages. To best understand the community needs, the Community Profile Tool is used to identify the top three languages spoken in each data zone. This enables you to prioritize translation efforts for intake forms, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for all community members.

Navigate to the tool landing page using this link **here**.

1. Select your population of interest. In this example, we are interested in capturing the languages spoken in the **general Peel population**
2. Select your tool of interest
   - Since we are looking at sociodemographic data in the community, we want to select in the ***Community Tool***
3. Ensure you are in the Sociodemographics group
4. Navigate to the ***languages*** tab in the dashboard
5. The display will update based on your selection, providing visual insights into the distribution of the subcategory selection. In this case, the chart at the bottom of the tool and the pie chart on the right-hand side will populate with information about the non-national languages most often spoken at home in the region.

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Select your Population of Interest Below

1. → Peel Region Population

Mississauga Health Attributed Population

About this Tool

This tool is designed to serve as a single, reliable source of data and insights for the OHT, its member organizations, and the broader public. It aims to support informed decision-making and planning within the health system, ultimately enhancing health outcomes for both our region and its attributed populations. The data and outputs provided have been meticulously curated through collaborative co-design sessions and ongoing engagement with Mississauga Health planning tables. By offering a comprehensive view of our community and highlighting key sociodemographic factors, the tool helps users better understand the diverse elements that impact health outcomes.

The '*Understanding our Community*' tool and its companion '*Persons Who Visited a Trillium Health Partners Emergency Department*' tools provide Member organizations of Mississauga Health, Mississauga's Ontario Health Team, as well as care providers in Mississauga access to a centralized resource with data and insights on Mississauga's demographics and populations by neighbourhood.

Sociodemographic and health attributes linked to data zones were collected in response to member feedback. The "*Understanding our Community*" tool reflects 2021 census data, and the linked health attributes derive from the 2019 disease registries from the Institute of Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) for both the general Peel region and Mississauga Health attributed populations, where applicable.

Data for this tool was provided by the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, Mississauga Health, and Peel Public Health.

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Peel Region Population

2. ↓

Select Your Tool:

Community Tool | Mental Health & Addictions Tool | Older Adults Tool

Community Tool

The '*Understanding our Community*' tool was created to provide users insight into neighbourhood-level specific data for both the Peel region and Mississauga Health attributed populations.

This tool contains information relating to all sociodemographic and health–attribute related data for individuals who reside within Peel region or belong to the Mississauga Health attributed population, to gain a better understanding of the people we serve.

Mental Health & Addictions Tool

The Mental Health & Addictions (MHA) patient population has been identified as a priority population for Mississauga Health. The '*Persons with a Mental Health and Addictions visit to the Trillium Health Partners Emergency Department*' tool was created to provide our partners with access to a centralized resource containing neighbourhood-level data for the MHA population to better support the specific needs of this population.

This tool contains information relating to all MHA-related emergency department visits to Trillium Heath Partners (THP) from 2019 onwards for both the Peel region and Mississauga Health attributed population.

Older Adults Tool

The Frail Older Adults patient population has been identified as a priority population for Mississauga Health. The '*Older Adults with a visit to the Trillium Health Partners Emergency Department*' tool was created to provide our partners with access to a centralized resource containing neighbourhood-level data pertaining to sociodemographic and health attributes for the Frail Older Adults population to provide insight into the specific needs of this population.

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NOTES ABOUT THE DATA

DISCLAIMER

While we strive to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the data, we cannot guarantee its completeness or suitability for specific purposes. Users are advised to exercise their judgment when interpreting the data, and we disclaim any liability for errors, omissions, or damages resulting from its use. The data products are provided "as is" with no express or implied warranty, including but not limited to warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. Third-party data providers, Mississauga Health leads, and local members are not liable for any direct, special, indirect, consequential, or other damages arising from the use of the data.

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SEX-DATA DISCLAIMER

Mississauga Health recognizes that using terms like Women and Male may not encompass individuals who identify differently. While our data collection methods have limitations, we are sensitive to the apprehensions of those who may raise questions regarding this language usage. We are committed to continuously refining terminology and language to ensure inclusivity, and ongoing updates will be made accordingly.

GENERAL DISCLAIMER

The dashboard will continue to be refined based on feedback received, and additional indicators will be added.

Please direct any questions, data requests, or feedback to DataSupport@MOHT.ca.

Mississauga Health
Ontario Health Team
Partnering for your health

THANK YOU