

Asthma Indicators for All of Ontario

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Indicator	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022*	2023*
1. PFT used for diagnosis (% of incident asthma)†	46.84	47.86	45.84	45.14	44.91	44.87	44.97	43.37	44.03	45.54	46.89	48.81	50.04	50.29	51.62	50.88	50.87	51.60	52.87	54.82	55.84	55.81	56.85	54.26	50.99	55.17	56.62	59.66
2. PFT used for monitoring (% of prevalent asthma)†	14.30	12.88	12.44	11.29	10.30	9.76	8.95	8.26	7.70	7.56	7.51	7.44	7.15	7.22	7.26	7.07	6.83	6.40	6.32	6.48	6.61	6.68	6.73	6.74	6.09	3.51	4.53	5.62
3. ≥1 ICS prescription (% of prevalent asthma)‡	54.51	52.30	51.64	50.71	50.88	49.19	48.65	46.30	45.41	45.30	45.43	45.13	45.39	45.59	46.30	47.47	47.78	48.38	47.60	47.61	47.31	44.29	41.77	41.31	42.24	35.88	35.98	39.56
4. ≥1 β2-agonist prescription (% of prevalent asthma)‡	60.60	58.46	56.70	55.29	54.27	52.09	49.40	46.62	45.21	43.99	42.07	41.33	39.17	38.06	37.90	38.17	37.53	38.41	38.07	38.98	38.35	38.63	39.07	38.22	37.88	31.97	32.23	35.19
5. ≥1 asthma ED visit (% of prevalent asthma)	5.12	4.36	3.80	3.51	3.40	2.98	2.83	2.34	2.23	2.14	2.07	1.89	1.65	1.54	1.43	1.30	1.19	1.18	1.04	1.11	1.00	0.95	0.97	0.89	0.85	0.37	0.54	0.81
6. ≥1 asthma physician office visit (% of prevalent asthma)	37.28	33.61	30.78	29.22	26.99	25.94	23.29	21.57	20.73	19.97	19.25	18.49	17.05	16.15	16.05	14.89	14.00	13.51	12.99	13.01	12.54	12.24	12.32	11.56	11.90	9.91	10.40	11.61
7. β2-agonist use (% of prevalent asthma)‡																												
0 canisters per year	39.40	41.54	43.30	44.71	45.73	47.91	50.60	53.38	54.79	56.01	57.93	58.67	60.83	61.94	62.10	61.83	62.47	61.59	61.93	61.02	61.65	61.37	60.93	61.78	62.12	68.03	67.77	64.81
1-2 canisters per year	18.43	19.02	18.75	18.90	19.12	18.95	18.29	17.60	17.78	18.39	17.74	17.92	17.77	17.56	17.61	17.89	17.67	18.45	18.31	19.04	18.77	19.29	19.76	19.37	18.86	15.15	15.97	18.64
≥3 canisters per year	42.17	39.44	37.95	36.39	35.15	33.15	31.11	29.02	27.42	25.60	24.33	23.40	21.39	20.50	20.28	20.28	19.87	19.95	19.76	19.94	19.58	19.34	19.31	18.85	19.03	16.82	16.26	16.55

^a Reporting period is from April 1996 to March 2024. Data for 2022 and 2023 may be incomplete due to the 2-year algorithm to identify asthma, and numbers are subject to change.

PFT = pulmonary function test; ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; ED = emergency department; ODB = Ontario Drug Benefit; OHIP = Ontario Health Insurance Plan; LHIN = Local Health Integration Network; HSU = health services use

†PFT data refers to individuals aged 7-99 years in the asthma prevalent population. OHIP billings for PFT may have undercounted its utilization as it can be part of “bundled care” performed by the provider and therefore not billed to OHIP separately.

‡Drug use data refers to individuals aged 66-99 years with complete year ODB coverage in the asthma prevalent population.

Technical notes:

^aOHIP data was up to February 2025 when the tables were created.

^bFor asthma incidence from September 2022 to March 2024, PFT data for 2.5-year post asthma incidence are not complete as latest data were available up to February 2025 at the time when the tables were created.

^cIndividuals with missing LHIN, rurality, or without OHIP coverage were excluded.

^dAsthma incidence of the year were excluded from this table, except for indicator 1.

^eIndex date is defined as the first service date of asthma HSU, or any HSU if there was no asthma HSU, or April 1 if there was no HSU during the year.

Asthma indicators - detailed description:

- 1. Percent of asthma incidence aged 7 years and above with a PFT in one year prior to or 2.5 years after incidence date^{a-c}
- 2. Percent of asthma prevalence aged 7 years and above with a PFT in one year prior to the index date^{a,c,e}
- 3. Percent of asthma prevalence 66 years and above with at least one prescription of ICS in one year prior to the index date^{c,e}
- 4. Percent of asthma prevalence aged 66 years and above with at least one prescription of β2-agonist in one year prior to the index date^{c,e}
- 5. Percent of asthma prevalence with at least one ED visit in one year prior to the index date^{c,e}
- 6. Percent of asthma prevalence with at least one physician office visit (in-person and virtual) in one year prior to the index date^{c,e}
- 7. Distribution of the three categories of β2-agonist use for asthma prevalence aged 66 years and above in one year prior to the index date^{c,d}

Source: This table uses statistics reported by the Ontario Asthma Surveillance Information System (OASIS) and data provided by ICES, Ontario.