

POVERTY INDICATORS

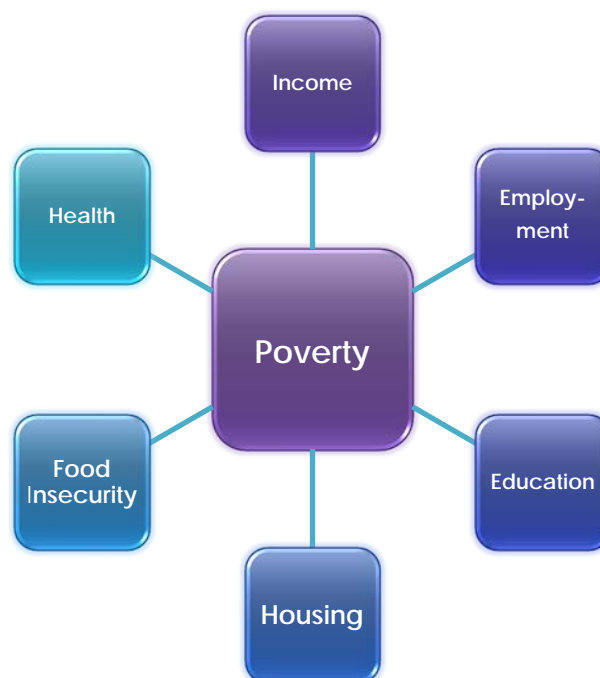
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

INTRODUCTION

While there is no single definition of poverty, there are indicators that can help capture the challenges of obtaining necessities of life. This report provides some of the indicators that may be used to examine dimensions of poverty within the Northwest Territories (NWT).

INCOME

- ❖ In 2018, the NWT had the highest median family income (\$121,920) in Canada.
- ❖ Despite the high median income, 1,440 (12.5% 2018) NWT families earned less than \$30,000.
- ❖ Median household income in at least 15 NWT communities was below the Canadian median of \$87,930.
- ❖ Among lone-parent families, 35.1% or 990 families earned less than \$30,000.
- ❖ A family of four requires \$59,853 to maintain a basic standard of living in Yellowknife.



2018 Family Income by Family Type, Northwest Territories

	All Families		Couples		Lone Parents	
	(no.)	(%)	(no.)	(%)	(no.)	(%)
Total Families	11,470	100.0	8,650	100.0	2,820	100.0
Less than \$30,000	1,440	12.5	450	5.2	990	35.1
\$100,000 or more	6,690	58.3	6,090	70.4	600	21.2
Median Income (\$)	121,920	n.a.	150,480	n.a.	46,160	n.a.

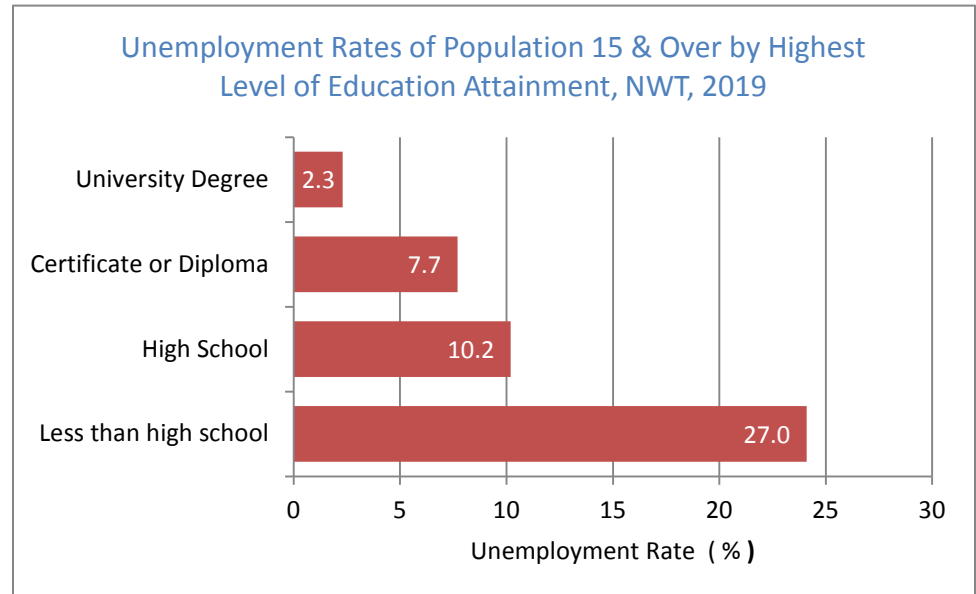
Source: Statistics Canada, T1FF



LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

UNEMPLOYMENT

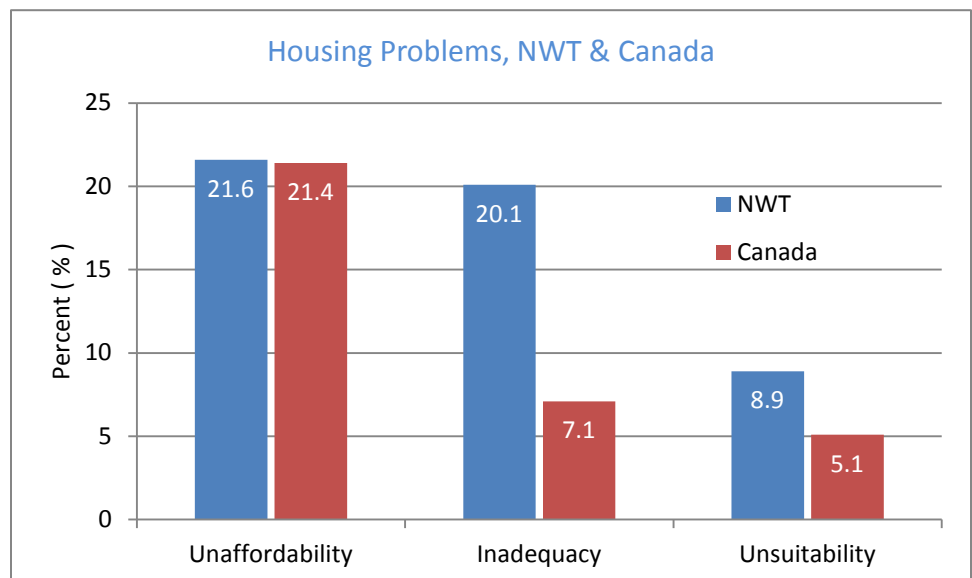
- ❖ Lower levels of formal education are strongly associated with higher unemployment rates.
- ❖ In 2019, the unemployment rate was 27% among those with less than high school education and over ten times less for those with a university degree.
- ❖ NWT had the fourth highest unemployment rate in Canada, 8.5%, compared to the lowest in Yukon, 5.2%



Source: 2019 NWT Community Survey

HOUSING

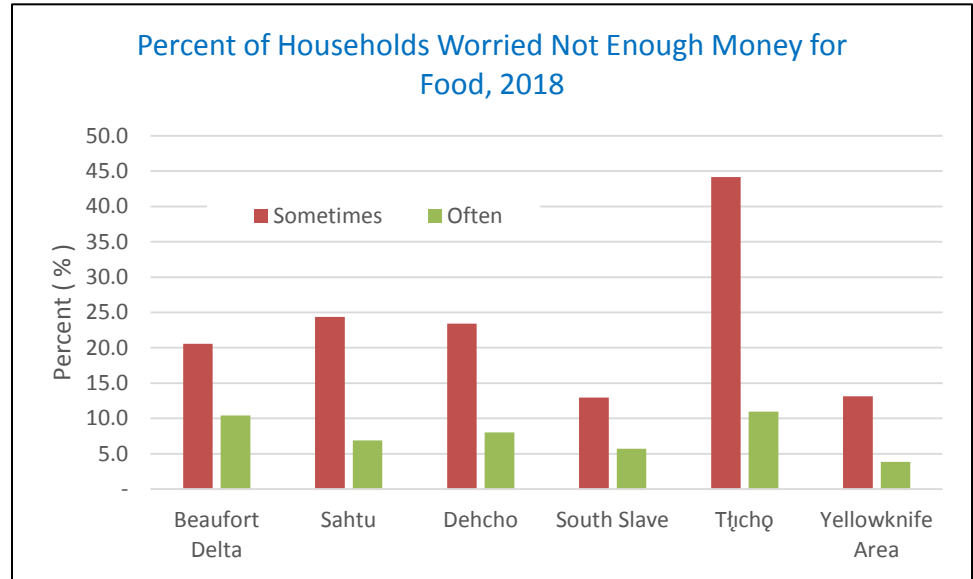
- ❖ In 2019, housing affordability was the most prevalent housing problem in the NWT.
- ❖ Overall, 20.1% of households were inadequate (requiring major repairs) compared to the Canadian rate of 7.1%.
- ❖ In the NWT, households with inadequacy problems ranged from 10.5% in Yellowknife to 83.9% in Colville Lake.
- ❖ About 9% of NWT households had unsuitability (overcrowding) issues compared to 5.1% nationally.



Source: 2019 NWT community Survey, 2019 Canada Housing Survey

FOOD INSECURITY

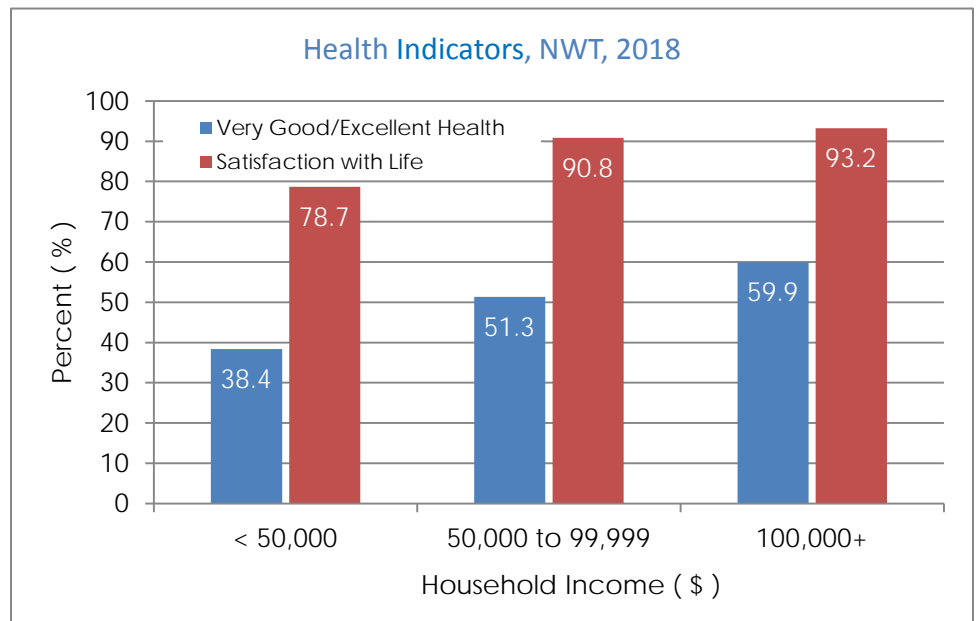
- ❖ In 2018, about 23% of NWT households indicated that they often or sometimes worried that food would run out before they had money to buy more.
- ❖ This rate was highest in the Tłı̄chǫ.
- ❖ Food insecurity was highest in Nunavut, 49.4%, and lowest in Quebec, 7.4%.



Source: NWT 2019 Community Survey

HEALTH INDICATORS

- ❖ In 2018, 53.5% of the NWT population 15 years and older, perceived their health to be very good or excellent.
- ❖ Among persons whose household income was less than \$50,000, only 38.4% perceived themselves to be in very good or excellent health.
- ❖ The proportion satisfied with life was lower among household with lower income.



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS).

A full list of data tables on poverty indicators can be found on the NWT Bureau of Statistics website:

<http://www.statsnwt.ca/Poverty%20Indicators/index.html>

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