

Gross Domestic Product Northwest Territories, 2019 Preliminary

Statistics Canada has released initial 2019 estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by industry. Since interventions due to COVID-19 took place after 2019, these estimates won't reflect the economic impacts of the pandemic. Table 1 shows GDP at basic prices in chained (2012) dollars for Canada, the provinces and territories for 2018 and 2019. Changes in chained dollar GDP estimates only reflect the change in the quantities of goods and services produced, not their prices.

Between 2018 and 2019, GDP for the Northwest Territories fell by 8.8%. In contrast, Nunavut experienced the largest growth over the same period, expanding by 6.1%, while Yukon rose by 1.0%. The Northwest Territories was one of only three jurisdictions to experience a decline in 2019; both Alberta and Saskatchewan declined by less than 1%. Overall growth in Canada was 1.7% between 2018 and 2019.

Table 1 Gross Domestic Product at Basic Prices*, 2019 and 2018
Canada, Provinces and Territories
Millions of chained (2012) dollars

	2019	2018	Percent Change (%)
Canada	1,972,155	1,939,593	1.7
Northwest Territories	4,302	4,716	-8.8
Nunavut	3,156	2,974	6.1
Yukon	2,618	2,593	1.0
British Columbia	253,049	246,260	2.8
Alberta	334,172	336,281	-0.6
Saskatchewan	81,541	82,166	-0.8
Manitoba	63,487	62,863	1.0
Ontario	744,440	730,276	1.9
Quebec	377,043	367,075	2.7
New Brunswick	30,745	30,447	1.0
Nova Scotia	37,441	36,663	2.1
Prince Edward Island	6,052	5,789	4.5
Newfoundland and Labrador	31,588	30,383	4.0

*Basic prices differ from market prices in their treatment of taxes and subsidies

The largest contributor to NWT GDP, the mining, oil and gas extraction industry, fell by 31.7% between 2018 and 2019. The 37.2% decline in diamond mining was largely a result of lower carat production from the Ekati diamond mine in 2019. In contrast, the oil and gas extraction industry expanded when the Norman Wells oil field resumed operations in late 2018 after a temporary shutdown to fix a portion of the pipeline. Completion of the pipeline repairs contributed to the 25.4% decrease in engineering construction, while completion of the Stanton Hospital Renewal Project contributed to the 52.6% decline in non-residential building construction. Overall, construction decreased by 21.3% between 2018 and 2019.

Table 2 Gross Domestic Product at Basic Prices by Selected Industry, 2019 and 2018
Northwest Territories
Millions of chained (2012) dollars

	2019	2018	Percent Change (%)
All industries	4,301.5	4,716.4	-8.8
Goods Producing Industries			
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	9.9	9.7	2.1
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	1,171.3	1,714.1	-31.7
Oil and gas extraction	168.5	37.2	353.0
Diamond mining	1,045.3	1,663.8	-37.2
Support activities for mining, oil & gas	67.1	114.9	-41.6
Utilities	72.0	74.3	-3.1
Construction	282.9	359.6	-21.3
Residential building construction	31.4	34.3	-8.5
Non-residential building construction	18.9	39.9	-52.6
Engineering construction	135.1	181.2	-25.4
Other activities of the construction industry	19.9	25.3	-21.3
Repair construction	80.1	81.7	-2.0
Manufacturing	13.5	15.0	-10.0
Service Producing Industries			
Wholesale trade	85.8	104.7	-18.1
Retail trade	163.5	166.2	-1.6
Transportation and warehousing	252.5	254.8	-0.9
Information and cultural industries	97.6	97.1	0.5
Finance and insurance	116.4	120.5	-3.4
Real estate and rental and leasing	402.3	399.5	0.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	84.6	83.7	1.1
Management of companies and enterprises	25.2	27.4	-8.0
Administrative and support, waste management etc.	57.4	55.2	4.0
Educational services	219.9	215.0	2.3
Health care and social assistance	318.1	308.7	3.0
Arts, entertainment and recreation	6.3	6.5	-3.1
Accommodation and food services	100.4	94.8	5.9
Other services (except public administration)	56.9	56.3	1.1
Public administration	728.2	716.4	1.6
Federal government public administration	151.6	150.4	0.8
Provincial and territorial public administration	415.3	407.1	2.0
Local, municipal and regional public administration	99.1	97.0	2.2
Aboriginal public administration	60.8	60.3	0.8

Several service producing industries such as wholesale and retail trade, and finance and insurance also declined between 2018 and 2019. Other industries such as education services, health care and social assistance and public administration increased over this period. Among service producing industries, the largest percentage increase occurred in accommodation and food services rising by 5.9% in 2019.

The next release of provincial/territorial economic accounts information is scheduled for November 2020. This release will provide final 2019 economic accounts information and revised estimates for the years 2017 and 2018. All three categories of GDP (industry, income and expenditure based) will be released in November.