

NWT Labour Force Activity

November 2015

OVERVIEW

In November 2015, Statistics Canada estimates that 21,500 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories. This represents an employment rate of 67.4% and was the third highest in Canada behind Yukon and Alberta. Nationally, Canada’s employment rate was 61.4%.

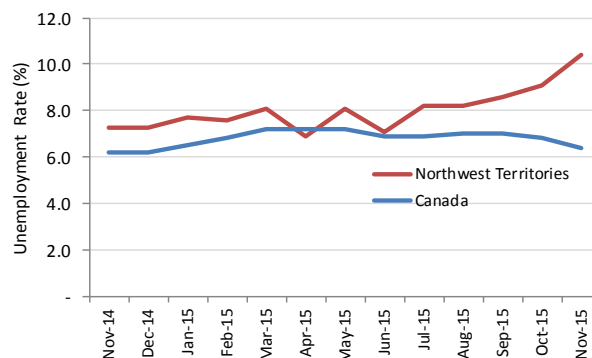
In the NWT, employment decreased for a third consecutive month, with the number of employed persons dropping by 400 between October and November. Year-over-year, employment fell by 1.4%, with 300 less people employed last month compared to November 2014.

Table 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories

	November-2015	October-2015	November-2014	Change from Nov 2014 – Nov 2015	
				Number	%
Population 15+	31,900	31,900	32,300	(400)	-1.2
Labour force	24,000	24,100	23,400	600	2.6
Employment	21,500	21,900	21,800	(300)	-1.4
Full-time	18,700	19,300	19,400	(700)	-3.6
Part-time	2,700	2,600	2,400	300	12.5
Unemployment	2,500	2,200	1,700	800	47.1
Participation rate (%)	75.2	75.5	72.4		
Unemployment rate (%)	10.4	9.1	7.3		
Employment rate (%)	67.4	68.7	67.5		

The unemployment rate increased for a third consecutive month to 10.4%. This was a 3 percentage points increase from November 2014. There were 800 more unemployed persons compared to last year. Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased from the previous month by 0.4 percentage points to 6.4% in November.

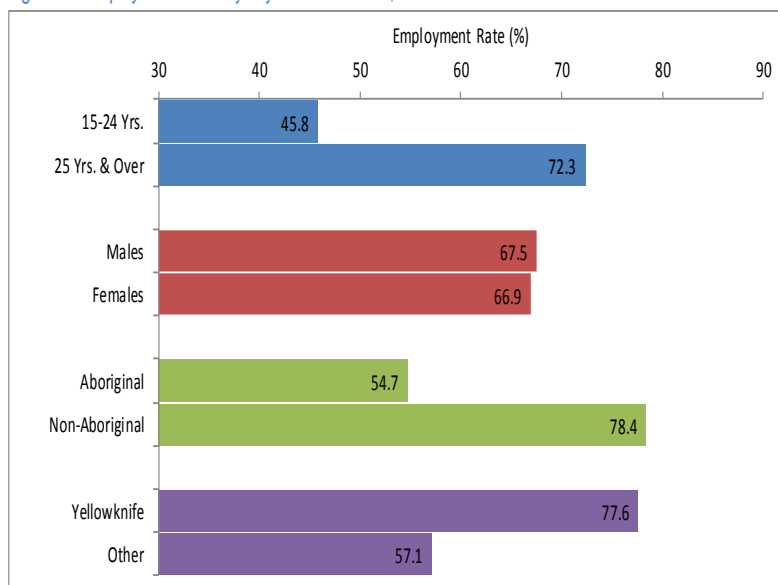
Figure 1: Unemployment rates during past 12 months, Northwest Territories & Canada



EMPLOYMENT BY KEY CHARACTERISTICS

Between October and November, overall NWT employment decreased by 400 persons and affected all the key characteristics. Employment rates among youths 15 to 24 decreased by 3.4 percentage points compared to 1.1 percentage points for persons 25 years old and above. The employment rate for males remained slightly higher than females after decreasing by 3.6 percentage points compared to 0.4 for females. In Yellowknife, the employment rate was 0.3 percentage points lower than the previous month, while it was 2.9 points lower for the rest of the territory.

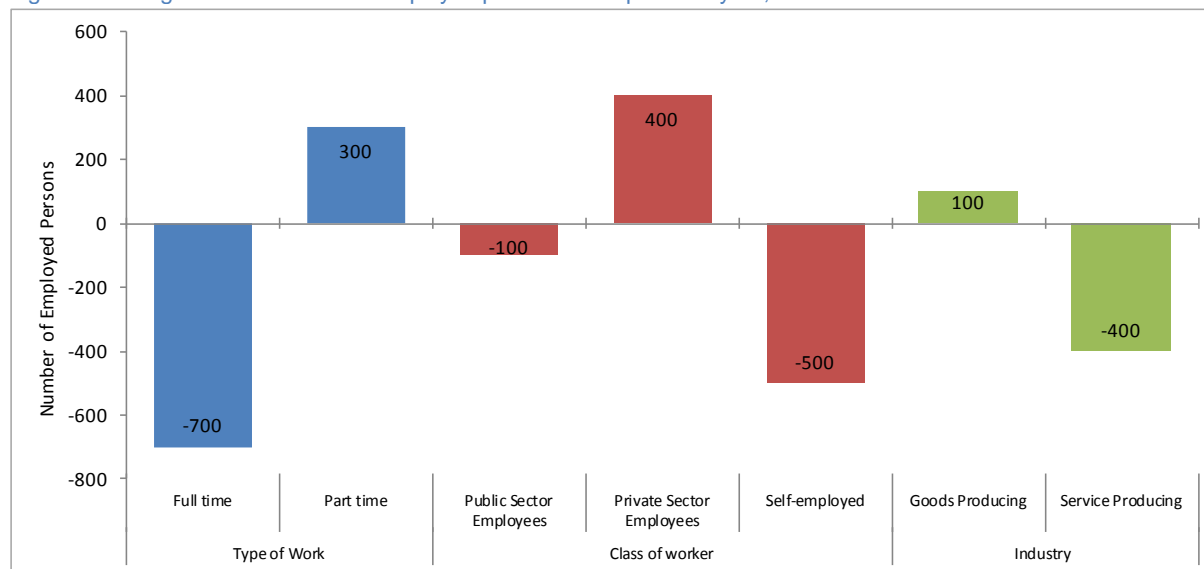
Figure 2: Employment rates by key characteristics, Nov 2015



EMPLOYMENT BY TYPE OF WORKER, CLASS OF WORKER & INDUSTRY

On a year-over-year basis, full time employment declined by 700 persons, offsetting increases in part time work. Similarly, gains in private sector employment were offset by declines in public sector employment and self-employment. In November 2014, there were 400 fewer people working in the service producing industry, while employment increased by 100 people in the goods producing industry.

Figure 3: Changes in the number of employed persons from previous year, Nov 2015



HISTORICAL LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY

Table 2: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unem- ployed	Not in the Labour Force	Partic- ipation Rate	Unemp- loyment Rate	Employ- ment Rate
Nov-15	31,900	24,000	21,500	2,500	8,000	75.2	10.4	67.4
Oct-15	31,900	24,100	21,900	2,200	7,700	75.5	9.1	68.7
Sep-15	31,800	24,300	22,200	2,100	7,500	76.4	8.6	69.8
Aug-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jul-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jun-15	31,900	23,800	22,200	1,700	8,000	74.6	7.1	69.6
May-15	32,000	23,500	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.4	8.1	67.5
Apr-15	32,100	23,200	21,600	1,600	8,800	72.3	6.9	67.3
Mar-15	32,200	23,600	21,700	1,900	8,500	73.3	8.1	67.4
Feb-15	32,200	23,600	21,800	1,800	8,600	73.3	7.6	67.7
Jan-15	32,300	23,400	21,600	1,800	8,900	72.4	7.7	66.9
Dec-14	32,300	23,300	21,600	1,700	9,000	72.1	7.3	66.9
Previous Years:								
Nov-14	32,300	23,400	21,800	1,700	8,900	72.4	7.3	67.5
Nov-13	32,600	24,900	22,800	2,100	7,600	76.4	8.4	69.9
Nov-12	32,500	25,200	23,500	1,700	7,400	77.5	6.7	72.3
Nov-11	32,300	24,600	22,900	1,700	7,700	76.2	6.9	70.9
Nov-10	32,100	23,200	22,000	1,200	8,900	72.3	5.2	68.5
Nov-09	31,700	21,800	20,300	1,500	9,900	68.8	6.9	64.0
Nov-08	31,700	24,000	22,600	1,400	7,800	75.7	5.8	71.3
Nov-07	31,700	24,400	22,900	1,500	7,200	77.0	6.1	72.2
Nov-06	31,300	24,200	22,900	1,300	7,100	77.3	5.4	73.2

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at <http://www.statsnwt.ca/> or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: January 8, 2015