

NWT Labour Force Activity

September 2016

OVERVIEW

Statistics Canada estimates that in September 2016, 22,900 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories, representing an employment rate of 70.2%. This is a decrease of 500 persons over the previous month. The decline in the number of employed persons is partly accounted for by summer students returning to school and the end of the fire season. Nationally, Canada's employment rate was 61.6%, with Yukon (73.9%) having the highest employment rate, followed by the Northwest Territories (70.2%), Alberta (66.7%), and Saskatchewan (66.0%).

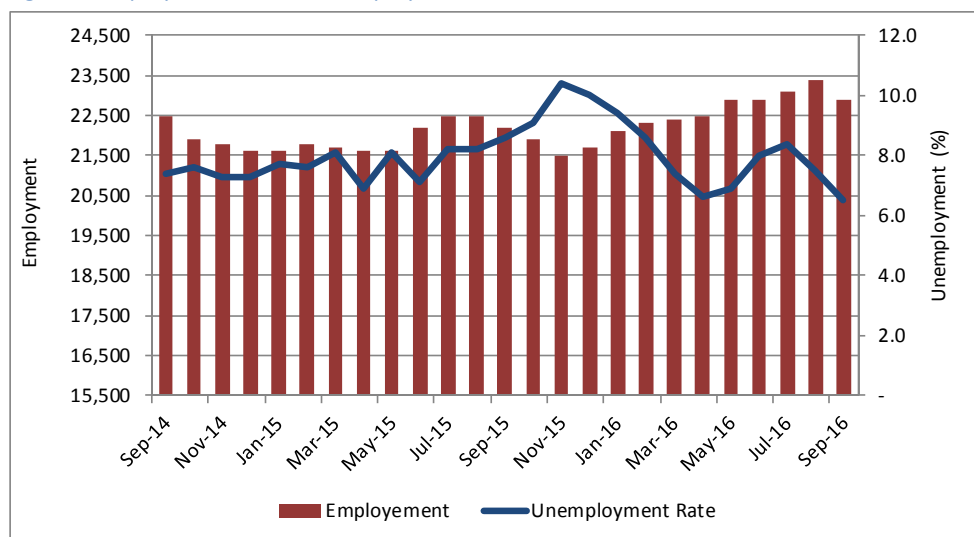
Table 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories

	September-2016	August-2016	September-2015	Change from Sept 2015 – Sept 2016	
				Number	%
Population 15+	32,600	32,700	31,800	800	2.5
Labour force	24,500	25,300	24,300	200	0.8
Employment	22,900	23,400	22,200	700	3.2
Full-time	20,600	20,800	19,400	1,200	6.2
Part-time	2,300	2,600	2,800	(500)	-17.9
Unemployment	1,600	1,900	2,100	(500)	-23.8
Participation rate (%)	75.2	77.4	76.4		
Unemployment rate (%)	6.5	7.5	8.6		
Employment rate (%)	70.2	71.6	69.8		

Year-over-year, full-time employment increased while part-time employment decreased for a total net gain of 700.

In September 2016, the unemployment rate dropped to 6.5%, making it the lowest since March 2011. Unemployment decreased by 500 persons compared to September 2015.

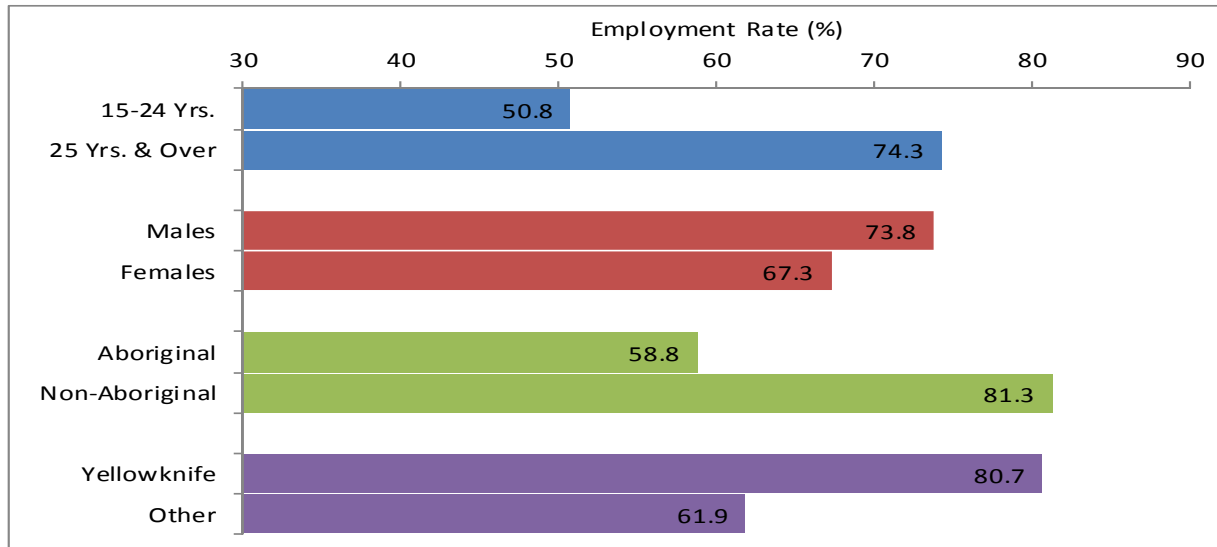
Figure 1: Employed Persons & Unemployment Rate, NWT 2014 - 2016



EMPLOYMENT BY KEY CHARACTERISTICS

The employment rate for youths aged 15-24 dropped 5.1 percentage points from last month compared to 0.3 percentage point drop among those aged 25 and over. There was a slight decrease in the employment rate of both Aboriginals and non-Aboriginals. Regionally, the employment rate increased by 1.2 percentage points in Yellowknife, while declining 2.3 percentage points for the rest of the territory.

Figure 2: Employment rates by key characteristics, Sept 2016

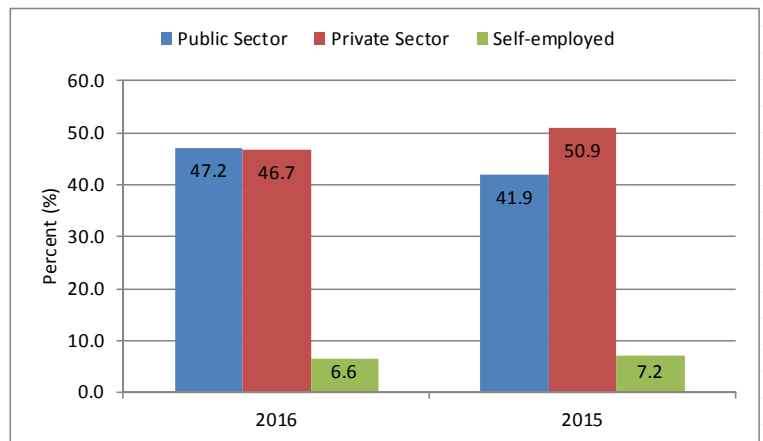


EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY & CLASS OF WORKER

In September 2016, employment in the goods-producing sector decreased by 800 persons compared to the same time last year. In contrast, the services-producing sector employed 1,700 more persons, offsetting losses from the goods-producing sector.

Compared to September 2015, the proportion of those employed in the public sector increased, with corresponding decreases in private sector employment and self-employment. Figure 3 presents changes in the distribution of employed persons by class of worker.

Figure 3: Employment by Class of Worker, Sept 2015 & 2016 Northwest Territories, Sept 2016



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
Sep-16	32,600	24,500	22,900	1,600	8,100	75.2	6.5	70.2
Aug-16	32,700	25,300	23,400	1,900	7,400	77.4	7.5	71.6
Jul-16	32,600	25,100	23,100	2,100	7,500	77.0	8.4	70.9
Jun-16	32,600	24,900	22,900	2,000	7,600	76.4	8.0	70.2
May-16	32,500	24,600	22,900	1,700	7,900	75.7	6.9	70.5
Apr-16	32,400	24,100	22,500	1,600	8,200	74.4	6.6	69.4
Mar-16	32,300	24,200	22,400	1,800	8,000	74.9	7.4	69.3
Feb-16	32,200	24,400	22,300	2,100	7,800	75.8	8.6	69.3
Jan-16	32,100	24,400	22,100	2,300	7,600	76.0	9.4	68.8
Dec-15	32,000	24,100	21,700	2,400	7,900	75.3	10.0	67.8
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
Previous Years:								
Sep-15	31,800	24,300	22,200	2,100	7,500	76.4	8.6	69.8
Sep-14	32,300	24,300	22,500	1,800	8,000	75.2	7.4	69.7
Sep-13	32,600	25,800	23,700	2,100	6,700	79.1	8.1	72.7
Sep-12	32,500	26,000	23,800	2,200	6,400	80.0	8.5	73.2
Sep-11	32,400	26,100	24,100	1,900	6,300	80.6	7.3	74.4
Sep-10	32,100	23,800	22,300	1,500	8,200	74.1	6.3	69.5
Sep-09	31,700	22,500	20,700	1,800	9,200	71.0	8.0	65.3
Sep-08	31,800	24,300	23,100	1,300	7,400	76.4	5.3	72.6
Sep-07	31,600	25,200	23,700	1,400	6,400	79.7	5.6	75.0
Sep-06	31,300	24,400	23,300	1,100	6,800	78.0	4.5	74.4

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) 767-9169.

Next Release: November 4, 2016