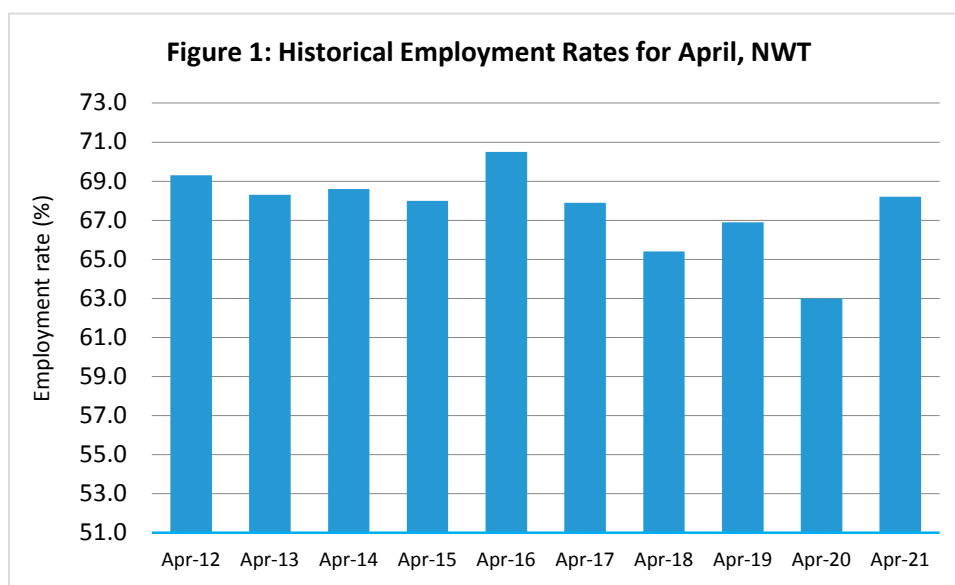


Labour Force Activity April 2021

Labour Force Survey information released by Statistics Canada today estimates the Northwest Territories' seasonally unadjusted employment rate at 68.2%, continuing the gradual rise in the employment rate that started last September. Between March and April 2021, the employment rate increased by 0.8 percentage points from 67.4%. Meanwhile, the number of employed persons went up by 300, to 23,200.

Figure 1 compares historical employment rates for April. Despite the impact of COVID-19 on the labour market, last month's employment rate was the highest for April in the past 5 years and 5.2 percentage points higher than April 2020.



For Canada overall, the employment rate stood at 58.9%, a slight increase from the previous month and 2.3 percentage points higher than April 2020. Between March and April 2021, twelve Canadian jurisdictions saw slight increases in employment rates, most by less than a percentage point.

Nunavut (6.2%), followed by Northwest Territories (6.5%) and Yukon (6.8%) recorded the lowest unemployment rate. In the NWT, the average unemployment rate for April during the past 10 years is 7.4%.

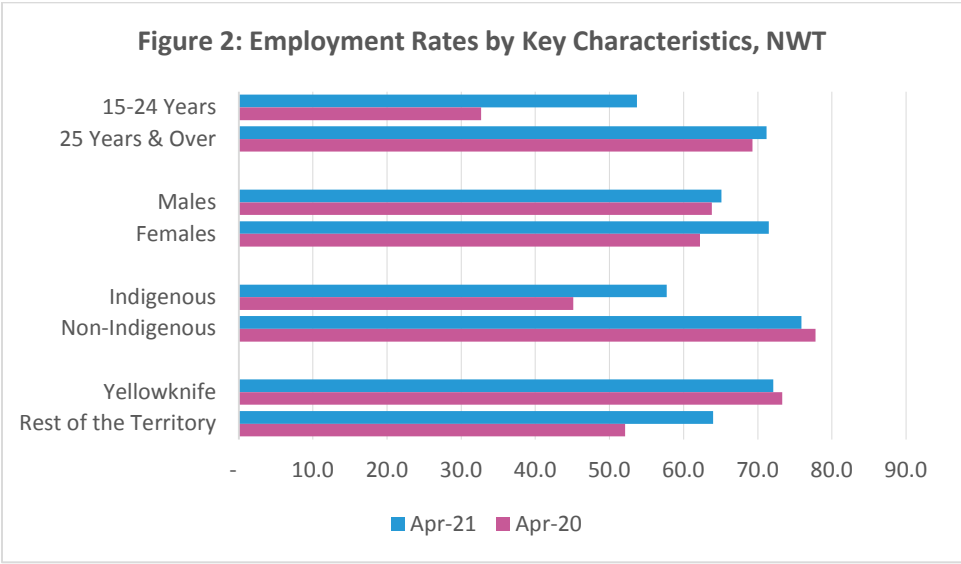
¹ NWT LFS estimates are based on seasonally unadjusted, three-months moving-average time series data.



Employment by selected characteristics

On an annual basis, the NWT labour force increased by 1,400, to 24,800 while employment increased by 1,900 persons. The year-over-year increase in employment was concentrated among youth aged 15 to 24 years, females and those living outside of Yellowknife.

The overall NWT employment rate increased 5.2 percentage points from 12 months ago. With more youth aged 15 to 24 years participating in the labour market, the employment rate rose 21.0 percentage points to 53.7%, making it the record highest for April among this age group. For persons living outside of Yellowknife, last month’s employment rate was the highest since August 2016. Year-over-year employment rates also increased among females and Indigenous persons.



Employment by employment type, class of worker, and industry

In April 2021, full-time employment increased by 1,400 persons compared to 12 month prior, while part-time employment rose by 600. Year-over-year employment increases were also seen in the public and private sector, while self-employment was unchanged from 12 months ago.

Both the goods and services producing industries increased between April 2020 and April 2021, with the majority of the gains occurring in transportation & warehousing, public administration, and health care & social services.

Historical Labour Force Activity

The following table presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

Table 1: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Pop. 15 & Over	Labour force	Employed Persons	Unemploy- ed	Not in Labour force	Participat- ion rate	Unemploy- ment rate	Employ - ment rate
	Number of persons					Percent		
Apr-21	34,000	24,800	23,200	1,600	9,200	72.9	6.5	68.2
Mar-21	34,000	24,500	22,900	1,600	9,500	72.1	6.5	67.4
Feb-21	33,900	24,300	22,600	1,700	9,600	71.7	7.0	66.7
Jan-21	33,900	23,700	22,300	1,400	10,200	69.9	5.9	65.8
Dec-20	33,900	23,600	22,200	1,400	10,300	69.6	5.9	65.5
Nov-20	33,900	23,500	22,000	1,500	10,400	69.3	6.4	64.9
Oct-20	33,900	23,500	21,700	1,900	10,300	69.3	8.1	64.0
Sep-20	33,900	23,700	21,500	2,200	10,200	69.9	9.3	63.4
Aug-20	33,900	24,000	21,400	2,600	9,800	70.8	10.8	63.1
Jul-20	33,800	23,700	21,400	2,300	10,100	70.1	9.7	63.3
Jun-20	33,900	23,100	21,000	2,100	10,800	68.1	9.1	61.9
May-20	33,900	23,300	21,400	1,900	10,500	68.7	8.2	63.1
<i>Historical for this month:</i>								
Apr-21	34,000	24,800	23,200	1,600	9,200	72.9	6.5	68.2
Apr-20	33,800	23,400	21,300	2,100	10,400	69.2	9.0	63.0
Apr-19	33,800	24,300	22,600	1,700	9,500	71.9	7.0	66.9
Apr-18	33,800	23,900	22,100	1,800	10,000	70.7	7.5	65.4
Apr-17	33,600	24,000	22,800	1,200	9,600	71.4	5.0	67.9
Apr-16	33,600	25,400	23,700	1,700	8,200	75.6	6.7	70.5
Apr-15	33,100	24,200	22,500	1,700	8,900	73.1	7.0	68.0
Apr-14	32,800	24,600	22,500	2,100	8,200	75.0	8.5	68.6
Apr-13	32,800	24,400	22,400	1,900	8,400	74.4	7.8	68.3
Apr-12	32,600	24,900	22,600	2,300	7,700	76.4	9.2	69.3
Apr-11	32,200	24,500	22,500	1,900	7,700	76.1	7.8	69.9

For additional information and detailed tables on the 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: June 4, 2021