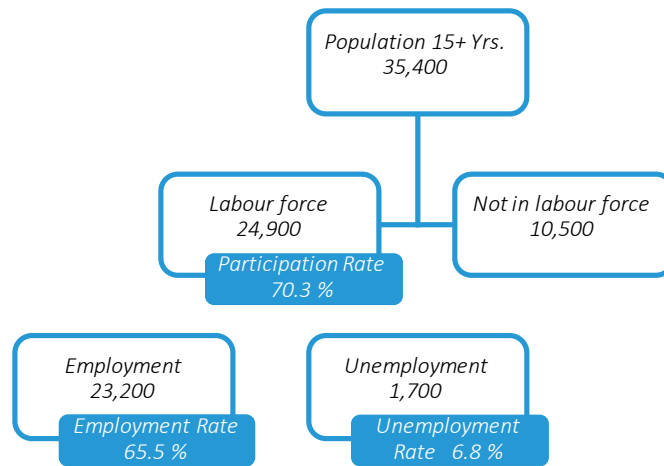




## Labour Force Activity<sup>1</sup> April 2026

Labour Force Survey data released by Statistics Canada today estimate the Northwest Territories' seasonally unadjusted employment rate at 65.5% in April 2026, up 1.1 percentage points from 64.4% in March. Over the same period, employment increased by 400 people, bringing the total number of employed persons to 23,200. The unemployment rate edged up to 6.8%, reflecting an increase in the number of people actively looking for work.

Figure 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories, April 2026



Year over year, the Northwest Territories' employment rate declined 1.7 percentage points, falling from 67.2% in April 2025 to 65.5% in April 2026. Among major demographic groups, the largest declines were observed among youth aged 15–24, whose employment rate fell from 43.6% to 36.8%, males, down from 70.2% to 64.8%, and Indigenous persons, from 53.8% to 50.7%. Females were the only group to record an increase, rising 1.8 percentage points to 65.9%.

### Employment by employment type, class of worker, and industry

Between April 2025 and April 2026, the Northwest Territories recorded a decline of 200 part-time positions, bringing the total to 2,500, while full-time employment was unchanged at 20,700. At the sector level, public sector employment held steady at 12,100, the private sector declined by 200, and self-employment increased by 100 to 1,600. By industry, gains of 200 positions in the services-producing sector were more than offset by a decline of 400 positions in the goods-producing sector.

<sup>1</sup> LFS estimates in this report are based on seasonally unadjusted, three-months moving-average time series data.

## National highlights

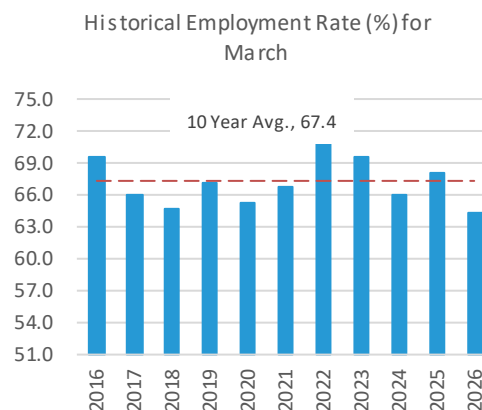
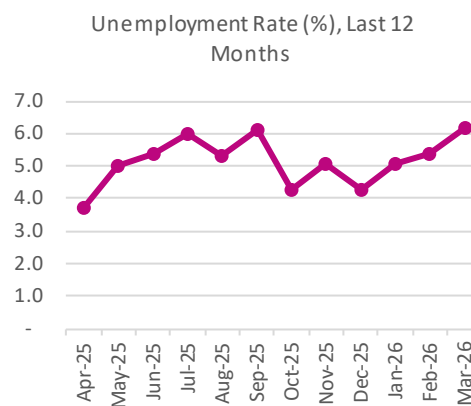
For Canada overall, the employment rate increased slightly from 59.9% in March to 60.0% in April 2026. Among the provinces and territories, Yukon recorded the highest employment rate (69.4%), followed by the Northwest Territories (65.5%) and Alberta (64.0%). Newfoundland and Labrador reported the lowest employment rate at 50.3%.

Table 1: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Employed	Unemployed	Unemploy- ment rate	Employ- ment rate
Mar-26	22,800	1,500	6.2	64.4
Feb-26	22,800	1,300	5.4	64.6
Jan-26	22,200	1,200	5.1	62.9
Dec-25	22,200	1,000	4.3	62.9
Nov-25	22,200	1,200	5.1	62.9
Oct-25	22,400	1,000	4.3	63.5
Sep-25	23,000	1,500	6.1	65.2
Aug-25	23,400	1,300	5.3	66.3
Jul-25	23,300	1,500	6.0	66.2
Jun-25	22,900	1,300	5.4	65.4
May-25	22,700	1,200	5.0	65.0
Apr-25	23,400	900	3.7	67.2

Historical Labour Market Indicators for March				
2026	22,800	1,500	6.2	64.4
2025	23,700	900	3.6	68.1
2024	22,500	1,200	5.1	66.0
2023	23,500	1,300	5.2	69.7
2022	24,700	1,200	4.6	73.1
2021	22,400	1,600	6.7	66.9
2020	21,900	2,000	8.4	65.4
2019	22,500	1,500	6.3	67.2
2018	21,800	2,100	8.8	64.7
2017	22,100	1,900	7.9	66.0
2016	23,300	2,100	8.3	69.6



Additional labour market information can be found on the NWT Bureau of Statistics website.

- Tables & Reports: <https://www.statsnwt.ca/labour-income/labour-force-activity/>
- Telephone: (867) 767-9169

Next Release: June 5, 2026