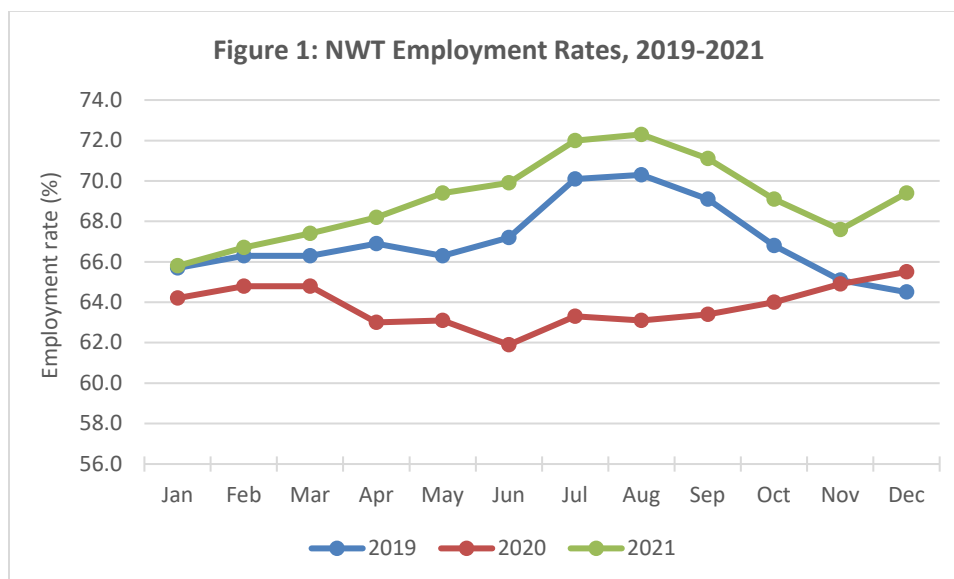


## Labour Force Activity December & Annual Review, 2021

On a yearly basis, Statistics Canada combines monthly data from the Labour Force Survey to come up with detailed annual estimates. In addition to a summary of labour market estimates for December 2021, this report provides information on the annual results released today.

The employment rate in the Northwest Territories was 69.4% in December 2021. This represents a 1.8 percentage point increase from November and 3.9 percentage point rise from 12 months prior. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate increased by 1.8 percentage points from the previous month to 5.2, a result of more people entering the labour market looking for work.

Figure 1 compares employment rates from 2019 through 2021. Month-over-month employment rates in 2021 were consistently higher than those observed in 2020 during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the rates in 2019 before the pandemic.

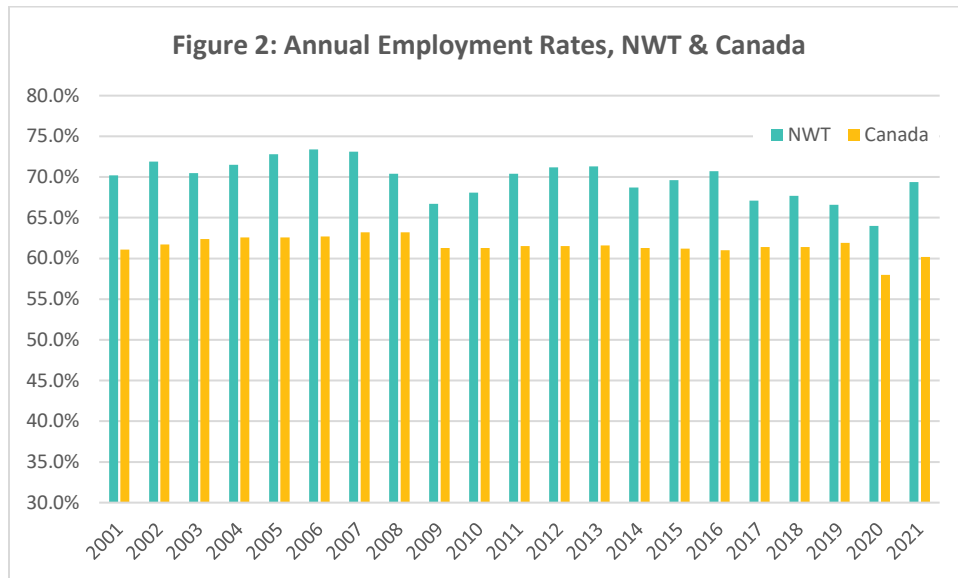


Year-over-year employment rates increased for most of the key demographic characteristics, increasing the most for persons 25 years and older (5.0 percentage points), those living in Yellowknife (4.8 percentage points) and males, (4.8 percentage points).

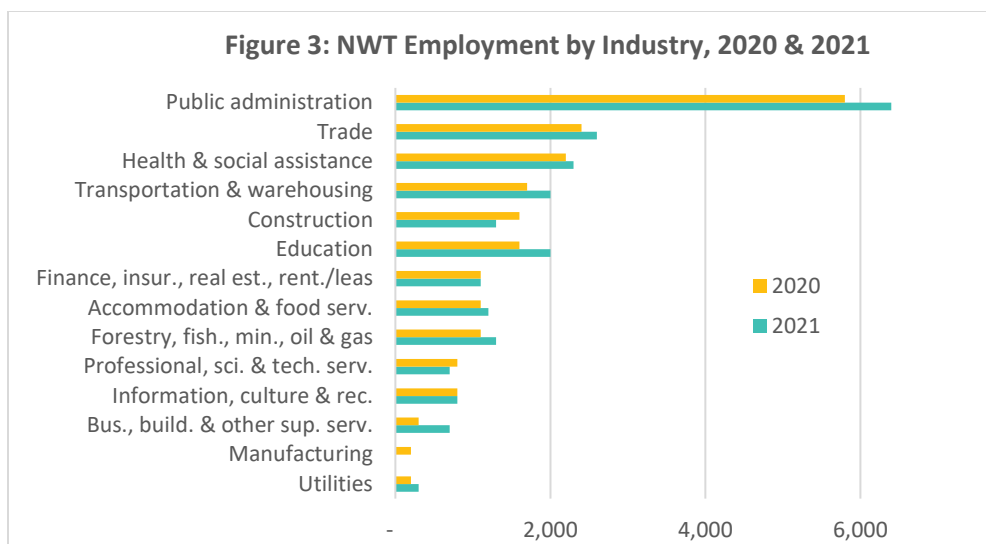


## Year-End Review, 2021

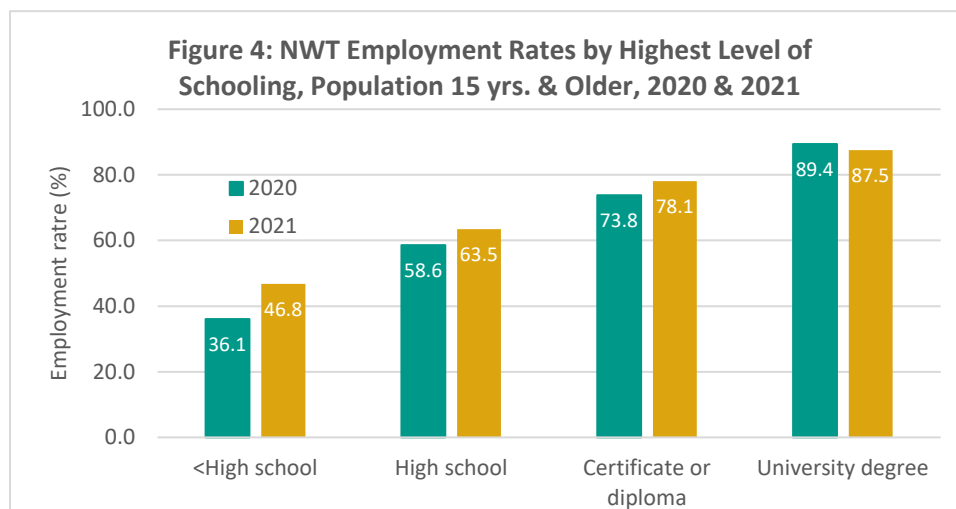
Employment in the Northwest Territories during 2021 increased by 1,900 persons to 23,600. This increase caused the NWT employment rate to increase to 69.4% in 2021, the highest rate in 5 years. While the Canadian employment rate also increased in 2021, it did not fully offset the decline experienced in 2020.



Compared to 2020, NWT employment gains were concentrated in the services-producing industries. Employment increased the most in public administration, education, and business, building and other support services.



In 2021, employment rates ranged from 46.8% among those with less than high school education to 87.5% among those with a university degree. Employment rates in the NWT demonstrate the strong association between educational attainment and employment. Between 2020 and 2021, employment rates rose for persons in all educational attainment categories, except for those with a university degree.



Employment rate increases were broad, rising for both men, women, those living inside and outside of Yellowknife, and all age categories. The employment rate among youth reached record levels in 2021, increasing by 13.8 percentage points from 2020.

**Table 1: Historical NWT Employment Rates by Selected Characteristics, 2012 - 2021**

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Northwest</b>	<b>71.2</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>68.7</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>70.7</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>67.7</b>	<b>66.6</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>69.4</b>
Males	72.5	72.0	69.8	69.4	70.5	67.1	67.6	67.2	63.2	67.2
Females	69.8	70.6	67.1	69.8	70.6	68.1	67.7	65.9	64.8	72.1
15 – 24 yrs.	46.3	48.4	45.2	48.3	49.2	44.8	46.4	48.2	41.8	55.6
25 – 54 yrs.	83.6	83.7	82.1	84.3	83.3	81.7	79.6	77.8	75.0	80.6
55 + yrs.	59.4	58.2	52.1	48.0	53.8	48.1	54.1	53.4	54.3	54.7
Indigenous	54.9	55.6	52.4	55.3	56.2	51.9	51.0	49.3	49.3	60.6
non-Indigenous	84.1	84.2	81.9	81.1	82.0	80.6	80.5	80.9	75.3	75.0
Yellowknife	81.4	82.0	79.6	81.1	80.2	78.2	78.5	77.0	72.9	75.4
Rest of territories	61.8	61.1	58.1	58.3	60.7	56.3	56.4	55.5	54.3	62.7

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: February 4, 2022*