

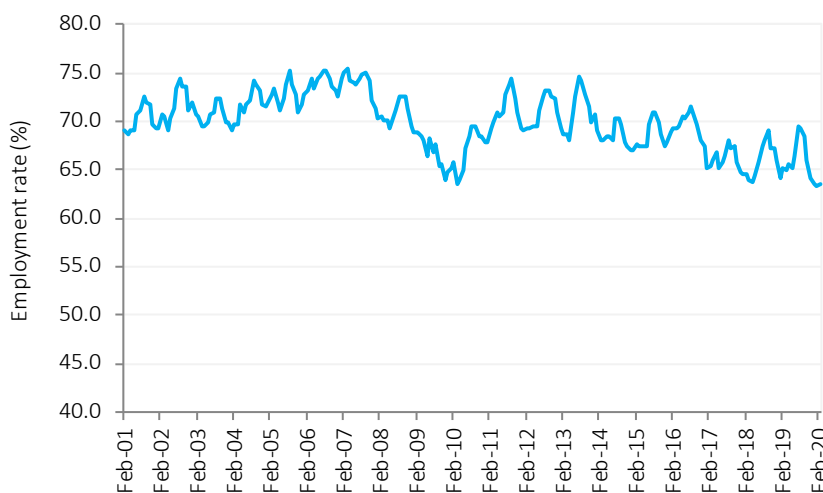
## Labour Force Activity

### February 2020

The February 2020 employment rate in the Northwest Territories (NWT) increased slightly to 63.5% from the previous month. Including February 2020, employment rates during the past three months have been the lowest in the territory since those observed in the winter of 2010.

For Canada overall, the employment rate dropped slightly to 61.1% between January and February 2020. During the same period, employment rates dropped for all provinces and territories, except for Manitoba, Nunavut and the NWT.

Figure 1: Historical Monthly Employment Rates, NWT, 2001 to 2020



### Employment by selected characteristics

On an annual basis, the NWT labour force shrank by 400 persons, while employment dropped by 600 persons to 20,500. Employment losses were concentrated among youth aged 15 to 24 years, Non-Indigenous persons, and people living in Yellowknife.

Table 1: Employment & Employment Rates by Key Characteristics, NWT

	Feb-20		Feb-19		Change from 1 Yr. Ago	
	Employment (#)	Employment (#)	Employment rates (%)	Employment rates (%)	No.	(p.p)
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<b>20,500</b>	<b>21,100</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>(600)</b>	<b>(1.6)</b>
15-24 Years	1,800	2,300	34.6	43.4	(500)	(8.8)
25 years & over	18,700	18,800	68.8	69.4	(100)	(0.6)
Males	10,400	10,700	63.8	65.2	(300)	(1.4)
Females	10,100	10,400	63.1	65.0	(300)	(1.9)
Indigenous	7,300	7,300	46.8	48.0	-	(1.2)
Non-Indigenous	13,300	13,700	79.2	79.7	(400)	(0.5)
Yellowknife	11,500	12,000	75.2	77.4	(500)	(2.2)
Rest of the Territory	9,100	9,100	53.5	53.5	-	-

Note: 'p.p' means percentage points

Overall, the employment rate dropped 1.6 percentage points from 65.1% in February 2019. Among key demographic characteristics, youth aged 15 to 24 years had the biggest loss, dropping 8.8 percentage points to 34.6%. The employment rate was unchanged for those living outside of Yellowknife, and dropped slightly for Indigenous persons.



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

Most of the employment losses between February 2019 and February 2020 occurred in part-time employment (-400) while full-time employment was little changed. Over the same period, self-employment increased by 500 persons coupled with a slight increase in public sector employment. These gains were, however, offset by a 1,200 person decline in private sector employment.

Year-over-year, employment levels dropped in both the goods-producing industry (-200) and the services-producing industry (-400).

## Historical labour force activity

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

Table 2: Historical Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labour force	Participat- ion rate	Unemploy- ment rate	Employ- ment rate
Feb-20	32,300	22,500	20,500	2,000	9,800	69.7	8.9	63.5
Jan-20	32,300	22,300	20,400	1,900	10,100	69.0	8.5	63.2
Dec-19	32,300	22,400	20,500	1,900	10,000	69.3	8.5	63.5
Nov-19	32,300	22,800	20,700	2,000	9,500	70.6	8.8	64.1
Oct-19	32,300	23,300	21,300	1,900	9,000	72.1	8.2	65.9
Sep-19	32,300	24,000	22,100	2,000	8,300	74.3	8.3	68.4
Aug-19	32,300	24,200	22,400	1,800	8,100	74.9	7.4	69.3
Jul-19	32,400	24,100	22,500	1,700	8,200	74.4	7.1	69.4
Jun-19	32,400	23,400	21,500	1,900	9,000	72.2	8.1	66.4
May-19	32,400	22,900	21,100	1,800	9,600	70.7	7.9	65.1
Apr-19	32,500	23,000	21,300	1,700	9,500	70.8	7.4	65.5
Mar-19	32,500	22,700	21,100	1,600	9,800	69.8	7.0	64.9
<i>Previous Years:</i>								
Feb-19	32,400	22,900	21,100	1,900	9,500	70.7	8.3	65.1
Feb-18	32,400	22,800	20,900	1,900	9,600	70.4	8.3	64.5
Feb-17	32,300	22,800	21,100	1,600	9,600	70.6	7.0	65.3
Feb-16	32,200	24,400	22,300	2,100	7,800	75.8	8.6	69.3
Feb-15	32,200	23,600	21,800	1,800	8,600	73.3	7.6	67.7
Feb-14	32,500	24,000	22,100	1,900	8,600	73.8	7.9	68.0
Feb-13	32,600	24,000	22,400	1,600	8,600	73.6	6.7	68.7
Feb-12	32,300	24,500	22,400	2,100	7,800	75.9	8.6	69.3
Feb-11	32,100	23,900	22,200	1,800	8,200	74.5	7.5	69.2
Feb-10	31,800	22,200	20,900	1,300	9,600	69.8	5.9	65.7

For additional information and detailed table 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.

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