

Monthly Labour Force Activity - July 2017 -

Overview

Statistics Canada estimates that in July 2017, 21,500 out of 32,400 residents 15 years of age and older were employed in the Northwest Territories, representing an employment rate of 66.4%. Between June and July 2017, employment rose by 200 persons.

Year-over-year, the employment rate fell by 4.5 percentage points. The NWT unemployment rate decreased from 8.4% in July 2016 to 6.5% in July 2017 with 600 fewer people seeking work. During the same period, the number of people not in the labour force increased by 1,800 persons (24.0%) (Table 1).

Table 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories, July 2017

	Jul-17	Jun-17	Jul-16	Change from 12 months ago	
				Number	%
Population 15 & over	32,400	32,400	32,600	(200)	(0.6)
Labour force	23,000	22,700	25,100	(2,100)	(8.4)
Employment	21,500	21,300	23,100	(1,600)	(6.9)
Full-time	19,000	18,900	20,100	(1,100)	(5.5)
Part-time	2,500	2,400	2,900	(400)	(13.8)
Unemployment	1,500	1,400	2,100	(600)	(28.6)
Not in labour force	9,300	9,700	7,500	1,800	24.0
Participation rate (%)	71.0	70.1	77.0		
Unemployment rate (%)	6.5	6.2	8.4		
Employment rate (%)	66.4	65.7	70.9		

Figure 1: Employment Rates, NWT, 2013 - 2017

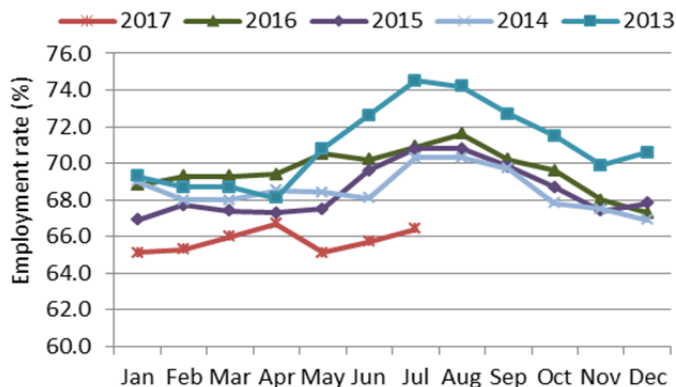


Figure 1 provides historical employment rates for the NWT. The monthly employment rates in 2017 have been consistently lower than in previous years. Between June and July 2017, the NWT employment rate rose 0.7 percentage points.

National highlights

Compared to the previous month, the employment rate in Canada rose 0.6 percentage points to 62.5%, while the unemployment declined by 0.1 percentage points to 6.4%. Among the provinces and territories, Yukon (76.7%) had the highest employment rate, followed by Alberta (67.4%) and the Northwest Territories (66.4%).

Employment by key demographic characteristics

Table 2 shows the number of employed persons and the employment rate by key characteristics for the previous year and the previous month. Compared to July 2016, the number of employed persons and the employment rate fell for all key characteristics. The decline in the employment rate from July 2016 was highest amongst youth aged 15-24 (11.2 percentage points), followed by people living outside Yellowknife (7.3 percentage points).


Table 2: Employment and Employment Rates by Key Characteristics, NWT

	Jul-17		Jun-17		Jul-16	
	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)
Northwest Territories	21,500	66.4	21,300	65.7	23,100	70.9
15-24 Yrs.	2,600	46.4	2,400	42.9	3,400	57.6
25+ Yrs.	18,900	70.5	18,800	70.4	19,700	73.8
Males	10,800	66.7	10,700	66.0	12,000	73.2
Females	10,700	66.0	10,600	65.4	11,000	67.9
Aboriginal	8,100	51.9	8,200	51.6	8,800	57.5
Non-Aboriginal	13,400	79.8	13,100	79.4	14,200	82.1
Yellowknife	11,500	78.2	11,400	77.0	11,800	78.7
Other	10,000	56.5	9,900	56.3	11,300	63.8

Employment by employment type, class of worker, and industry

Between July 2016 and July 2017, the number of employed persons decreased for the majority of selected characteristics (Table 3).

Table 3: Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics

	Jul-17	Jun-17 	Change (persons) from		
			Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-16
Total Employment	21,500	21,300	23,100	200	(1,600)
Full-time	19,000	18,900	20,100	100	(1,100)
Part-time	2,500	2,400	2,900	100	(400)
Employees	19,800	19,500	21,400	300	(1,600)
Public	9,300	9,100	10,800	200	(1,500)
Private	10,500	10,300	10,600	200	(100)
Self-employment	1,700	1,800	1,600	(100)	100
Goods-producing sector	4,000	3,800	3,800	200	200
Services-producing sector	17,500	17,400	19,200	100	(1,700)

Historical labour force activity

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

Table 4: 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
Jul-17	32,400	23,000	21,500	1,500	9,300	71.0	6.5	66.4
Jun-17	32,400	22,700	21,300	1,400	9,700	70.1	6.2	65.7
May-17	32,400	22,400	21,100	1,400	9,900	69.1	6.3	65.1
Apr-17	32,400	22,800	21,600	1,200	9,600	70.4	5.3	66.7
Mar-17	32,400	22,900	21,400	1,600	9,400	70.7	7.0	66.0
Feb-17	32,300	22,800	21,100	1,600	9,600	70.6	7.0	65.3
Jan-17	32,400	22,700	21,100	1,600	9,600	70.1	7.0	65.1
Dec-16	32,400	23,400	21,800	1,600	9,000	72.2	6.8	67.3
Nov-16	32,500	23,700	22,100	1,600	8,800	72.9	6.8	68.0
Oct-16	32,600	24,400	22,700	1,700	8,200	74.8	7.0	69.6
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
Previous Years:								
Jul-16	32,600	25,100	23,100	2,100	7,500	77.0	8.4	70.9
Jul-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jul-14	32,300	24,900	22,700	2,200	7,400	77.1	8.8	70.3
Jul-13	32,600	26,200	24,300	1,900	6,400	80.4	7.3	74.5
Jul-12	32,400	25,800	23,500	2,300	6,600	79.6	8.9	72.5
Jul-11	32,300	25,500	23,500	2,000	6,800	78.9	7.8	72.8
Jul-10	32,000	24,000	21,900	2,100	8,100	75.0	8.8	68.4
Jul-09	31,800	22,800	21,200	1,600	9,000	71.7	7.0	66.7
Jul-08	31,800	24,600	22,600	2,000	7,200	77.4	8.1	71.1
Jul-07	31,600	25,200	23,500	1,600	6,400	79.7	6.3	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: September 8, 2017