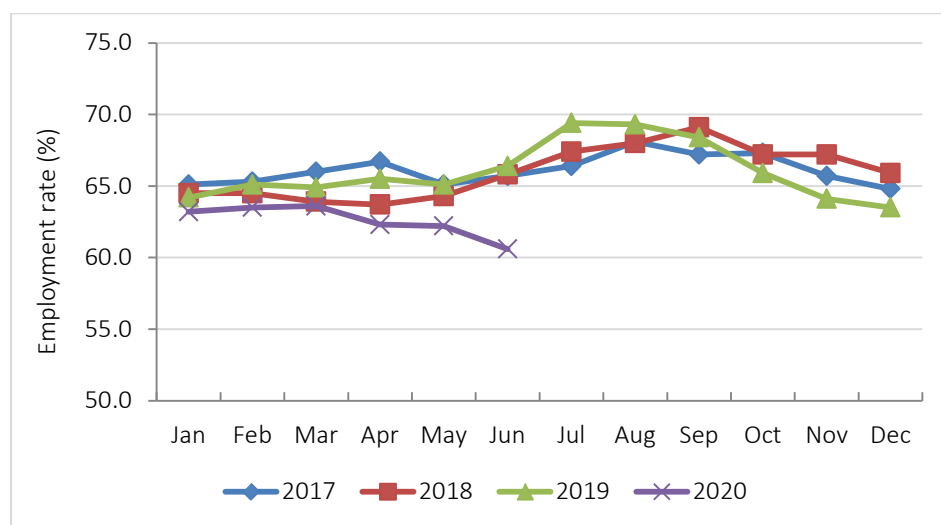


Labour Force Activity

June 2020

Labour Force Survey information released by Statistics Canada today estimates the Northwest Territories' employment rate at 60.6%, reaching record lows following declines for three consecutive month. Between March and June 2020, the employment rate dropped by 3.0 percentage points. During the same period, the number of employed persons went down by 900, to 19,700 in June.

Figure 1: Employment Rates, NWT, 2017 – 2020



The unemployment rate was 9.6% in June, increasing by 1.4 percentage points from the previous month. There were 300 more unemployed persons in June compared to May 2020. The number of persons not in the labour force reached 10,700 in June, possibly indicating the decrease in people looking for employment due to COVID-19 related business closures.

Employment rates by selected characteristics

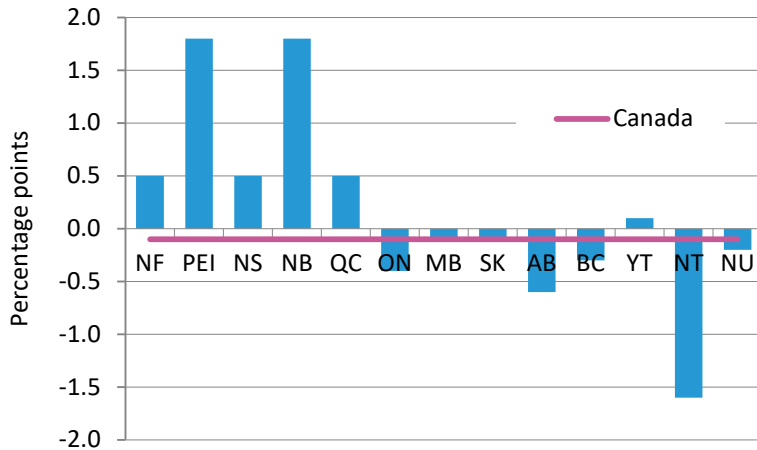
Between June 2019 and June 2020, the overall employment rate in the NWT fell by 5.8 percentage points. Among the major worker groups, the decrease was highest among youths aged 15-24 years, Non-Indigenous persons and males. Employment among youth aged 15 to 24 years is historically stronger during summer months partly driven by summer students' employment. At 1,700 persons, there were 900 fewer persons employed in this age group last month compared to a year ago.



National highlights

Nationally, the employment rate was 54.0%, little changed from the previous month. Between May and June, six out of the thirteen jurisdictions in Canada recorded increases in employment rates, increasing the highest in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, by 1.8 percentage points for both. Declines in employment rates were highest in the Northwest Territories, followed by Alberta and Ontario.

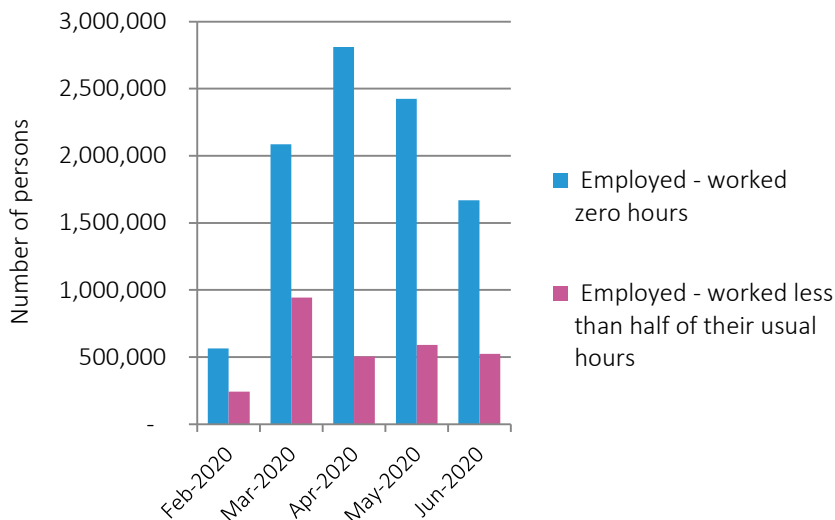
Figure 2: Month-over-month change in Employment Rates, Canada, Provinces & Territories



Supplementary Indicators – Canada

Figure 3 shows two supplementary indicators developed to measure the effects COVID-19 on work patterns among Canadian workers. The number of employed persons who were absent from work all week continue to decline as more people return to work. Likewise, the number of employed persons who worked less than half of their usual hours fell by 85,700 between May and June.

Figure 3: Supplementary Labour Force Indicators, Canada



Historical labour force activity

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

Table 1: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour force	Employed Persons	Unemploy- ed	Not in the labour force	Participati- on rate	Unemploy- ment rate	Employment rate
Last 12 Months								
Jun-20	32,500	21,800	19,700	2,100	10,700	67.1	9.6	60.6
May-20	32,500	22,000	20,200	1,800	10,500	67.7	8.2	62.2
Apr-20	32,400	22,200	20,200	2,000	10,300	68.5	9.0	62.3
Mar-20	32,400	22,700	20,600	2,100	9,700	70.1	9.3	63.6
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
Previous Years:								
Jun-20	32,500	21,800	19,700	2,100	10,700	67.1	9.6	60.6
Jun-19	32,400	23,400	21,500	1,900	9,000	72.2	8.1	66.4
Jun-18	32,500	23,400	21,400	2,000	9,100	72.0	8.5	65.8
Jun-17	32,400	22,700	21,300	1,400	9,700	70.1	6.2	65.7
Jun-16	32,600	24,900	22,900	2,000	7,600	76.4	8.0	70.2
Jun-15	31,900	23,800	22,200	1,700	8,000	74.6	7.1	69.6
Jun-14	32,300	24,400	22,000	2,400	7,900	75.5	9.8	68.1
Jun-13	32,500	25,400	23,600	1,800	7,100	78.2	7.1	72.6
Jun-12	32,400	25,000	23,000	2,100	7,300	77.2	8.4	71.0

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: August 7, 2020