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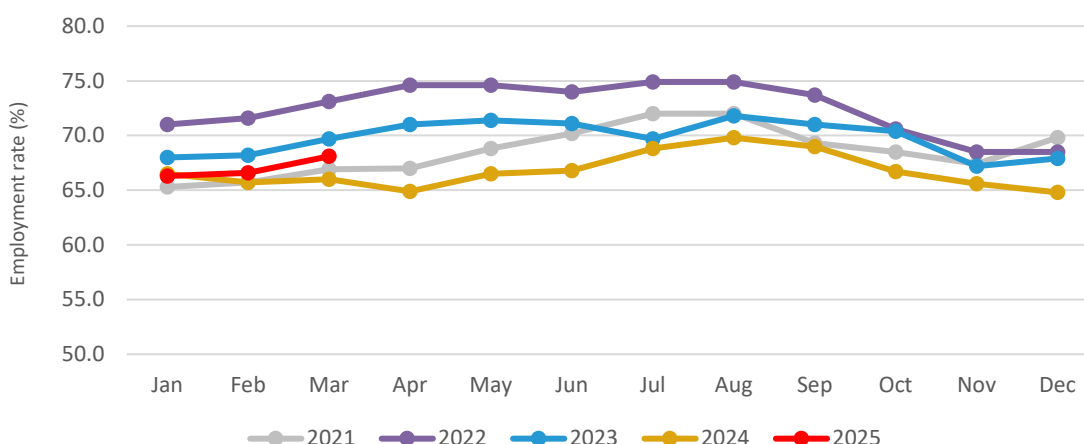
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Labour Force Activity¹ March 2025

In March 2025, the Northwest Territories' seasonally unadjusted employment rate rose to 68.1%, up from 66.6% in February. Employment increased by 600, reaching 23,700, driven by growth in part-time jobs within the services-producing sector. Meanwhile, the number of unemployed individuals declined to 900, bringing the unemployment rate down to 3.6%, its lowest level since November 2023.

On an annual basis, the Northwest Territories' employment rate rose by 2.1 percentage points from March 2024 but remained below levels recorded in 2022 and 2023. Among major worker groups, year-over-year employment rates increased the most among youth aged 15–24 (rising from 40.7% to 47.3%), individuals living outside Yellowknife (56.0% to 60.0%), and Indigenous persons (52.2% to 56.0%).

Figure 1: Historical Employment Rates, Northwest Territories



Employment by employment type, class of worker, and industry

Year over year, overall employment increase by 1,200 to 23,700. Employment in the services-producing industry rose by 1,100 to 20,900, while the goods-producing industry increased by 200, reaching 2,900. Among specific industries, the largest employment gains were in trade; public administration; forestry, fishing, mining, oil & gas; and health care & social assistance. In contrast, notable employment declines occurred in information, culture & recreation, education, and construction.

¹ 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 decreased slightly from 60.5% in February to 60.3% in March 2025. Among the provinces and territories, Yukon (71.8%), followed by the Northwest Territories (68.1%), and Alberta (63.2%) had the highest employment rates. Newfoundland & Labrador had the lowest employment rate at 49.5%.

Table 1: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Employed	Unemployed	Unemploy - ment rate	Employ- ment rate
Mar-25	23,700	900	3.6	68.1
Feb-25	23,100	1,000	4.1	66.6
Jan-25	23,000	1,200	5.0	66.3
Dec-24	22,500	1,400	5.9	64.8
Nov-24	22,700	1,500	6.2	65.6
Oct-24	23,000	1,400	5.7	66.7
Sep-24	23,800	1,300	5.2	69.0
Aug-24	24,000	1,200	4.8	69.8
Jul-24	23,600	1,600	6.3	68.8
Jun-24	22,900	1,600	6.5	66.8
May-24	22,800	1,500	6.2	66.5
Apr-24	22,200	1,300	5.5	64.9
Historial Labour Market Indicators for March				
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
2015	22,500	2,400	9.6	68.0

Unemployment Rate (%), Last 12 Months

Month	Rate (%)
Apr-24	5.5
May-24	6.2
Jun-24	6.5
Jul-24	6.3
Aug-24	4.8
Sep-24	5.2
Oct-24	5.7
Nov-24	6.2
Dec-24	5.9
Jan-25	5.0
Feb-25	4.1
Mar-25	3.6

Historical Employment Rate (%) for March

Year	Rate (%)
2015	68.0
2016	69.6
2017	66.0
2018	64.7
2019	67.2
2020	65.4
2021	66.9
2022	73.1
2023	69.7
2024	66.0
2025	68.1

10 Year Avg., 67.7

Additional labour market information can be found on the NWT Bureau of Statistics website <https://www.statsnwt.ca/labour-income/labour-force-activity/> or call (867) 767-9169

Next Release: May 9, 2025