

Labour Force Activity

-May 2019-

Overview

The employment rate in the Northwest Territories (NWT) was 65.1% in May, a slight decline from 65.5% in April. The number of employed persons stood at 21,100, with about 90% working full-time and 10% working part-time.

Year-over-year, the employment rate increased by 0.8%. Over this period, there was a slight shift towards full-time employment with 400 more persons working full-time at the expense of part-time employment.

Compared to May 2018, different patterns can be observed in employment rates for key demographic characteristics. Employment rates increased for youth aged 15 to 24 and for males by 7.3 and 2.7 percentage points respectively, while employment rates decreased among those 25 years and older, females, Indigenous persons and those living in Yellowknife.

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

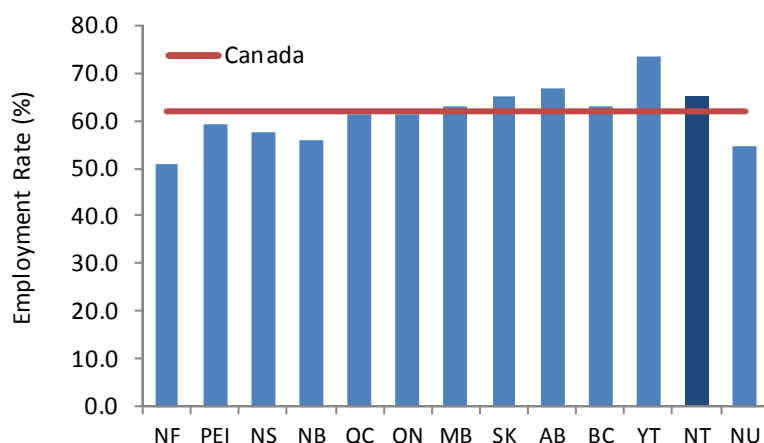
	May-2019		Apr-2019		May-2018		Change from 1 Yr. Ago (p.p)
	(Persons)	Rate (%)	(Persons)	Rate (%)	(Persons)	Rate (%)	
Northwest Territories	21,100	65.1	21,300	65.5	20,900	64.3	0.8
15-24 Yrs.	2,400	46.2	2,400	46.2	2,100	38.9	7.3
25+ Yrs.	18,700	68.8	18,900	69.5	18,800	69.4	(0.6)
Males	10,800	65.9	10,900	66.5	10,300	63.2	2.7
Females	10,300	64.4	10,300	64.4	10,600	65.4	(1.0)
Indigenous	7,000	46.7	7,100	47.7	7,800	48.1	(1.4)
Non-Indigenous	14,200	81.1	14,200	81.1	13,100	80.4	0.7
Yellowknife	12,000	77.4	12,000	77.4	11,900	78.3	(0.9)
Rest of the Territory	9,100	53.8	9,300	54.7	9,000	52.0	1.8



National highlights

Nationally, Canada's employment rate increased from the previous month to 61.8% in May 2019. The Northwest Territories (65.1%) had the third highest employment rate after Yukon (73.4%) and Alberta (66.6%). Saskatchewan had the fourth highest employment rate (64.9%).

Figure 1: Employment Rates, Provinces & Territories, May 2019



At 7.9%, the Northwest Territories' unemployment rate was fifth highest in the country, with Newfoundland & Labrador (12.8%), Nunavut (12.4%) and Prince Edward Island (10.4%), having the highest unemployment rates. The national unemployment rate was 5.9%.

Employment by employment type, class of worker, and industry

At the industrial level, the goods-producing industry accounted for all of the year-over-year job gains, with construction experiencing the largest increase. Meanwhile, the services-producing industry decreased by 300 people between May 2018 and May 2019. Over the same period, employment gains in private sector and self-employment were offset by losses in public sector employment.

Table 2: Employment & Employment Changes by Selected Characteristics

	2019			May-2018	Change from 1 Yr. Ago	
	May	Apr	Mar		No.	%
Total Employment	21,100	21,300	21,100	20,900	200	1.0
Full-time	18,600	18,700	18,700	18,200	400	2.2
Part-time	2,500	2,600	2,400	2,700	(200)	(7.4)
Employees	19,400	19,500	19,400	19,500	(100)	(0.5)
Public sector	8,900	9,200	9,400	9,900	(1,000)	(10.1)
Private sector	10,400	10,300	10,000	9,700	700	7.2
Self-employment	1,800	1,700	1,600	1,400	400	28.6
Goods-producing industry	3,200	3,000	3,000	2,700	500	18.5
Services-producing industry	17,900	18,300	18,100	18,200	(300)	(1.6)

Historical labour force activity

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

Table 3: 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
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
Feb-19	32,400	22,900	21,100	1,900	9,500	70.7	8.3	65.1
Jan-19	32,400	22,800	20,800	1,900	9,600	70.4	8.3	64.2
Dec-18	32,300	23,000	21,300	1,700	9,300	71.2	7.4	65.9
Nov-18	32,300	23,100	21,700	1,500	9,200	71.5	6.5	67.2
Oct-18	32,300	23,100	21,700	1,400	9,200	71.5	6.1	67.2
Sep-18	32,400	23,500	22,400	1,100	8,900	72.5	4.7	69.1
Aug-18	32,500	23,700	22,100	1,600	8,700	72.9	6.8	68.0
Jul-18	32,500	23,600	21,900	1,700	8,900	72.6	7.2	67.4
Jun-18	32,500	23,400	21,400	2,000	9,100	72.0	8.5	65.8
Previous Years:								
May-18	32,500	22,700	20,900	1,900	9,800	69.8	8.4	64.3
May-17	32,400	22,400	21,100	1,400	9,900	69.1	6.3	65.1
May-16	32,500	24,600	22,900	1,700	7,900	75.7	6.9	70.5
May-15	32,000	23,500	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.4	8.1	67.5
May-14	32,300	24,300	22,100	2,200	8,000	75.2	9.1	68.4
May-13	32,500	25,200	23,000	2,200	7,300	77.5	8.7	70.8
May-12	32,400	24,700	22,500	2,200	7,700	76.2	8.9	69.4
May-11	32,200	24,700	22,700	2,000	7,500	76.7	8.1	70.5
May-10	31,900	22,400	20,700	1,700	9,600	70.2	7.6	64.9
May-09	31,800	22,700	21,100	1,600	9,100	71.4	7.0	66.4

Labour Force Survey (LFS) 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: July 5, 2019