

Labour Force Activity

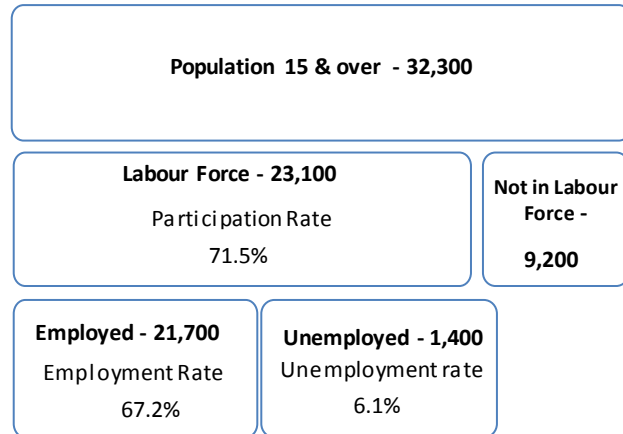
-October 2018-

Overview

The employment rate in the Northwest Territories (NWT) dropped to 67.2% in October from 69.1% in September. Consistent with seasonal patterns the labour force declined 1.7% while employment went down 3.1% during the same period.

Year-over-year, employment in the NWT was little changed, at 21,700 compared to 21,800 last year. There was however a shift from part-time employment, with 500 more persons working full-time in October 2018.

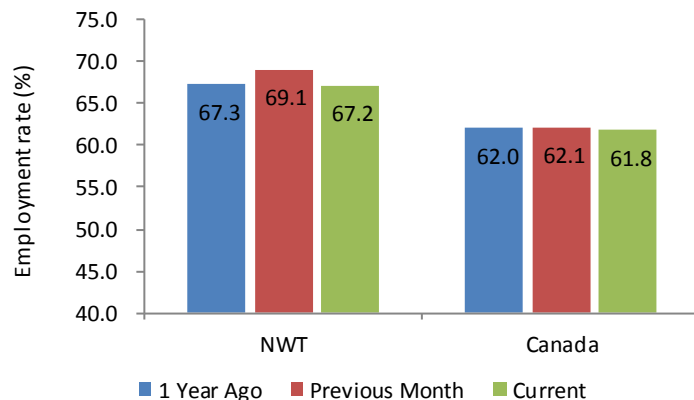
Figure 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories



National Highlights

For Canada overall, the employment rate decreased slightly from the previous month to 61.8% in October 2018. Among the provinces and territories, Yukon (72.5%) maintained the highest employment rate, followed by Alberta (67.4%) and the Northwest Territories (67.2%).

Figure 2: Employment Rates, NWT & Canada



The national unemployment rate was 5.8%, slightly lower than the NWT unemployment rate of 6.1%.



Employment by key demographic characteristics

Compared to October 2017, employment rates declined for all key demographic characteristics with the exception of males and persons living outside of Yellowknife. The highest drop occurred among persons living in Yellowknife and youths aged 15-24, dropping by 3.8 and 3.7 percentage points, respectively. The number of employed persons increased among those 25 years and older, males, Non-Indigenous persons, and persons living outside of Yellowknife.

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

	Oct-2018		Sep-2018		Oct-2017		Change from 1 Yr. Ago (Persons)
	(Persons)	Rate (%)	(Persons)	Rate (%)	(Persons)	Rate (%)	
Northwest Territories	21,700	67.2	22,400	69.1	21,800	67.3	(100)
15-24 Yrs.	2,500	47.2	2,900	54.7	2,800	50.9	(300)
25+ Yrs.	19,200	71.1	19,500	72.2	19,100	71.3	100
Males	11,300	69.3	11,600	71.2	11,100	68.5	200
Females	10,400	65.0	10,700	66.5	10,800	66.7	(400)
Indigenous	8,000	51.9	8,500	54.8	8,600	53.4	(600)
Non-Indigenous	13,700	81.1	13,900	82.2	13,300	81.6	400
Yellowknife	11,600	77.3	11,900	79.3	12,000	81.1	(400)
Rest of the Territory	10,100	58.0	10,500	60.3	9,900	56.6	200

Employment by employment type, class of worker, and industry

Year-over-year, employment in the services-producing industries was unchanged, while dropping 8.3% in the goods-producing industries. Over the same period, employment increased among public sector workers, while declining among private sector employees and self-employment. October 2018 had the second lowest number of persons in self-employment since April 2016.

Table 2: Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics

	2018			Oct-2017	Change from 1 Yr. Ago	
	Oct	Sep	Aug		No.	%
Total Employment	21,700	22,400	22,100	21,800	(400)	(1.8)
Full-time	19,200	19,600	19,500	18,700	500	2.6
Part-time	2,500	2,800	2,600	3,200	(700)	(26.9)
Employees	20,400	20,900	20,700	20,200	200	1.0
Public sector	9,600	10,100	10,300	9,200	400	3.9
Private sector	10,800	10,800	10,500	11,100	(300)	(2.9)
Self-employment	1,200	1,500	1,400	1,600	(400)	(28.6)
Goods-producing industry	3,200	3,600	3,600	3,500	(300)	(8.3)
Services-producing industry	18,400	18,800	18,500	18,400	-	-

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
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
May-18	32,500	22,700	20,900	1,900	9,800	69.8	8.4	64.3
Apr-18	32,500	22,500	20,700	1,800	10,000	69.2	8.0	63.7
Mar-18	32,400	22,700	20,700	2,000	9,700	70.1	8.8	63.9
Feb-18	32,400	22,800	20,900	1,900	9,600	70.4	8.3	64.5
Jan-18	32,400	22,900	20,900	2,000	9,500	70.7	8.7	64.5
Dec-17	32,400	22,600	21,000	1,600	9,900	69.8	7.1	64.8
Nov-17	32,400	22,800	21,300	1,500	9,600	70.4	6.6	65.7
Previous Years:								
Oct-17	32,400	23,400	21,800	1,500	9,000	72.2	6.4	67.3
Oct-16	32,600	24,400	22,700	1,700	8,200	74.8	7.0	69.6
Oct-15	31,900	24,100	21,900	2,200	7,700	75.5	9.1	68.7
Oct-14	32,300	23,700	21,900	1,800	8,700	73.4	7.6	67.8
Oct-13	32,600	25,200	23,300	2,000	7,300	77.3	7.9	71.5
Oct-12	32,500	25,500	23,600	1,900	7,000	78.5	7.5	72.6
Oct-11	32,300	25,100	23,400	1,800	7,200	77.7	7.2	72.4
Oct-10	32,100	23,300	22,000	1,300	8,800	72.6	5.6	68.5
Oct-09	31,700	22,600	20,800	1,700	9,100	71.3	7.5	65.6
Oct-08	31,800	24,200	23,100	1,100	7,600	76.1	4.5	72.6

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: December 7, 2018