



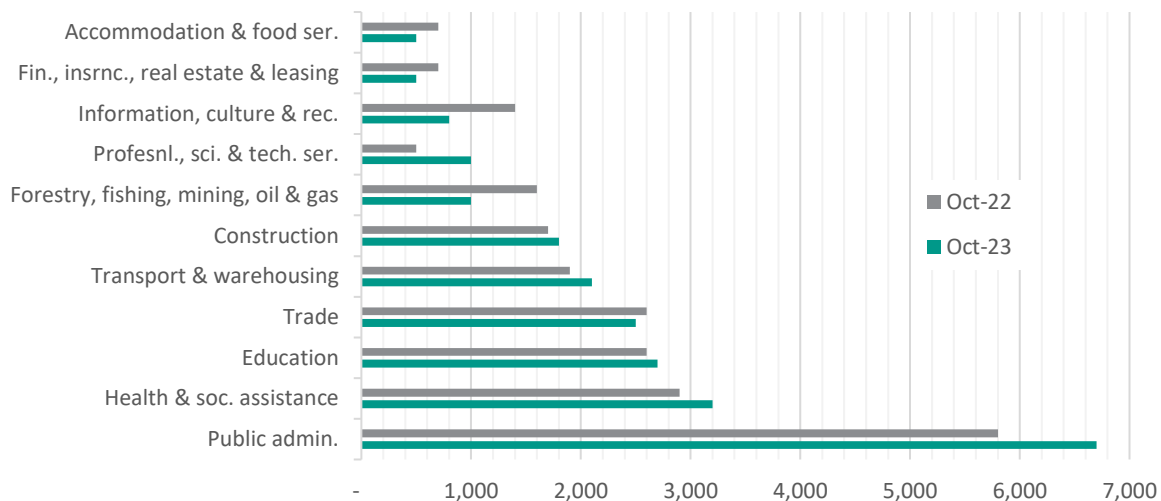
Labour Force Activity¹ October 2023

Employment in the Northwest Territories (NWT) stood at 24,200 in October, a slight decline from 24,400 the previous month¹. This represents an employment rate of 70.3% and a 0.6 percentage point drop from September. Meanwhile the unemployment rate declined to 2.4% as a result of more people leaving the labour market, mostly persons 25 year or older living outside of Yellowknife.

Year-over-year, the number of employed persons in the NWT was unchanged at 24,200. Likewise, the employment rate was little changed from 70.8% recorded in October 2022. Among major worker groups, marginal year-over-year employment rate increases were reported for persons aged 25 or older, males, and Indigenous persons. Meanwhile, the employment rate among youth aged 15-24 years dropped 8.2 percentage points to 58.2% following a decline in employed by 500 persons.

Industries that recorded year-over-year employment gains included public administration, professional science & technical services, healthcare & social assistance, and transportation & warehousing (Figure 1). These employment gains were however offset by declines in industries such as information culture & recreation; forestry, fishing, mining, oil & gas; business, building and other support services; and accommodation & food service.

Figure 1: Changes in Employment, by Selected Industries, Oct-22 & Oct-23



¹ LFS estimates in this report are based on seasonally unadjusted, three-months moving-average time series data.

National highlights

Canada's employment rate slightly decreased from 62.4% to 62.1% between September and October 2023. Among provinces and territories, Yukon had the highest employment rate at 71.3%, followed by Northwest Territories (70.3%) and Alberta (65.6%). The national unemployment rate was 5.6%, a 0.2 percentage point decline from the previous month. Unemployment rates were lowest in Northwest Territories (2.4%), Yukon (3.2%) and Quebec (4.5%).

Table 1: Historical Labour Market Indicators for October, Northwest Territories

| | Employed | Unemployed | Unemployment rate | Employment rate |
|------|----------|------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2023 | 24,200 | 600 | 2.4 | 70.3 |
| 2022 | 24,200 | 1,700 | 6.6 | 70.8 |
| 2021 | 23,200 | 1,100 | 4.5 | 68.2 |
| 2020 | 22,100 | 2,300 | 9.4 | 65.2 |
| 2019 | 23,000 | 1,700 | 6.9 | 68.2 |
| 2018 | 22,900 | 1,900 | 7.7 | 68.0 |
| 2017 | 23,200 | 1,600 | 6.5 | 68.6 |
| 2016 | 23,300 | 1,800 | 7.2 | 69.6 |
| 2015 | 23,300 | 2,400 | 9.3 | 70.0 |
| 2014 | 22,500 | 1,900 | 7.8 | 68.2 |
| 2013 | 23,200 | 2,000 | 7.9 | 70.7 |

The bar chart displays the historical employment rate for October in the Northwest Territories from 2013 to 2023. The y-axis represents the percentage rate, ranging from 51.0 to 72.0. The x-axis lists the years. A horizontal dashed line indicates the 10-year average employment rate of 68.9%. The data points are: 2013 (70.7%), 2014 (68.2%), 2015 (70.0%), 2016 (69.6%), 2017 (68.6%), 2018 (68.0%), 2019 (68.2%), 2020 (65.2%), 2021 (68.2%), 2022 (70.8%), and 2023 (70.3%).

Additional labour market information can be found on the NWT Bureau of Statistics website.

- Tables & Reports: <https://www.statsnwt.ca/labour-income/labour-force-activity/>
- LMI Dashboard: <https://nwt-bureau-of-statistics.shinyapps.io/lfs-dashboard/>
- Telephone: (867) 767-9169

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ⁱ Forest fires in the NWT forced collection of the monthly labour force to be suspended during the month of August. Since estimates for the territories are based on three month moving averages, the territory's current labour market activity may not be fully reflected.