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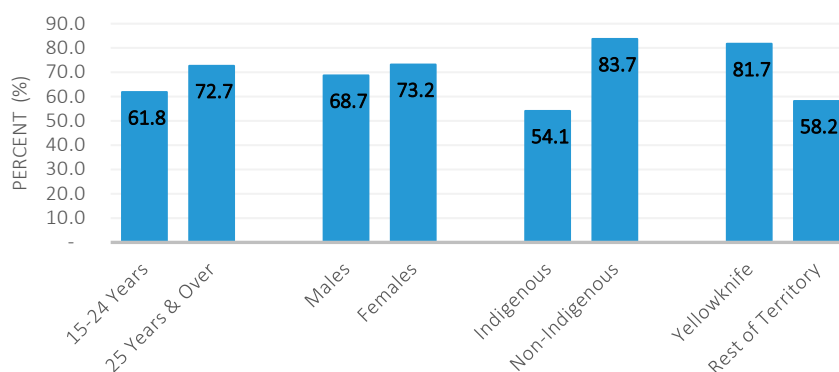
Labour Force Activity¹ September 2023

According to Statistics Canada, total employment in the NWT fell by 900 persons in September compared to 12 months ago, while the employment rate dropped from 74.0% to 70.9%. So far this year, employment rates have been lower compared to last year.

At the industry level, notable year-over-year employment declines were recorded in information culture & recreation (-600), accommodation & food services (-500) and business, building and other support services (-500). Partially offsetting these losses were employment gains in public administration, professional science & technical services, and transportation & warehousing.

Figure 1 shows September 2023 employment rates by key demographic characteristics, ranging from 54.1% among Indigenous persons, to 83.7% for Non-Indigenous persons. Similar to historical trends, employment rates were higher among persons 25 years or older, Non-Indigenous persons, and people living in Yellowknife.

Figure 1: Employment Rates by Key Demographic Characteristics, Sep 2023



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.

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

National highlights

Nationally, the employment rate was unchanged between September 2022 and September 2023 at 62.4%. Yukon and Prince Edward Island had the largest increase over the one-year period with a 2.0 percentage point gain. The NWT had the largest year-over-year employment rate decline among provinces and territories.

Table 1: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

Historical Labour Market Indicators for September					Historical Employment Rate (%) for September	
	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment rate	Employment rate		
2023	24,400	1,400	5.4	70.9		
2022	25,300	1,000	3.8	74.0		
2021	23,500	1,700	6.7	69.3		
2020	21,900	2,300	9.5	64.6		
2019	23,600	1,700	6.7	70.0		
2018	23,600	1,700	6.7	70.2		
2017	23,000	1,800	7.3	68.0		
2016	23,300	1,900	7.5	69.6		
2015	23,700	2,400	9.2	71.2		
2014	23,400	1,800	7.1	70.9		
2013	23,700	2,100	8.1	72.3		

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/>
- Telephone: (867) 767-9169

Next Release: November 3, 2023