



TOTAL EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR  
THE YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
1967, 1968 AND 1970.

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to present measures of total employment in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.<sup>1</sup> We have compiled various tables which provide the most complete available data on employment in the North for the governmental and non-governmental sectors.

In order to maintain uniformity, all figures are expressed in man-years, by calendar years. A man-year represents the employment of one person over the course of a full year. Thus a man working for six months is recorded as working one half a man-year.

Table 1 presents the final results of this paper. Some important facts are apparent from the statistics in this table. From 1967 to 1970 the estimates of total employment in the North increased from 13,332 man-years to 18,231 a growth rate of 36 per cent over three years. The governmental sector (including Crown Corporations) provides 36 per cent, 33 per cent, and 38 per cent of total employment in the years 1967, 1968, and 1970 respectively. Between 1967 and 1970 this sector experienced a 45 per cent increase in employment. The major part of this increase emanates from employment by the two Territorial governments. Territorial government employment in the North increased from 740 man-years in 1967 to 3,096 man-years in 1970—an increase of 321 per cent over three years. The non-governmental sector provides 64 per cent, 67 per cent, and 62 per cent of the employment possibilities in the North for the years 1967, 1968, and 1970 respectively.

<sup>1</sup>Statistics exclude own account workers and employers.

Table 1

Total Employment estimates, Yukon and Northwest Territories, 1967-70  
(in man-years)

	1967	1968	1969	1970
<b>A. Governmental Sector</b>				
Federal Departments	3,259	2,835	N.A. <sup>1</sup>	2,787
Crown Corporations	679	753	849	906
Territorial Departments	680	1,073	1,570	3,027
Territorial Enterprises	60	67	72	69
Municipal	139	166	200	215
School Boards	70	74	82	88
Total	4,887	4,968	N.A.	7,092
<b>B. Non-Governmental Sector</b>				
Building Maintenance	24	33	29	56
Communications	-	-	-	19
Construction	646	709	786	710
Contractors	608	754	870	899
Diamond Drilling	256	231	198	193
DEW line	714	730	670	622
Engineering	41	38	39	46
Fish Processing	26	28	21	15
Game Guides	23	37	45	38
Garages	218	255	269	297
Hairdressing	4	7	28	27
Hospitals	148	190	180	172
Hotels and Lodges	642	722	746	779
Janitor Services	7	14	10	13
Landscape and Gardening	-	-	3	2
Laundries	43	47	45	45
Lumbering	43	72	67	55
Manufacturing	105	125	139	140
Merchants	955	1,041	1,121	1,077
Mineral Exploration	496	678	974	1,033
Mining:				
producing	1,758	1,962	2,344	2,551
non-producing	182	312	246	61
Missions and Churches	4	5	3	1

Table 1 (continued)

Total Employment estimates, Yukon and Northwest Territories, 1967-70  
(in man-years)

	1967	1968	1969	1970
B. Non-governmental Sector Cont:				
Printing	39	44	50	39
Private Clubs	14	22	20	37
Restaurants and catering	368	442	519	533
Schools and Hostels	123	131	125	109
Theatres and Amusements	38	53	68	97
Transportation	816	927	1,138	1,363
Utilities	104	123	124	108
Optometrist	-	-	-	2
Total non-governmental	8,445	9,732	10,877	11,139
Total employment	13,332	14,700	N.A.	18,231

<sup>1</sup>Figures are not available for that year

Sources: Statistics Canada, Federal Government Employment Catalogue No. 72-004, monthly and quarterly.

Statistics Canada, Territorial Government Employment Catalogue No. 72-007, monthly.

Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Reports, Yukon and Northwest Territories, detailed company sheets.

Note: Federal government employment figures do not include members of the Armed Forces.

In this period, employment in the private sector grew by 32 per cent. The most important industrial activities in the North, in terms of employment, are those related to mining: diamond drilling, mineral exporation, and mines. These sectors are responsible for 31 per cent, 32 per cent 34 per cent and 34 of non-governmental employment in each year from 1967 to 1970 respectively. Other activities of some importance are: construction, contractors, merchants, transportation, the DEW line, and hotels and lodges.

Table 2

Federal Government Employment Estimates, Yukon and Northwest Territories,  
1965-69  
(in man-years)

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
A. Crown Corporations					
NCPC and NTCL	422	399	449	510	557
CNT	231	244	230	243	292
Total	653	643	679	753	849
B. Departments					
Salaried	1,556	1,627	1,751	1,847	N.A.
Prevailing rate	719	914	946	357	N.A.
Ship's officer and crew	39	38	41	39	N.A.
Casual	655	508	521	592	N.A.
Total	2,969	3,087	3,259	2,835	N.A.
Grand Total	3,622	3,730	3,938	3,588	N.A.

Data obtained from:

Statistics Canada, Federal Government Employment, 1965-69  
Catalogue No. 72-004, for all components except Canadian National  
Telecommunication, which from 1967 to 1969 was found in Workmen's  
Compensation Board Annual Reports, Yukon and Northwest Territories  
1967-69.

Note:

Federal government employment figures do not include  
members of the Armed Forces.



Table 3

Federal Government Employment Estimates, Yukon and Northwest Territories,  
1970-72  
(in man-years)

	1970	1971	1972
<b>A. Crown Corporations</b>			
Yukon			
NCPC	50	N.A.	N.A.
CNT	166	N.A.	N.A.
Total	216	196	219
N.W.T.			
NCPC, NTCL	532	619	743
CNT	158	N.A.	N.A.
Total	690	N.A.	N.A.
Sub-total	906	N.A.	N.A.
<b>B. Departments</b>			
Yukon			
Executive	No	94	98
Administration	Breakdown	41	49
Technical	Available	95	108
Administration Support		126	122
Operational		427	329
Casual		265	298
Total	966 <sup>1</sup>	1,048	1,004
Northwest Territories			
Executive	No	192	195
Administration	Breakdown	63	61
Technical	Available	254	304
Administration Support		90	121
Operational		504	524
Casual		641	681
Total	1821 <sup>1</sup>	1,744	1,886
Yukon and Northwest Territories			
Departments			
Sub-total	2,787 <sup>1</sup>	2,792	2,890
<b>C. Grand Total</b>	<b>3,693</b>	<b>N.A.</b>	<b>N.A.</b>

<sup>1</sup> data for 1970 was obtained directly from the Institutions and Public Finance Branch, Statistics Canada

## Sources:

1. Statistics Canada, Federal Government Employment catalogue No. 72-004
2. Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Report, Yukon and Northwest Territories

Note: Federal Government employment figures do not include members of the Armed Forces.

Statistics in Table 2 and 3 indicate significant growth in employment by Crown Corporations in the North between 1967 and 1970. Employment by federal departments, on the other hand, declined between 1967 and 1970. In addition the structure of employment changed between 1965 and 1968. We see that the number of salaried employees grew at the rate of some 75 to 100 employees a year, while "prevailing rate" employees, after a substantial increase in 1966 of nearly 200 man-years, fell in 1968 by 589 man-years. This caused total federal departmental employment to decrease by 424 man-years in 1968, marking the beginning of the transfer of many government functions in the Northwest Territories from federal to territorial jurisdiction. In 1970 there was another small decrease in total federal departmental employment. Statistics for the period 1970 to 1972 indicate that the employment of federal personnel in the North has again begun to increase.

b) Territorial

Statistics on Territorial employment are presented by Statistics Canada in two parts: territorial government enterprises and departmental services. The former refers to the Territorial Liquor Boards. Table 4 shows the data available for the years 1965 to 1972 from the Statistics Canada publication, Provincial Government Employment. While there is a slight variation in employment by territorial government enterprises during this period, employment by department services dramatically increased from 516 man-years in 1965 to 4,092 in 1972. This is an increase of 700 percent over 7 years. Between 1968 and 1969 it rose by 496 man-years, 1969-70 by 1,458 man-years, 1970-71 by 524 man-years, and 1971-72 by 541 man-years.

We mentioned earlier that a decrease in federal government employment over the study period was due to a transfer of functions in the Northwest Territories from the federal to the territorial government (more specifically from Indian and Northern Affairs to the Government of the Northwest Territories). Some employees who were working in the Territories for the federal authorities transferred to the Territorial government during these years.

In addition, some civil servants previously

Table 4

Territorial Government Employment Estimates, Yukon and Northwest Territories, 1965-1972  
(in man-years)

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972		Total
								Yukon	N.W.T.	
A. Departmental Services										
salaried	375	401	467	775	1,130	1,953	2,454	731	1,912	2,643
full time wage earners	80	126	104	109	163	170				
wage earners, others	61	56	109	189	277	904	1,097	463	986	1,449
total	516	583	680	1,073	1,570	3,027	3,551	1,194	2,898	4,092
B. Territorial Enterprises										
salaried	34	40	43	44	43	42	42	25	19	44
wage earners	20	18	17	23	29	27	25	1	11	12
total	54	58	60	67	72	69	67	26	30	56
Total salaried	409	441	510	819	1,173	1,995	2,496	756	1,931	2,687
Total wage earners	161	200	230	231	469	1,101	1,122	464	997	1,461
Total	570	641	740	1,140	1,642	3,096	3,618	1,220	2,928	4,148

Sources:

Statistics Canada, Provincial Government Employment Catalogue No. 72-007

working in Ottawa moved to the North when they were transferred to the Territorial government. These two factors, plus a substantial independent expansion of both Territorial governments, combined to create the existing employment situation for the Territorial governments there.

c) Municipalities and School Boards

Though the local government sector does not employ as many people as the Federal or Territorial sectors do, employment in municipalities and schools increased from 209 to 303 man-years between 1967 and 1970 inclusively. The data in Table 5 were taken from the Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Reports of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Table 5

Employment Estimates for School Boards and Municipalities,  
Yukon and Northwest Territories  
(in man-years)

	1967	1968	1969	1970
Yukon municipalities	58	74	93	103
Northwest Territories municipalities	81	92	107	112
Northwest Territories school boards	70	74	82	88
Total	209	240	282	303

Sources:

Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Report, for Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Figures for the Northwest Territories pertain to the municipal districts of Inuvik Village, Pine Point Hamlet, the Town of Fort Smith, the Town of Hay River and the City of Yellowknife. For the Yukon, data for the municipalities relate to Dawson City, Whitehorse City, and Haines Junction, Mayo, Faro and Watson Lake. The school boards

are the Roman Catholic Separate School Board in Hay River, the Yellowknife Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 2, and the Yellowknife School District No. 1.

3. Non-governmental Employment

The remaining total employment figures for the Yukon and Northwest Territories, which concern the private sector, have been taken from Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Reports.<sup>1</sup> The number of employees covered by Workmen Compensation include all employees of all private firms operating in the Territories, except financial institutions.<sup>2</sup> This source provides the most complete data on private employment in the Northern Territories. Statistics were obtained for the years 1967 to 1970 inclusively. We were fortunate to have the breakdown of employment for each of the two Territories. Tables 6 and 7 show the detailed figures of employment by industry for the Yukon and Northwest Territories respectively. All statistics from this source were derived from the average monthly manpower requirements of each firm. These statistics were converted to man-years on the basis of the number of months of operation of each firm. Data were changed from fiscal to calendar years by estimating moving annual averages. This also compensated for errors arising from poor reporting.

From Table 6, a few conclusions concerning employment in the private sector of the Yukon can be drawn. Special attention should be given to the significance of employment by mining, mineral exploration, and diamond drilling in the Yukon. These closely related activities are responsible for 23.8 percent, 29 percent, 32 percent, and 32 percent of total percent non-government employment there for the years 1967 to 1970 respectively. From these ratios it is clear

<sup>1</sup>Industry detail supplied on a confidential basis.

<sup>2</sup>Financial institutions are now included in the latest Workmen's Compensation Board statistics.



Table 6

Non-governmental employment estimates, Yukon, 1967 - 1970  
(in man-years)

	1967	1968	1969	1970
Communications	-	-	-	12
Construction	292	315	230	190
Contractors	411	501	452	387
Diamond Drills	57	51	70	77
DEW Line	34	35	26	22
Engineering	25	28	26	20
Game Guides	17	26	29	24
Garages	155	183	192	200
Hair Dressing	-	-	19	17
Hotels and Lodges	387	444	475	485
Janitor Services	7	14	10	13
Landscape and Gardening	-	-	3	2
Laundries	25	26	25	24
Lumbering	29	48	46	39
Manufacturing	24	26	22	24
Merchants	510	550	569	594
Mineral Exploration	207	208	235	229
Mining:				
Producing	517	699	990	1,162
Non-producing	177	296	229	55
Missions and churches	3	4	2	-
Printing	23	28	31	17
Private Clubs	6	4	3	18
Restaurant and Catering	162	203	206	190
Schools	-	-	2	3
Theatres and Amusement	12	18	26	43
Transportation	477	548	681	837
Utilities	47	51	52	53
Optometrist	-	-	-	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,604</b>	<b>4,306</b>	<b>4,651</b>	<b>4,739</b>

Sources:

Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Reports, Yukon company detailed.

Table 7

Non-governmental Employment estimates, Northwest  
Territories, 1967-70  
(in man-years)

	1967	1968	1969	1970
Building Maintenance	24	33	29	56
Communications	-	-	-	7
Construction	354	394	556	520
Contractors	197	253	418	512
DEW Line	680	694	644	600
→Diamond Drilling	199	180	128	116
Engineering	16	10	13	26
Fish Processing	26	28	21	15
→Game Guides	6	11	16	14
Garages	63	72	77	97
Hair dressing	4	7	9	10
Hospitals	148	190	180	172
Hotels and lodges	255	278	271	294
Laundries	18	22	20	21
→Lumbering	14	24	21	16
Manufacturing	81	99	117	116
Merchants	445	491	552	483
→Mineral Exploration	289	470	739	804
→Mining:				
Producing	1,241	1,263	1,354	1,389
Non-producing	5	16	17	6
Missions and churches	1	1	1	1
Printing	16	16	19	22
Private Clubs	8	18	17	19
Restaurants and Caterers	206	239	313	343
Schools (Hostels)	123	131	123	106
Theatres and Amusement	26	35	42	54
Transportation	339	379	457	526
Utilities	57	72	72	55
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,841</b>	<b>5,426</b>	<b>6,226</b>	<b>6,400</b>

Sources:

Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Report, Northwest Territories.

that intensified mineral activity will have a crucial impact on total non-governmental employment in the Yukon Territory and that this sector was a major factor in the rapid expansion of employment there in this period.

Another major contributor to employment in the Yukon is transportation. In 1967 this sector was responsible for 13 percent of non-governmental employment, rising by 1970 to 17 percent. Other major sectors are contractors, construction, merchants, and hotels and lodges.

Table 7 shows estimates of non-governmental employment in the Northwest Territories between 1967 and 1970. Non-governmental employment there is considerably higher than in the Yukon. If we examine the same three industry classifications which are related to mining, we find that they are responsible for 35 percent of the non-governmental employment in each year from 1967 to 1970.

4. Conclusion

This study set out to gather estimates on total employment in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, and this has been achieved by using what is felt to be the most accurate and comprehensive data available. The format used to structure the employment statistics is believed to be sufficient to permit future updatings without major difficulties.

When interpreting these estimates some caution should be exercised, because the generation of employment in the North, which these statistics measure, does not necessarily mean that the northern population occupies the positions available. In 1970, for instance, our employment estimates are in the order of 18,200 man-years. In 1971 the total northern population was given as 53,195 persons of whom 29,134<sup>1</sup> were 18 and over. Of this 29,134, probably over 50 per cent are not members of the wage labour force. This suggests that there are plenty of jobs for the working population. However, more detailed evidence indicates this is patently not the case. A study by Northern Services Divisions<sup>2</sup>, IAND, estimates an unemployment rate of 45 percent for native males in the Yukon and Northwest Territories in 1972. The evidence indicates that employment possibilities being created in the North are not to a large measure, being filled by the native population.

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada, Census 1971, Population by Sex, Advance Information.

<sup>2</sup> Northern Services Division, IAND, Eskimo and Indian Male Labour Statistics, Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory, Feb. 1973.

A study relating to the type of employment being filled by the native population in Yukon and Northwest Territories is to be carried out shortly in order to further investigate this aspect of the employment problem.

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4. Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Report Northwest Territories, 1967-72.
5. Workmen's Compensation Board Annual Report, Yukon, 1967-72.
6. Statistics Canada, Census 1971, Population by Sex, Advance Information.