

# Rapport sur les accords socioéconomiques

MINES DE DIAMANTS DES TERRITOIRES DU NORD-OUEST

Government of Gouvernement des

Northwest Territories Territoires du Nord-Ouest



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Kīspin ki nitawihtīn ē nīhīyawihk ōma ācimōwin, tipwāsinān. Cree

Tłıchǫ yatı k'è è . Dı wegodı newǫ dè, gots'o gonede. Tłıchǫ

Perihtł'ís Dëne Sųłiné yati t'a huts'elkër xa beyáyati thezą zat'e, nuwe ts'ën yółti. Chipewyan

Edi gondi dehgáh got'je zhatié k'éé edatł'éh enahddhę nide naxets'é edahłí. South Slavey

> K'áhshó got'įne xədə k'é hederi zedįhtl'é yeriniwę ní dé dúle. North Slavey

Jii gwandak izhii ginjìk vat'atr'ijqhch'uu zhit yinohthan jì', diits'àt ginohkhìi. Gwich'in

> Uvanittuaq ilitchurisukupku Inuvialuktun, ququaqluta. Inuvialuktun

 $\dot{\mathsf{C}}^\mathsf{b}\mathsf{d} \wedge \mathsf{C}^\mathsf{b}\mathsf{d}^\mathsf{c} \wedge \mathsf{C}^\mathsf{b}\mathsf{d}^\mathsf{c} \wedge \mathsf{C}^\mathsf{b}\mathsf{d}^\mathsf{c} \wedge \mathsf{C}^\mathsf{b}\mathsf{d}^\mathsf{c} \wedge \mathsf{C}^\mathsf{c} \wedge \mathsf{C}^\mathsf{c}$ 

Hapkua titiqqat pijumagupkit Inuinnaqtun, uvaptinnut hivajarlutit. Inuinnaqtun

Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat: 867-767-9346 ext. 71037 Francophone Affairs Secretariat: 867-767-9343



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### Introduction

Major resource developments in the Northwest Territories (NWT) have significant impacts upon its lands, resources, and people. To mitigate these impacts, when a proposed project goes through the necessary regulatory reviews and approvals process, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) can require the negotiation of a Socio-Economic Agreement (SEA) that is requested and implemented by the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT).

The SEAs set out commitments and predictions made by a company during its regulatory review. They provide NWT residents with a clear picture of the benefits allocated to them, their community or region, and to the NWT overall. As such, they normally include employment and business opportunities; cultural well-being and traditional economy; community, family, and individual well-being; net effects on government; and sustainable development.

In a typical project, various commitments are made by both the GNWT and the proposed project principals. SEAs outline these commitments to benefit NWT residents, with objectives like increased employment, training, procurement, and cultural and community wellness programs from the project. The Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment (ITI) is the GNWT lead department in partnership with Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) and Health and Social Services (HSS) for the implementation and monitoring the SEAs to ensure commitments are met.

SEAs have demonstrated their value and importance in the years since their inception. They were first negotiated with the introduction of the Ekati Diamond Mine in 1996, and the latest SEA was negotiated for the NICO Project in 2019.

This summary report for 2020 presents data and information on social and economic indicators that identify potential linkages between the opening and ongoing operation of the NWT's active mines which at this point include the three diamond mines with the social health and economic well-being of its communities and people.

They are presented in four groupings: the NWT overall, Yellowknife, Small Local Communities (SLCs) identified due to their geographic proximity to the operating mines; and Remaining NWT Communities.

### Introduction

Les grands projets d'exploitation des ressources réalisés en sol ténois ont d'importantes répercussions sur les terres, les ressources et les populations. Pour atténuer ces répercussions, lorsqu'un projet proposé passe par les examens et le processus d'approbation réglementaires prévus, l'Office d'examen des répercussions environnementales de la vallée du Mackenzie (OEREVM) peut exiger la négociation d'un accord socio-économique demandé et mis en œuvre par le gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest (GTNO).

Ces accords exposent les engagements que l'entreprise a pris et les prévisions qu'elle a faites pendant son examen réglementaire. Ils donnent aux Ténois une image claire des retombées qu'auront les projets sur eux, leur collectivité ou leur région et les TNO en général. Ils portent donc généralement sur des aspects tels que l'emploi et les occasions d'affaires, le bien-être culturel et l'économie traditionnelle, la collectivité, la famille, le bien-être individuel, les effets nets sur le gouvernement et le développement durable.

Dans le cadre d'un projet typique, divers engagements sont pris par le GTNO et les responsables du projet proposé. Les accords socio-économiques décrivent ces engagements en démontrant leur profit pour les résidents des TNO, avec des objectifs tels que l'augmentation du nombre d'emplois, et d'occasions de formation, l'approvisionnement et les programmes de bienêtre culturel et communautaire. En partenariat avec le ministère de l'Éducation, de la Culture et de la Formation et le ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, c'est le ministère de l'Industrie, du Tourisme et de l'Investissement (MITI) du GTNO qui assure la mise en œuvre et la surveillance des accords afin de veiller au respect des engagements.

Les accords socio-économiques ont démontré leur valeur et leur importance au cours des années qui ont suivi leur mise en œuvre. Ils ont été négociés pour la première fois à l'occasion de l'établissement de la mine de diamants Ekati en 1996, le dernier ayant été négocié pour le projet NICO en 2019.

Ce résumé du rapport de 2020 compile des données et de l'information sur des indicateurs sociaux et économiques qui définissent les liens possibles entre l'ouverture et l'exploitation continue des mines de diamants en activité aux TNO (à savoir trois, à l'heure actuelle) et la santé sociale et le bien-être économique des collectivités et de la population concernées.

Les données sont divisées en quatre groupes : l'ensemble des TNO, Yellowknife, les petites collectivités locales qui se distinguent par leur proximité géographique des mines en exploitation, et les autres collectivités ténoises.

# Economic Overview and Current NWT Economy

- Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- Diamond Secondary Industry
- Effects of COVID-19 on the NWT Economy
- SEAs in Force
- Mineral Resources Act
- SEA Program Review
- Estimated Mine Life

\$23 Billion

Mining's impact to the NWT GDP

\$814 Million

Direct impact to the NWT GDP

\$29 Million

Support activities for Mining, Oil, and Gas in the NWT in 2020



## Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

Following common usage, GDP is presented as basic prices in chained 2012 dollars. The method is used as a quantity index to measure production in one year relative to another. Changes in chained dollar GDP estimates only reflect the change in the quantities of goods and services produced, not their prices; and discounts changes due to inflation.

In 2020, although largely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic necessitating requiring temporary production shutdowns, diamond mining continued to be a major component, representing 20.76% of total GDP. In recent decades.

Over the past 20 years, diamond mining has been the largest segment of the GDP, contributing \$814.1 million to GDP in 2020, and cumulatively 23 billion since 1999.

Benefits from operating mines flow into other industries as well. These include the purchase of construction materials, transportation services to fly workers and supplies to the mine locations, and procurement from local businesses. Support industries for mining and oil and gas activities contributed \$28.7 million to GDP in 2020, representing 0.7 percent of the NWT GDP.

#### NWT Mines contribute in part to the GDP of the following industries:









Transportation

Construction

Retail/Wholesale

**Real Estate** 



\$814 Million
Direct impact to the NWT GDP in 2020

## Diamond Secondary Industry

The NWT diamond industry supports and stimulates economic development by utilizing NWT contractors and businesses. The mines have agreed to guarantee access to approximately ten percent of rough stones to Approved NWT Diamond Manufacturers (ANDM) for local manufacturing as approved under the GNWT's Diamond Policy Framework. These rough diamond supply arrangements continue to support the secondary cutting and polishing industry in the NWT, thus providing further training and employment opportunities to NWT residents.

Almod Diamonds Limited's Crown of Light facility, located in Yellowknife, has cut and polished shipments of rough diamonds provided by NWT diamond mines since its operations started in 2019.



hoto Credit: billbradenphoto



## Effects of COVID-19 on the NWT Economy

The year 2020 saw many mining industry-related activities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including opportunities for exploration and training.

Mineral Tenure Relief was implemented by the Mining Recorder's Office for mining and exploration companies. These COVID Relief Measures put in place in March 2020 for the mineral resources industry were later extended to December 31, 2020 for mineral leases and to March 31, 2021 for mineral claims.

NWT Mining Week, an important annual event, Mining Week, had to adapt as well. The mining industry is a key component of the NWT economy; the sector employs over 3,000 people and spent over \$300 million this year in the NWT. In recognition, each year the GNWT partners with

the WSCC (Workers' Safety & Compensation Commission (WSCC) and the NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines to celebrate mining in a weeklong NWT Mining Week gathering. But with COVID-19 restrictions in place, Mining Week 2020 events were held online and shared on social media from June 21 to 27, 2020.

A new geological walking app (NWT Walking Tour App) was launched at the 2020 conference. It is available for residents and visitors to Yellowknife to facilitate self-guided tours along two routes of geological interest with stations along the way explaining local interpretive geology and history.



## SEAs in Force

#### **Currently signed SEAs in force in the NWT are:**

- Ekati Diamond Mine (1996)
- Diavik Diamond Mine (1999)
- Prairie Creek Mine (2011)
- Snap Lake Mine (2004 on care and maintenance since 2015)
- Gahcho Kué Mine (2013)
- NICO Project (2019)

## **SEA Program Review**

The 19<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly set a mandate to adopt a benefit retention approach to economic development, to be addressed by Summer 2023. One way the GNWT will adopt a benefit retention approach to economic development is by increasing the success in meeting the objectives under socio-economic agreements through an independent review with recommendations for the Socio-Economic Agreement program. This will be completed in two phases: review and re-design phase.

The SEA Program Review commenced in 2020 and is expected to be completed in 2023.



### Mineral Resources Act

The GNWT has developed a new, made-in-the-NWT *Mineral Resources Act* (MRA) to meet the unique needs of the Territory. As part of developing the legislation, the GNWT conducted 120 days of public engagement across the NWT from August 1st through December 1st, 2017.

The subsequent 'What We Heard' Report included a section on benefits which revealed several valuable observations and feedback respecting SEAs.

For example, many industry representatives noted that engagement should be required earlier in a project, starting at the exploration phase instead of the development phase. Others mentioned that SEAs are not adequately enforced. Indigenous governments and organizations and members of the public commented on the need for benefit agreements to be a legislated requirement under the *Mineral Resources Act*.

Several participants across all participant groups noted that public reporting on benefits would be useful, including statistical reporting on IBAs (Impact Benefit Agreements) and SEAs, in order to enforce agreements and increase public knowledge regarding benefits from mining.

Participants regularly noted that Northern procurement should be required in the MRA. As part of the SEA, local capacity should be built to ensure that needed services can be provided.

Several participants from municipal governments and the public commented on the need for mine workers who travel to the NWT for work to stay here, spend their money here, which would help local economies grow.

The new *Mineral Resources Act* aims to strengthen benefits to NWT residents by requiring that benefits be negotiated as resource development occurs in the territory. The powers to legislate benefits under the *Mineral Resources Act* will compliment the GNWT's efforts to maximize the benefits from resource development in the NWT.

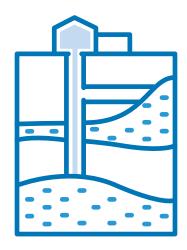
### **Estimated Mine Life**

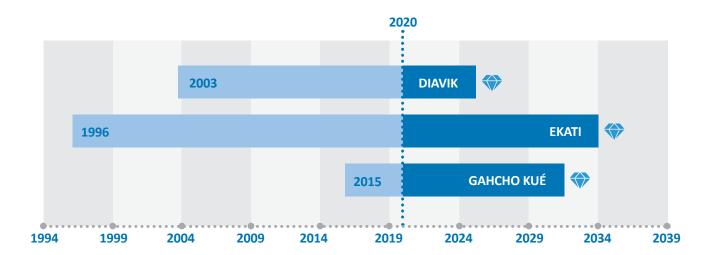
Diavik began commercial operations in 2003. The revised mine plan, which now includes the A-21 pit, extends production to 2025.

Ekati's production life is now extended to 2034. Exploration by Arctic Canadian Diamond Company continued on the Ekati Diamond Mine property with eleven new kimberlites discovered in 2019 and is currently permitting for mining of the Point Lake kimberlite.

Gahcho Kué is estimated to operate until 2030 with the discovery of the new kimberlite pipe in 2019.

All active mines in the NWT have SEAs. On the horizon are three metal mines preparing to begin active operations: Prairie Creek, Nico, and Pine Point mines, plus a number of other projects in varying levels of development.







# Procurement and Royalties

- Procurement Targets
- Royalties and Revenue Sharing
- Featured Story: Mine Industry Support for NWT Businesses during the COVID-19 Pandemic







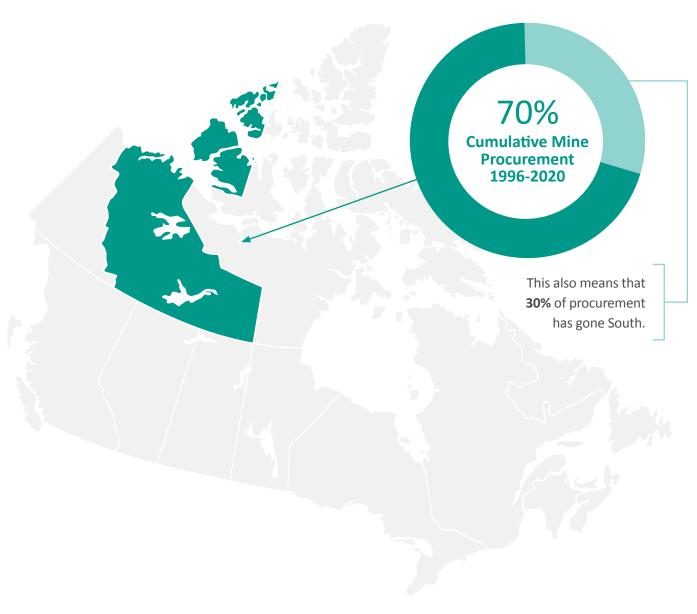
## **Procurement Targets**

	CONSTRUCTION	OPERATION	CLOSURE	
<b>Ekati</b>	Construction Phase: 28%	Operation Phase: 70%		
Diavik	Construction	Operation	Closure	
	Phase: 38%	Phase: 70%	Phase: 70%	
Gahcho Kué	Construction	Operation	Closure	
	Phase: 30%	Phase: 60%	Phase: 60%	

## **Cumulative Mine Procurement**

Cumulatively, NWT mines have contributed over \$23 billion since the mines have begun operations since 1996, over \$16 billion of which went towards NWT businesses and nearly \$7.5 billion to Indigenous-owned NWT businesses.

For 2020, all mines contributed over \$300 million towards NWT businesses.





## Cumulative Mine Procurement (1996 – 2020 NWT Mine Procurement)

Cumulative mine procurement numbers are approximate. They are meant to show the proportion of procurement that stays local. These figures are not an exact accounting of every purchase from every mine.

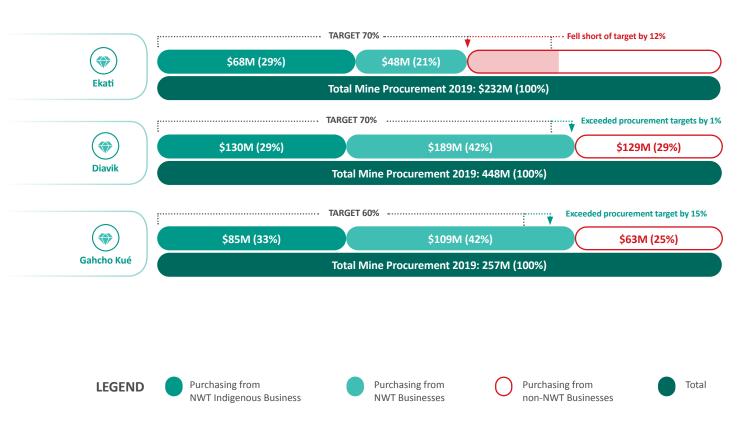
NWT Indigenous		NWT Other		Southern	$\bigcup$	
\$7B (30%)		\$9B (40%)		\$7B (30%)	$\bigcup$	
TOTAL Cumulative Mine Procurement: \$23B (100%)						



## 2020 NWT Mine Procurement

Diavik and Gahcho Kué met their Northern procurement commitments of 70% and 60% in 2020, achieving 71% and 75% respectively. Ekati achieved 58% Northern procurement in 2020, short of their targeted commitment of 70%.







## Royalties and Revenue Sharing

Resource revenues after land claim payments are shared with the federal government and Indigenous governments. One-half of resource revenues (subject to a cap) are retained by the GNWT, with the remainder being offset by the federal government against the GNWT's Territorial Formula Financing grant. The amount retained by the GNWT after this offset is called the Net Fiscal Benefit. 25 per cent of the Net Fiscal Benefit is shared with participating Indigenous governments.

The amount of revenues collected each year varies depending on the performance of operating mines. Over the past 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20), the GNWT has collected an average of about \$90 million annually in revenues from diamond mines.

The GNWT raises revenues from resources in two primary ways: taxes and royalties.

#### Royalties

Royalties are charged by the GNWT on the value of the minerals that are extracted from the ground. Non-renewable resources, once extracted, are no longer available for future use. Royalties serve to convert a depleting resource into an income stream for the public benefit of all NWT residents.

Royalties are calculated on the basis of profits from each mining operation. Income from mining is influenced by numerous factors, for example: market prices, the quality of resources being extracted, cost of production, and exchange rates. The higher the income, the more the NWT collects in royalties.

In 2019-20, the GNWT collected \$24 million in resource revenues (includes non-diamond revenues).

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) committed to reviewing the royalty regime following passage of the *Mineral Resources Act*. As part of our work to develop the regulatory framework for the new MRA, we are committed to facilitating a broader discussion on the NWT's royalty regime. The current royalty regulations were mirrored from the federal regulations as part of Devolution. It was assumed by some that a review of the current mining royalty regime would be part of the development of the MRA. The last major revision of the regulations was in the mid- to late-1990s in response to the emergence of the NWT diamond industry. Most jurisdictions with active mining industries review royalty regimes approximately every ten years as a best practice to see if the regime is continuing to strike a balance between attracting investment and a fair return to government

#### **Taxes**

The diamond mines provide the GNWT with significant revenues from corporate income tax, property tax, fuel tax and carbon tax. In addition, their employees pay payroll tax and personal income tax.

In the past three years, diamond mines have contributed about 40 per cent of the GNWT's corporate income, fuel, property, and payroll tax revenue.

#### **Taxes Paid by Employers**

#### **Corporate taxes**

Corporate income tax rate is charged at a rate of 11.5% of corporate taxable income in the NWT.

#### **Property taxes**

Mines in the NWT are charged taxes on the value of their properties. Most of the property tax revenue collected by the GNWT comes from the diamond mines.

#### Fuel taxes

Mines employ power generation facilities, haul trucks and processing equipment. This equipment uses a lot of fuel and this consumption (except heating) is taxed.

#### Carbon tax

The diamond mines are subject to carbon tax on the fuel that is consumed in their operations (with offsetting rebate of 72 per cent of carbon tax paid).

#### Distributed Resource Revenue Sharing Since Devolution, by Signatory (\$)

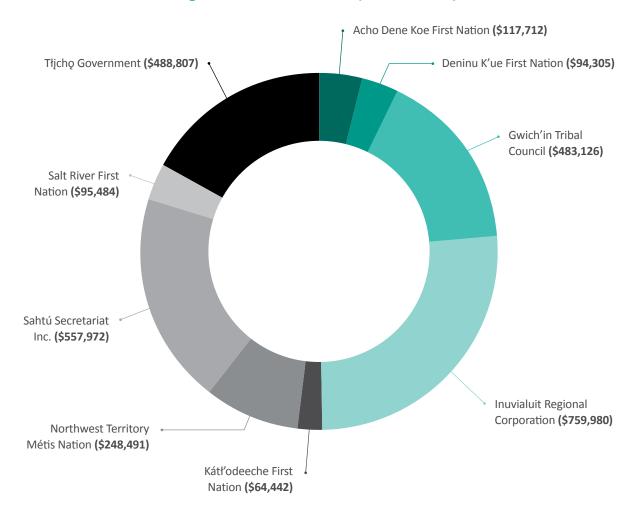
Indigenous Group	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Acho Dene Koe First Nation	\$188,133	\$135,105	\$197,272	\$174,755	\$74,162	\$117,712
Deninu K'ue First Nation	\$238,226	\$181,971	\$265,450	\$244,861	\$102,559	\$94,305
Gwich'in Tribal Council	\$1,182,521	\$942,063	\$1,373,398	\$1,254,427	\$527,224	\$483,126
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation	\$1,815,566	\$1,441,671	\$2,101,856	\$1,973,271	\$821,920	\$759,980
Kátľodeeche First Nation	\$131,661	\$126,627	\$184,153	\$167,322	\$70,503	\$64,442
Northwest Territory Métis Nation	\$627,601	\$497,521	\$725,368	\$645,201	\$273,568	\$248,491
Sahtú Secretariat Inc.	\$1,335,446	\$1,067,134	\$1,555,666	\$1,448,762	\$605,048	\$557,972
Salt River First Nation	\$250,542	\$191,636	\$279,544	\$247,922	\$105,205	\$95,484
Tłįcho Government	\$1,213,736	\$961,408	\$1,401,716	\$1,269,178	\$534,950	\$488,807
Totals	\$6,983,432	\$5,545,136	\$8,084,423	\$7,425,698	\$3,115,139	\$2,910,318



#### **Total Distributed Resource Sharing**



#### **Resource Revenue Sharing Allocation 2019-2020 (\$ Thousands)**



#### ► FEATURED STORY:

## Mine Industry Support for NWT Businesses during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Diavik contributed \$50,000 in partnership with the NWT Chamber of Commerce and ITI to develop the Reopening Safely Grant, which supports local businesses in adapting to the health restrictions imposed due to COVID-19.

The funding allowed the Chamber to develop a health and safety guide for businesses of all sizes and host webinars with the Workers' Safety & Compensation Commission on creating a pandemic plan to implement appropriate hygiene and social distancing protocols.

Companies can also apply for grants ranging from \$500 to \$1,000, with one application per business allowed under the Reopening Safely Grant.

Rio Tinto has pledged \$10 million in support for community partners and COVID-19 initiatives in Canada and the United States, including more than \$700,000 for local initiatives in the NWT.

Diavik also contributed \$20,000 to each of two other programs: the NWT Chamber of Commerce #shoplocal campaign to support advertising for shop local days; and the Northwest Territories Northern Staycations initiative to support businesses affected by the pandemic.













# Employment and Participation

NWT mines employ local workers directly or through contractors throughout all phases of the mine's life. Employment commitments aim to maximize economic opportunities for NWT residents from NWT resource development projects. They promote and attract a local workforce through implementing northern benefits, and offering incentives to NWT employees like northern benefit + relocation packages.

- Employment Targets
- Featured Story: Det'on Cho Logistics



31,208
Persons years of NWT resi



917

Persons years of NWT resident employment in 2020



## **Employment Targets**

The commitments to employing NWT workers are largely established by way of targets negotiated through SEAs. Each active SEA has employment commitments to hire local residents, with the employment target based on the size of the project.



The NWT mines have historically worked with the GNWT to identify the challenges in meeting employment commitments under the SEA and collaborate to increase NWT employment. COVID-19 has presented additional challenges to working together to address employment at the mines.

The NWT mines did not meet the employment commitments set out during their operations in 2020:

 Ekati met its Indigenous employment commitment but did not meet its Northern commitment, only achieving 37%.

- Diavik met its Indigenous employment commitments but did not meet its Northern commitment, with 44% of its total employment coming from NWT residents.
- Gahcho Kué did not meet its Indigenous employment commitment, employing 49%.

Mine employment was further affected by the temporary shutdown of mine operations prompted by the pandemic. However, Diavik and De Beers' Gahcho Kué continued to pay their workers during the temporary layoff period. Also interrupting diamond production was the placement of the Ekati mine on care and maintenance.

## 1996-2020 **Cumulative Mine Employment**

Since 1996, the year of the first NWT diamond mine, cumulative employment of NWT residents has reached over 31,000 person-years.









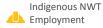
**Gahcho Kué** 



Southern Employment 33,445 PY (52%) \*\*

**64,653 PY TOTAL EMPLOYMENT** 

#### **LEGEND**







- \* Employment is expressed in Person Years. Person Years (PY) is defined as 2,140 hours, an equivalent to a two weeks in and two weeks out rotation.
- \*\* Numbers may not add up due to rounding errors.



## 2020 NWT Mine Employment

In 2020, the industry employed over 900 NWT person-years.







Diavik

Gahcho Kué



**NWT Indigenous Employment** 439 PY (21%)

**NWT Employment** 478 PY (23%)

Southern Employment 1,139 PY (55%)

1996-2020

- 2,056 PY (100%) IN 2020











359 PY (100%) IN 2020



188 PY (17%)

298 PY (27%)

- 614 PY (56%) -

- 1,100 PY (100%) IN 2020



\_\_\_\_\_ 301 PY (50%) \_ 168 PY (28%) 128 PY (21%) —

- 597 PY (100%) IN 2020

#### **LEGEND**



Indigenous NWT Employment





- \* Employment is expressed in Person Years. Person Years (PY) is defined as 2,140 hours, an equivalent to a two weeks in and two weeks out rotation.
- \*\* Numbers may not add up due to rounding errors.

## **Job Categories**



#### **Professional & Management**

Professional & Management – Requires a University Degree and/or Professional Designation.

Positions may include: Engineers, Accountants, Lawyers



#### Skilled

Skilled Labour – Requires a journeyman certification, and years of experience in the role.

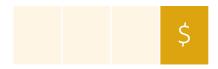
Positions may include: Electricians, Plumbers, Industrial Mechanics



#### **Semi-Skilled**

Semi-Skilled Labour – Includes some schooling and experience.

Positions may include: Apprentices, Front-line Supervisors, Operators



#### **Entry-Level**

Entry-Level Jobs – Requires Grade 10-12 and can be trained on the job.

Positions may include: Housekeeper, Cook's Helper, Labourer



## NWT Employment by Job Category

#### **Professional & Management**

35% of the Professional & Management positions are employed by NWT Residents.



#### Skilled

32% of the Skilled positions are employed by NWT Residents.



#### Semi-Skilled

57% of the Semi-Skilled positions are employed by NWT Residents.



#### **Entry Level**

90% of the Entry-level positions are employed by NWT Residents.



#### ► FEATURED STORY:

## Det'on Cho Management LP

Det'on Cho Management LP, the economic arm of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN), was named one of Canada's most admired cultures in 2020, while also winning the "Economic Leadership of the Year" award at the Max awards (Nunavut and NWT Chamber of Mines).

They launched a dynamic Job Creation and Capacity Building Program in 2017 with the objective of creating opportunity and prosperity for the Yellowknives Dene and Indigenous people from around the NWT. The program has been tremendously successful, with overall significant increases in employment. The percentage of YKDFN staff has grown from 13% to 53% representation within the company as of March 31, 2020.

The capacity building efforts of the program are getting results too. Thus far, four staff have completed the Northern Leadership Development Program (NLDP), a program required under

SEAs and sponsored by the NWT mines and instructed through Aurora College. Other staff have participated in various educational programs designed to enhance their skills in several fields, including marketing, accounting and finance.

Many of the companies under Det'on Cho
Management LP are designed to take advantage
of contract opportunities with the mines. For
example, 2020 marked the 10-year anniversary
of Det'on Cho's wholly-owned subsidiary Bouwa
Whee Catering (BWC). This is a major milestone
for a company that has become synonymous with
delivering great food, housekeeping and janitorial
services 24/7. And it has clearly benefitted locals: in
2020 BWC employed 200 staff of which 85% were
Northern, 46% Indigenous and 62% women.



Photo Credit: Det'on Cho Management LP



## Training

The GNWT and NWT mines want people to be aware of the value of education. To boost that, the mines work together with the GNWT's Department of Education, Culture, and Employment as well as other organizations like the Mine Training Society, Skills Canada, and Aurora College to offer educational opportunities.

- 2020 Training Investments by Impacted Community
- Commitments Under SEAs
- Literacy Programs
- Advancement Opportunities in the Mining Industry
- Building a Strong Northern Workforce
- Featured Story: Training



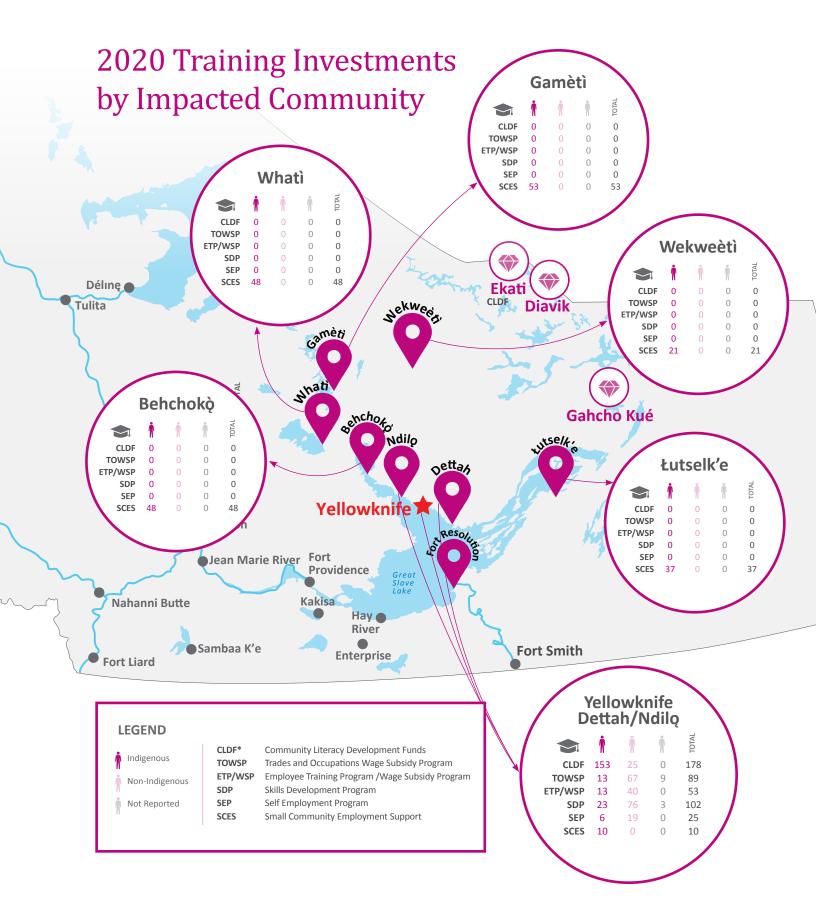
26
Number of apprentices employed through NWT mines



1,076

Number of NWT students receiving SFA





NWT mines support Northern youth to pursue learning opportunities and set them up for future employment in the NWT. Mines are committed to support training and development of their workers under SEAs through:

- Summer employment to aspiring students;
- Scholarships to support the continued learning of NWT students and promote careers related to resource development; and
- Pre- and post-employment training for residents interested in a career in mining.

Mines also promote opportunities for advancement for NWT workers in the mining industry. To assist with this, De Beers distributed 117 computers to seven NWT communities in response to the impact of the pandemic, helping provide students better access to online courses. Laptops went to the following schools:

- Mezi Community School, Whatì
- Jean Wetrade School, Gamètì
- Alex Arrowmaker School, Wekweètì
- Chief Jimmy Bruneau School, Behchokò
- Łutselk'e Dene School, Łutselk'e
- Deninu School, Fort Resolution
- Chief Sunrise Education Centre, K'atłodeeche First Nation Reserve, Hay River



Photo Credit: Mine Training Society / billbradenphoto



### Commitments Under SEAs

Every SEA requires mines to set apprenticeship commitments. Apprentices are better equipped to obtain a full-time job after completion of their training.

## https://www.ece.gov.nt.ca/en/services/apprenticeship-and-trades

Ekati has committed under its SEA to make available all opportunities of advancement to employees who are NWT residents, including training and apprenticeships. Diavik has committed to provide for at least 8 and up to 18 apprentice positions annually during the operations phase under their SEA. They've met their commitments with 9 apprentices in 2020.

Gahcho Kué has committed to providing training for 10 apprentices throughout the life of the mine. Gahcho Kué continues to honour its commitments, employing two new apprentices in 2020, with three trained apprentices by the end of 2020.

## **Literacy Programs**

Higher literacy rates boost chances of obtaining jobs that pay a decent living wage and earning promotions or advancement opportunities.

De Beers Group promotes literacy programs for NWT youth through their Books in Homes program, celebrating its 17th year in 2020. The Books in Homes program provides free books to youth attending schools in primarily Indigenous communities near their mine operations. The investment includes the cost to purchase books and transport them to communities.

The program distributed a total of 10,760 books in 2020, representing the largest amount thus far. Cumulative investment from De Beers has reached \$1 million.

# Advancement Opportunities in the Mining Industry

Because workers are more likely to obtain higher paying positions with increased education, the NWT mining industry supports the training of their workers to excel in their fields and enhance opportunities for growth. To this end, NWT mines provide scholarships to NWT students to pursue education in STEM and mining-related careers.

#### Diavik

In 2004 the Northern Leadership Development Program (NLDP) was developed in partnership amongst Diavik, SAIT Polytechnic, and Aurora College to develop leadership competencies and increase the number of qualified northerners at the supervisory and management levels. In 2020, five Diavik employees graduated from the program, held virtually for part of the year.

Diavik also provides various scholarships. In 2020, they increased their scholarship investments, providing 64 scholarships through three programs: high school (eight granted in 2020), post-secondary (19 granted, plus 33 to children of employees and contractors), and the Yellowknife Community Foundation (six awarded in 2020).

In 2019, Diavik announced a new scholarship for women in the NWT and Kitikmeot region to pursue post-secondary education in STEM programs. Two were awarded in 2020.

#### **Gahcho Kué**

Throughout 2020, Gahcho Kué staff participated in a total of 42,000 hours of training for employees and contractors on site, ranging from working at heights and in confined spaces to first aid, fire extinguisher use and equipment operation—skills required for performing a number of duties at the mine site.

The mining department has established a
Departmental Progression Plan, offering employees
an opportunity to develop their skills through
training on a range of equipment and mining
processes. In 2020, 24 Indigenous NWT residents
were promoted through the mine operations
program. Planned training positions in processing
and protective services were placed on hold in 2020
due to the pandemic. Only one surface miner trainee
and two Gahcho Kué employees, both Indigenous
NWT residents, continued apprenticeships during
2020—one Millwright and one Instrumentation
Technician. The mine also supported two employees
who participated in the NLDP during 2020.

#### Ekati

As Ekati came under new ownership during the year they reported advancement opportunities under their apprenticeship program and the NLDP program. Current efforts are underway by their Human Resources department to identify potential employment opportunities at the mine. The HR department would normally also provide scholarships for employees' dependents, but these were placed on hold in 2020 due to the ownership change.



## Building a Strong Northern Workforce

The GNWT works with the NWT mines along with training organizations to support NWT residents in developing skills and experience that could be transferred to a job at a mine.

#### **Entry Level**

The mines provide summer employment to aspiring students, and some pre-employment training.

#### Semi-Skilled

The Mine Training Society (MTS) offers mentoring, job coaching and support at every level, and helps residents obtain skills and employment at the mines. Historically each NWT mine has served on the Mine Training Society Board. MTS services include the Diamond Empowerment Fund Scholarship, job coaching, and criminal record suspension help.

The Yellowknife-based Mine Training Society suspended all training due to COVID-19 in 2020, while continuing to offer its educational programs online. Society employees worked remotely so as to minimize social interactions.



## **MTS Investment**

Received \$117,626 in the 2019-2020 fiscal year from the GNWT

#### Skilled

Aurora College helps residents obtain skills that help them progress through their careers. The mines partner with Aurora College as part of their requirements under the SEAs.

The College's Essential Skills Program offers courses to assist community residents in developing skills required for business. These include office skills and help in developing a community business plan.

#### **Professional and Management**

#### Student Financial Assistance

The Student Financial Assistance (SFA) program provides financial support for students pursuing higher education in their field of study. As well, it facilitates connections between interested students and mining companies for scholarships or career opportunities.

Employers can request information on students studying in relevant fields, and SFA in turn provides students with potential job opportunities, many of which are sourced from the mines.

SFA has been a popular program—2020 saw 1,076 residents obtain funding.



1,076 students received SFA in 2020

Roughly half of the fields of study could prepare the student for a job in mining.

31 ENGINEERING

42
ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCES

20 SKILLED TRADES

79
BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION

904 OTHER



## Wellness

Mineral resource extraction, while offering jobs and opportunities, also has the potential to impact cultural and community well-being. To mitigate these risks, mines make efforts to support cultural and community well-being through initiatives and programs such as promoting Indigenous culture through workshops. Mines also encourage wellness onsite with fitness centres, mental health workshops and employee family assistance programs.

- Wellness Highlights
- Cultural Well-being
- Featured Story: Diavik COVID-19 Testing



7.8%

Employees accessing the Employment Family Assistance Program



72.4%

Employees accessing on-site fitness centres



## Wellness Highlights

Several initiatives serve to illustrate the mines' involvement with wellness programs.

De Beers donated 10 refurbished laptops to the Yellowknife Public Library to help those without access connect with loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic. As well, the company's COVID-19 Response Program contributed \$275,000 towards purchases such as computers, PPE, cleaning supplies, and food hampers for the communities.

Ekati's Plus Community Development program supported various community projects in 2020, including the Denesoline Corporation Pop-Up Café and Lunch Program.

The funds provided to Denesoline went towards the hiring, training and providing kitchen experience to local Lutsel K'e Dene First Nations members while providing a much needed service in the community, a café. This café has been part of the long term strategy for the Thiadene Nene Tourism strategy. The Denesoline East Arm Café serves fresh hot meals to travellers, visitors, and residents. The Lunch Program paid for local community members to fish and hunt, and provided students with hot meals for their lunch programs throughout the school year. As Ekati is under new ownership, efforts are underway to review their Ekati Plus Community Development Program, planned for completion by 2022.

Diavik's Community Contribution fund focuses on programs that support culture, arts, community pride, business capacity building, and health, safety, and wellness. The funds are granted to various organizations throughout the year. Diavik awarded over \$900,000 in community investments in 2020. The mine also contributes to local communities through in-kind volunteering and participating in community activities. The mine also contributes to local communities through in-kind volunteering and participating in community activities.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Rio Tinto (Diavik) has worked in collaboration with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN), Food Rescue, YWCA NWT and the YK Food Bank, contributing over \$20,000 to various grassroots food security initiatives in the NWT. Diavik also donated buckets and soil to the YKDFN for potato seed planting, to support food autonomy in the region.

## **Cultural Well-being**

Addressing cultural well-being is recognized as an integral part of overall wellness, as a 2020 decision by Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) serves to illustrate. It concluded that Diavik's proposal to store processed kimberlite (waste rock) in pits and underground could have significant impacts on the cultural use of Lac de Gras where the Diavik diamond mine is located. One measure recommended by the MVEIRB to mitigate the impact was directed to the GNWT.

The GNWT has been directed to support Indigenous communities in developing a community-specific definition of cultural well-being and cultural well-being indicators. As a result, the GNWT committed to work with Indigenous Government and Organizations to support this work; this initiative got under way in summer 2020 and is planned to be complete in 2021.

The mines also contribute to and actively support cultural well-being.

Diavik for example, in 2020 actively recognized and celebrated the nine official Indigenous NWT languages along with the NWT's annual Languages Month February events; sharing information and resources like pronunciation and links to learning simple phrases on TVs across the site. In the kitchen, they shared recipes translated into Tłįcho and Sezi Bekáí t'é (North Slavey). These cookbooks are now available in all nine languages. Site chefs also prepared a bison meatloaf, arctic char, and a lentil soup with bannock so employees could experience and enjoy traditional cultural fare.

Gahcho Kué, despite restrictions due to COVID-19 measures at the mine, also undertook many cultural activities. A beaver mitt-making workshop and a painting workshop were held at the mine in February 2020. A slimmed-down National Indigenous Peoples Day event on site involved a 'feeding of the fire' ceremony led by employees and a special meal featuring traditional foods. Company values are posted in Tłįcho and Chipewyan. Gahcho Kué provided funding to support:

- Lutsel K'e hide camp, fish camp, traditional knowledge mentoring, stone carving, on-theland healing;
- Fort Resolution cultural week;
- North Slave Métis Alliance on-the-land programs; and
- YKDFN community wellness programming.

Due to COVID-19 and Dominion entering the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) process in 2020, Ekati undertook no cultural promotional events. During this time, they also suspended the Ekati Plus Community Development program which funded the On-The-Land programs.



AVENS Staff pictured left to right: Bronwyn Watters, Board of Directors, Frances Bower, Director of Care, Debbie DeLancey, Board of Directors, Lindsey Dwojak, Director of Human Resources, Emily Harman, Clinical Coordinator Manor, Randie Salaveria, Housekeeping Supervisor, Lawrence Malaque, Food Services Supervisor, Carol Norwegian, Health and Wellness Supervisor, Marion LaVigne, Board of Directors Chair, Chelsea Pukanich, Executive Assistant, Steven Nicholas, Director of Operations, Daryl Dolynny, President & CEO.

Social investment by the mines is critical too.

The Gahcho Kué mine contributes to local NWT communities through a variety of initiatives, providing a total of \$748,000 for corporate social investment in 2020. A highlight was a collaborative fundraising campaign spearheaded by the mine that enabled Avens Long Term Care Facility in Yellowknife to purchase a new van for transporting its residents, months ahead of schedule. In the fall, the Gahcho Kué joint venture partners committed \$20,000 to the project and asked its contractor partners to also provide donations. Seven companies joined in and together raised \$51,500 toward the van, which was on the road before the end of 2020.

In 2020, Diavik invested over \$1 million in initiatives to help the people, communities, and businesses of the NWT. This included \$380,000 for shelters and organizations supporting women and vulnerable populations, and \$190,000 to support food security and land-based programming.

hoto Credit: AVENS Administration Team

#### ▶ FEATURED STORY:

## Diavik COVID-19 Testing

In line with the mines' excellent safety measures, Diavik suspended production at the start of the pandemic until onsite testing became available.

Once available, onsite testing using nasopharyngeal swabs was introduced for all Diavik employees and contractors in collaboration with the NWT Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO), as an extra precautionary measure to protect workers and community members. All personnel are tested on arrival at the mine and before leaving, in addition to a comprehensive range of control measures around screening, sanitization and social distancing.

The measures include changing work schedules to

four-week rotations in order to minimize personnel changeovers which could increase risk of new infections. As well, health assessments, screening, and monitoring were introduced. Designated isolation areas were defined, and rapid COVID-19 onsite testing machines brought in.

The measures spurred cooperation between NWT mines to ensure best practices. As part of that, Diavik assisted COVID-19 testing at the nearby Gahcho Kué and Snap Lake mines by processing samples.





## Women in Mining

Women have long been traditionally underrepresented in the mining industry. The Statistics Canada 2016 Census showed that women represented approximately half of Canada's population and 48 per cent of its labour force, yet only 15 per cent of its mining labour force according to a 2020 Canadian Mining Labour Market report. The following two subsections address some recommended calls to action, and recent efforts by the mines towards redressing the imbalance.

Two of the three NWT mines achieved a higher percentage of female employees than the national average:

- 17% of Ekati Diamond Mine's total employees,
  2 per cent above the national average.
- 19% of Gahcho Kué's total employees, 4 per cent above the national average.
- 14% of Diavik's total employees, 1 per cent below the national average.

The NWT mines take efforts to support and encourage potential and existing women in the mining industry. In 2020, De Beers Group (Gahcho Kué) awarded 11 scholarships to NWT women pursuing STEM-related fields.

The Native Women's Association of the Northwest Territories offers Trades Entrance Exam Preparation for women through its Training Centre as part of its mission to provide training and education programs for Indigenous women in the NWT.



Nomen in Mining in Canada

- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- Featured Story: Women in Mining



# Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls was released in 2019. It included several calls to action surrounding extractive and development industries including: the consideration of the safety and security of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA, as well as their equitable benefit from development at all stages of project planning.

Other calls to action were directed towards governments across Canada, including:

**13.2:** "call upon all governments and bodies mandated to evaluate, approve, and/or monitor development projects to complete gender-based socio-economic impact assessments on all proposed projects as part of their decision making and ongoing monitoring of projects. Project proposals must include provisions and plans to mitigate risks and impacts identified in the impact assessments prior to being approved".

**13.4:** "call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to fund further inquiries and studies in order to better understand the relationship between resource extraction and other development projects and violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people..."

13.5: "call upon resource-extraction and development industries and all governments and service providers to anticipate and recognize increased demand on social infrastructure because of development projects and resource extraction, and for mitigation measures to be identified as part of the planning and approval process. Social infrastructure must be expanded, and service capacity built to meet the anticipated needs of the host communities in advance of the start of projects. This includes but is not limited to ensuring that policing, social services, and health services are adequately staffed and resourced".

In 2020, the GNWT's Women's Advisory Office developed a work plan, *Taking Action*, to review and analyze the Calls for Justice and to develop a detailed GNWT action plan. A workplan lens was created to assist with the analysis, including participation of Indigenous governments and organizations in the development and evaluation of programs and services. The office held regular meetings with other governments, stakeholders, and community contacts to provide updates and monitor progress.

#### ► FEATURED STORY:

## Native Women's Association of the Northwest Territories

In 2020, Rio Tinto (Diavik) donated \$25,000 to the Native Women's Association of the Northwest Territories (NWANWT) to support women and children experiencing domestic violence. The funds are directed to communities where Rio Tinto operates in the form of "personal care packages" with necessities to people experiencing trauma.

NWANWT is committed to being the voice of Native women in the Northwest Territories and to building relationships with all levels of government and other organizations to ensure all Native women and their families will live free from social and economic distress; to promote their sacred roles as valued and respected members in the community; and to preserve their culture, language and heritage.

Diavik has committed to support their Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) commemoration project in remembrance of all affected families and friends.

Rio Tinto said the donations come from its Aluminium Canada Fund, which spends \$10 million annually on programs and projects that benefit the communities in which Rio Tinto works, and specifically in the areas of education, environment, health and "community livability".



oto Credit: billbradenphoto

## Conclusion

The six current SEAs continue to ensure the socioeconomic interests of NWT residents impacted by mining projects are addressed well into the future. The 2020 activities of the GNWT and the mining industry demonstrate the continued value of these agreements.

Diamond mining continues to be a foundation of the current NWT economy. The largest private sector industry in the Territory, it contributed 24% of total GDP in 2020.

Indirect benefits are numerous. Over and above the direct benefit of wages, the NWT mining industry contributes to related sectors like construction, transportation, retail, and real estate. In 2020, these support industries for mining and oil and gas activities contributed \$28.7 million to GDP.

2020 saw most mining industry related activities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including opportunities for exploration and training. The Mining Recorder's Office, the Mine Training Society, and Mining Week are just a few of the many groups and initiatives that adapted with minimal disruption. Meanwhile, despite their

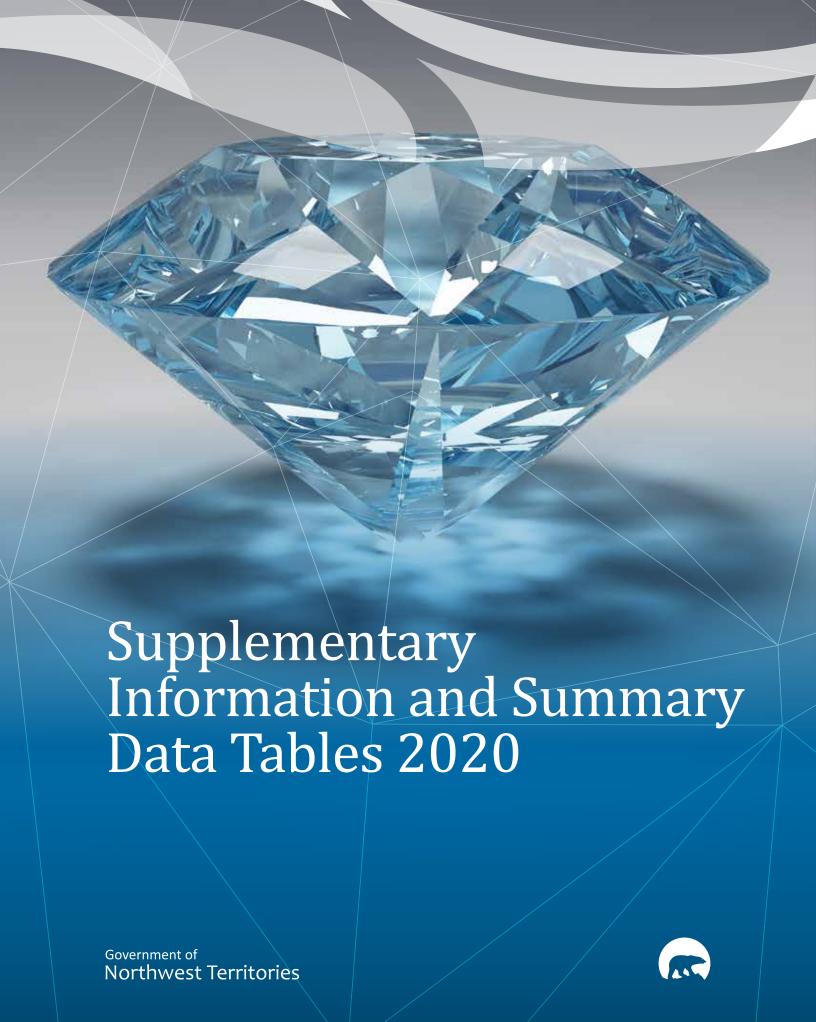
own pandemic-driven disruptions, NWT mines provided strong support to local businesses amid the COVID-19 pandemic to support local economic recovery, offering several new programs.

Operating mines met employment commitments during their construction phase but largely due to COVID-19 failed to meet their Northern employment targets during operations phases. All three diamond mines met their training commitments.

Diavik and Gahcho Kué met their Northern procurement commitments of 70% and 60% in 2020, achieving 71% and 75% respectively. Ekati did not meet their target of 70%, reaching 58% for the year.

This report reinforces the continuing strong message that the NWT remains open and receptive to doing business with investors who will work in close partnership through SEAs to ensure that benefits from major NWT development projects flow to residents, their businesses, and their governments.

Supplementary information and summary data tables are included as an appendix to this document. The set of indicators presented were agreed upon, after public consultation, to monitor social and economic differences between the pre and post diamond environment in the NWT. They are as provided, by the GNWT's Departments of Health and Social Services, Education, Culture and Employment, Justice and the NWT Housing Corporation; and by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, NWT Bureau of Statistics and Statistics Canada. Due to the data collection timelines, not all data is current at the time of publication. Where applicable the date of the data collection is included in the charts. The GNWT takes no responsibility for any financial losses suffered as a result of reliance.



## If you would like this information in another official language, call us. English

Si vous voulez ces informations dans une autre langue officielle, contactez-nous. **French** 

kīspin ki nitawihtīn ē nīhīyawihk ōma ācimōwin, tipwāsinān.

Cree

Tłıcho yatı k'èè. Dı wegodı newo dè, gots'o gonede.

Tłįcho

?erıhtł'ís Dëne Sųłıné yatı t'a huts'elkër xa beyáyatı thezą zat'e, nuwe ts'ën yółtı.
Chipewyan

Edi gondi dehgáh goť je zhatié k'éé edatl'éh enahddhe nide naxets'é edahlí. **South Slavey** 

K'áhshó got'ine xədə k'é hederi zedihtl'é yeriniwe nídé dúle.

North Slavey

Jii gwandak izhii ginjìk vat'atr'ijąhch'uu zhit yinohthan jì', diits'àt ginohkhìi. **Gwich'in** 

Uvanittuaq ilitchurisukupku Inuvialuktun, ququaqluta.
Inuvialuktun

Ċ<sup>b</sup>dd ΠΠ<sup>a</sup>bΔ<sup>c</sup> ΛτLJ&Γ<sup>c</sup> ΔΦ<sup>b</sup>ΠϽϹ<sup>c</sup>b<sup>t</sup>L⊃Π<sup>b</sup>, Þ&<sub>C</sub>θ<sup>-</sup>Φ<sup>c</sup> Þ<sup>c</sup>b̄Cτ<sup>c</sup>Φ<sup>c</sup>DΠ<sup>c</sup>.

Inuktitut

Hapkua titiqqat pijumagupkit Inuinnaqtun, uvaptinnut hivajarlutit.

Inuinnaqtun

Indigenous Languages Secretariat: **867-767-9346 ext. 71037**Francophone Affairs Secretariat: **867-767-9343** 

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## **Employment Rates**

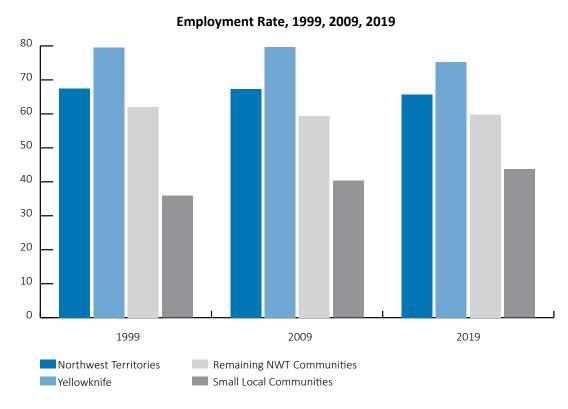
The employment rate in the SLCs has remained relatively stable since the diamond mine start-ups and in the Remaining NWT Communities the rate has been relatively stable as well.

In Yellowknife, the employment rate was decreasing prior to the mine start-ups, remained relatively stable from 1996 - 2011, and has been in slight decline since 2011.



## Employment rates for the most recent three years of survey data available

2014	2016	2019	
65.6	66.2	65.7	Northwest Territories
75.7	77.6	75.3	Yellowknife
59.7	58.5	59.8	Remaining NWT Communities
41.7	42.4	43.7	Small Local Communities



Sources: 2016 Statistics Canada Census; 2014 & 2019 NWT Community Survey

## **Unemployment Rates**

The overall unemployment rate has been decreasing in all communities outside of Yellowknife since 1989. While there has been some variability over the years, the unemployment rate is lower than before mine start-ups.

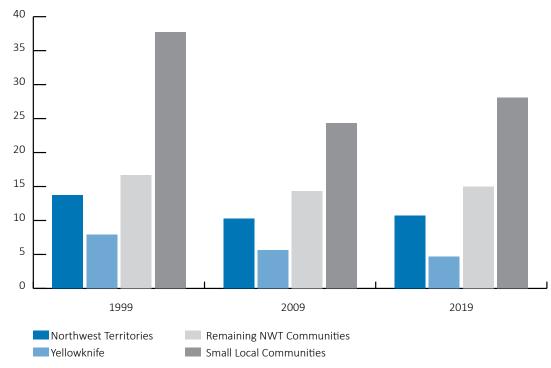
In the SLCs, although there are yearly fluctuations, overall the unemployment rate has decreased significantly since mine start-ups. This trend is consistent with the remaining NWT Communities. In Yellowknife, with the exception of a peak in 1999, the unemployment rate has remained relatively unchanged over the same period.

## Unemployment rates for the most recent three years of survey data available

2014	2016	2019	
10.6	10.6	10.7	Northwest Territories
4.7	5.9	4.7	Yellowknife
14.1	15.0	15.0	Remaining NWT Communities
31.8	21.9	28.1	Small Local Communities



#### Unemployment Rate, 1999, 2009, 2019



Sources: 2016 Statistics Canada Census; 2014 & 2019 NWT Community Survey

## **Participation Rate**

In the SLCs, the participation rate has increased to above 60%, which means that more people are working or looking for work.

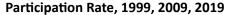
Participation rate increased sharply when the mines started production; however, there has been minimal variability since mine start-ups.

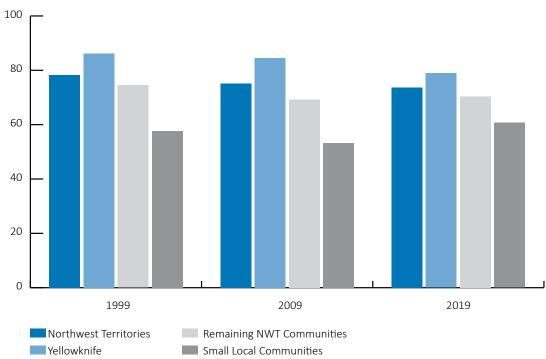
In both Yellowknife and the Remaining NWT Communities the participation rate has been relatively stable since mine start-ups.



## Participation rates for the most recent three years of survey data available

2014	2016	2019	
73.4	74.1	73.6	Northwest Territories
79.4	82.5	78.9	Yellowknife
69.5	69.0	70.3	Remaining NWT Communities
61.1	52.8	60.7	Small Local Communities





Sources: 2014 & 2019 NWT Community Survey; 2016 Statistics Canada Census

## **Income Assistance Program**

The Income Assistance Program (IAP) provides financial assistance to NWT residents to help them meet their basic needs. The program encourages greater self-reliance and improving one's quality of life.

The program provides a defined amount for food, shelter, and utilities. There are also funds available for those with enhanced needs. This includes expenses like incidentals, clothing, allowances for seniors and persons with disabilities, child care, furniture, and education. Funding is dependent on household income, family size, and community of residence.

There was a significant decline in IAP participation for SLCs in the years following diamond mine startups.

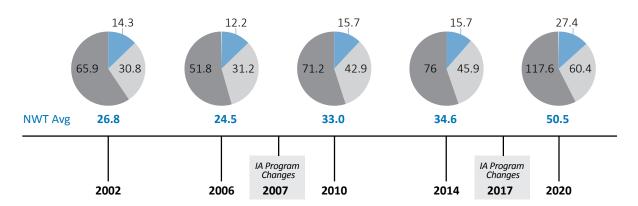
In Yellowknife IAP participation has remained stable.

In 2016 the Federal Government introduced a new Canada Child Benefit. As a result, the GNWT restructured IA benefits which affected IAP eligibility and participation rates. Due to these changes participation rates after 2017 are not comparable to participation rates prior to 2017.



## INCOME ASSISTANCE Average Monthly Cases per 1,000 Persons

2018	2019	2020	
46.6	47.0	50.5	Northwest Territories
22.0	24.4	27.4	Yellowknife
60.7	58.7	60.4	Remaining NWT Communities
106.0	110.4	117.6	Small Local Communities



Sources: Education, Culture & Employment; NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: As a result of changes to income security programs, historical data is not comparable with 2017.

## **Language Revitalization**

The NWT is home to nine official Indigenous languages: Chipewyan (Dëne Sųłıné Yatié), Cree (Nēhiyawēwin), Gwich'in (Dinjii Zhuh Ginjik), Inuinnaqtun, Inuktitut, Inuvialuktun, North Slavey (Sahtúot'ı ne Yatı'), South Slavey (Dene Zhatié) and Tłıcho (Tłıcho Yatı').

There has been a stronger and more consistent use of Indigenous languages in the SLCs in 2019, but overall there has been a decline of Indigenous language use across the NWT.

The use of Indigenous languages has been in decline since before the diamond mine start-ups. This is influenced by many factors. There is no clear evidence of the impact the mines have had on the use of Indigenous languages.

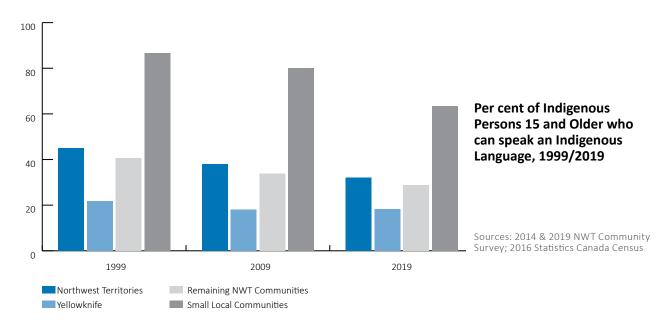
The Department of Education, Culture and Employment supports the following language revitalization initiatives across the NWT:



- Territorial Indigenous Languages Strategic Initiatives Program;
- Indigenous Language Training Programs; and
- Indigenous Languages and Education in NWT Schools.

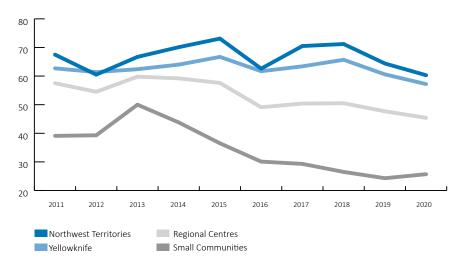
	2014	2016	2019	
	38.5	35.7	32.2	Northwest Territories
	23.9	20.9	18.4	Yellowknife
	33.9	31.7	28.8	Remaining NWT Communities
	75.6	70.2	63.4	Small Local Communities

Per cent of Indigenous Persons 15 and Older who can speak an Indigenous Language, three most recent years



## **High School Completion Rate**

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
	57.5	54.5	59.8	59.2	57.6	49.1	50.4	50.5	47.7	45.4	Northwest Territories
	62.7	61.4	62.4	64	66.7	61.7	63.4	65.7	60.6	57.2	Yellowknife
	67.5	60.5	66.7	70.1	73.1	62.6	70.5	71.2	64.4	60.3	Regional Centres
	39.1	39.3	50	43.8	36.5	30.1	29.3	26.5	24.3	25.7	Small Communities

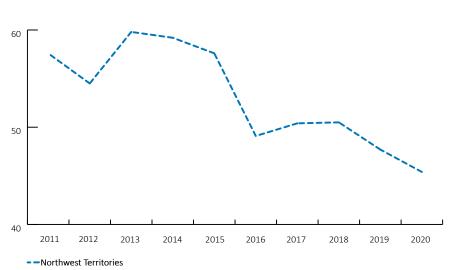


NWT High School Graduation Rate by Community Type, 2011-2020 (New Method)



Source: The Department of Education, Culture, and Employment (ECE) Note: ECE has adopted a new approach for measuring graduation rates in the Northwest Territories (NWT) that provides a more accurate snapshot of grade 12 graduates within a given year. For more information https://www.ece.gov.nt.ca/sites/ece/files/resources/grad\_rate\_fact\_sheet\_web.pdf"

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
	57.5	54.5	59.8	59.2	57.6	49.1	50.4	50.5	47.7	45.4	Northwest Territories



NWT High School Completion Rate

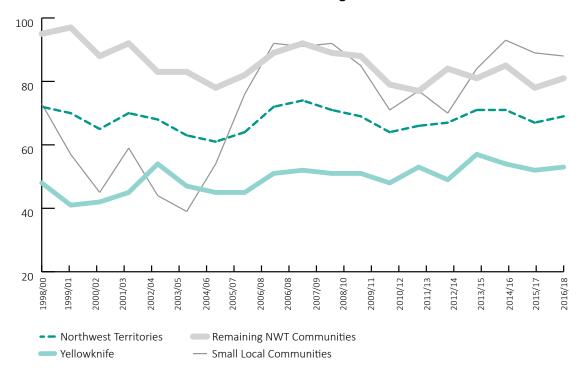
#### **Potential Years of Life Lost**

The Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) is the total number of all years of life not lived by those individuals that have died before reaching the average age of life expectancy (the age of 75). This number is used to indicate early deaths, which can broadly express the health, well-being, and lifestyle choices that people are making. Trends in the rate of PYLL may broadly speak to the health status of a particular group. The figure below shows the rate of PYLL since 1996. There can be large changes in the PYLL rates from one year to the next. One reason for this is the small population in the territory. To highlight any potential trends, the PYLL is shown as a three year average.

The PYLL rate in the NWT has remained relatively unchanged since monitoring began in 1996. Fort Resolution has been included in the SLC numbers, which has slightly changed the proximity between the rate of PYLL in the Remaining NWT Communities and the SLCs during the mid-2000s onwards. The graph below shows that the PYLL rate in the Small Local Communities has increased and decreased while the PYLL rate in the NWT, Yellowknife, and has remained relatively consistent. The PYLL rate for the remaining communities has decreased slightly since the late 1990s.

These small fluctuations are because of the smaller population rate in the community, meaning that one or more early death in these communities has a greater impact on the PYLL rate in the SLC than it does in a larger population, such as the NWT as a whole. These changes do not appear to be directly linked to mining activity.

#### Potential Years of Life Lost (<75 Years), Rate per 1,000 Persons, Three Year Average



Source: Statistics Canada Vital Statistics.

Notes: Rates before 1996 are not calculated since annual population is not available.

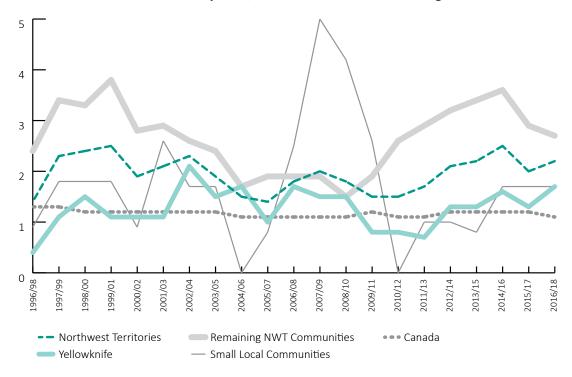
#### **Suicides**

Suicide is a major cause of early death in the territory. Individuals can be overwhelmed by problems in their lives and may feel that suicide is the only way to end their pain. While the decision to commit suicide is made by an individual, the impacts of suicide are felt deeply within families and communities. There is no single cause for suicide; it can result from the interaction of many factors. Suicide has been linked to social issues in communities, as well as individual and community mental health and wellness, including: depression, addictions, and marital breakdown.

The suicide rate below is shown as a three-year average to better identify changes and trends that are more difficult to see when comparing annual number of suicides. The suicide rate should be viewed with caution; due to the drastic change that one more or less suicide can have on a rate in any given year, it is difficult to identify long-term trends. Since mining activity began, the suicide rate in the SLCs has fluctuated. Following the increase in the mid-2000s, the rate once again decreased and is more consistent with the suicide rate in Yellowknife and Canada. The rate in the territory has remained relatively consistent indicating that there is no direct correlation between mining activity and the suicide rate in the territory.



#### Suicide, Rate per 10,000 Persons, Three Year Average



Source: Statistics Canada Vital Statistics.

Notes: Rates before 1996 are not calculated since annual population is not available.

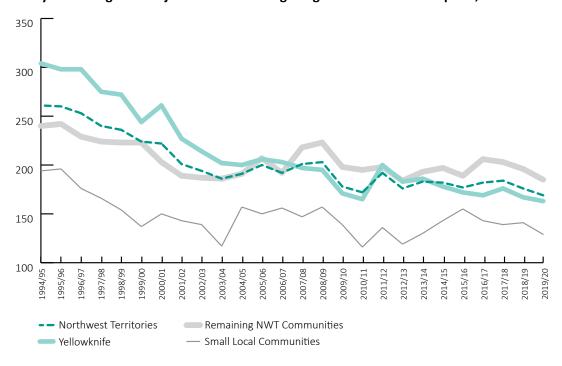
## **Injuries**

Physician-diagnosed injuries and poisonings measures the number of injuries treated by doctors in the territory. This includes: broken bones, severe burns, minor cuts or bruises and poisonings. Injury indicators are examined to see whether or not there has been an increase in reckless behaviour or violence in a community. Changes in these types of behaviours have been associated with resource development.

Over-all, the rate of physician-diagnosed injuries has been decreasing since 1994/95. The trend cannot be directly associated with the beginning of mining activity, however it may be related to other social and political changes in communities, such as improvements in primary health care services. The rate of physician-diagnosed injuries is lower in the SLCs than in Yellowknife and the rest of the NWT. This may be explained by the fact that much of the health care provided in the SLCs is from nurses rather than doctors.



#### Physician Diagnosed Injuries and Poisonings - Age Standardized Rate per 1,000 Persons



Sources: Department of Health and Social Services, Medicare, NWT Bureau of Statistics and Department of Health and Social Services (1994-95 and 1995-96 population estimates).

- 1. These numbers are subject to future revisions (due to population estimate revisions, record revisions, data entry delays and database design changes) and are not necessarily comparable to numbers in other tabulations and reports.
- 2. Ndilo and Dettah numbers are included in Yellowknife.
- 3. Numbers included physician diagnosed injuries and poisonings regardless of location (clinic, hospital or other location).
- 4. Nurse practitioner diagnosed injuries and poisonings are included.
- 5. Some individuals may be diagnosed more than once for the same injury or poisoning.

## **Sexually Transmitted Infections**

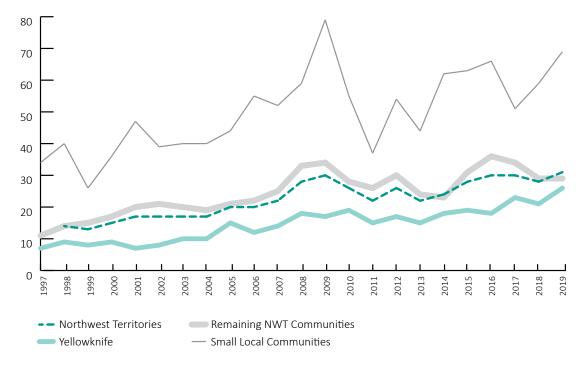
The STI rates continue to be elevated in the territory: the NWT's rate of chlamydia is approximately 5 times the national average gonorrhea is approximately 11 times higher than the national average. The highest rates are observed in young men and women, ages 15-25 years old. These rates are a symptom of many underlying factors including risky sexual behaviours, mental health and addiction issues, bullying, and family violence.

High rates of STIs have also been linked to disparities in the social determinants of health and to resource development, like mining. The rates in the SLCs have been and continue to be higher than in other NWT communities. This disparity may also speak to broader health inequities that residents in smaller communities may experience. While there was a large drop in the STI rates in SLCs following the 2008 outbreak, STI rates have increased in recent years, along with rates across the NWT. Rates have increased primarily due to an increase in the rate of gonorrhea.

The GNWT works closely with front-line workers to ensure that quick and informative interventions and community-based strategies occur to address this increase.



#### Sexually Transmitted Infections - Rates per 1,000 Persons



#### Notes

- 1. These numbers are subject to future revisions (due to record revisions, data entry delays and database design changes) and are not necessarily comparable to numbers in other tabulations and reports.
- 2. Numbers for 2003 to 2009 are based on community of treatment.
- 3. Ndılo and Dettah numbers are included in Yellowknife.
- 4. STIs include Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Syphilis.

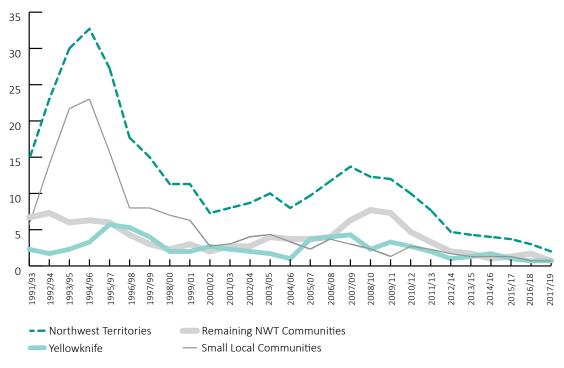
#### **Tuberculosis**

Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease caused by bacteria that attacks the lungs but can also spread to the brain, lymph nodes and bones. Although TB can be treated with antibiotics, it is still a health concern. The annual rate of TB in the territory and in the SLCs has not significantly changed over the last ten years; that being said, the incidence of TB in the NWT continues to remain above the national average.

There does not appear to be a correlation between diamond mining and TB cases. The NWT experienced a TB outbreak in the mid-1990s before diamond mining activities began. This outbreak strongly impacted the SLCs and is reflected in the spike of tuberculosis cases during that time. Since the time of the outbreak, the number of TB cases in the SLCs has decreased. The number of TB cases in Yellowknife has remained relatively consistent since monitoring began in 1991.



#### **Tuberculosis Cases, Three Year Averages**



Source: Department of Health and Social Services, *TB Registry*. Notes:

2. Ndılo and Dettah numbers are included in Yellowknife.

<sup>1.</sup> These numbers are subject to future revisions (due to record revisions, data entry delays and database design changes) and are not necessarily comparable to numbers in other tabulations and reports.

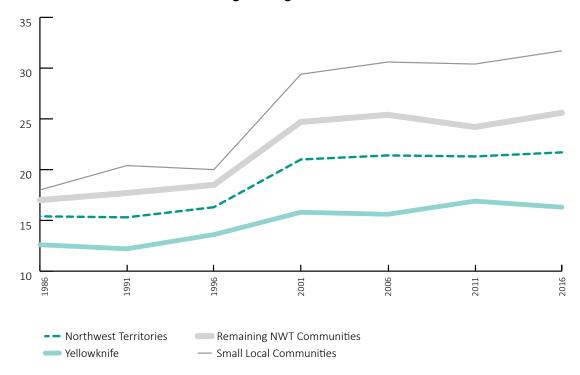
## **Single Parent Families**

Single parent families often face unique challenges which can make it more difficult to provide for the basic needs of children and other family members. The data suggests that there is a link between the rise in the rate of single-parent families in the SLCs and mining activity. Between 1996 and 2001 the percentage of single parent families in the SLCs rose drastically.

This correlates with the construction and beginning of operations of the two major diamond mines. Combined with qualitative reports from communities, it is likely this change occurred partly due to mining activities. Since this time the percentage of single-parent families in the SLCs has remained steady, increasing by 2%. During the initial period directly following the opening of the diamond mines, the percentage of single-parent families in other small and regional communities also increased. The change did not occur as quickly, or increase as drastically, in the remaining NWT communities or Yellowknife.



#### **Percentage of Single Parent Families**



Source: Statistics Canada Notes: Fort Resolution is included in the Remaining NWT Communities

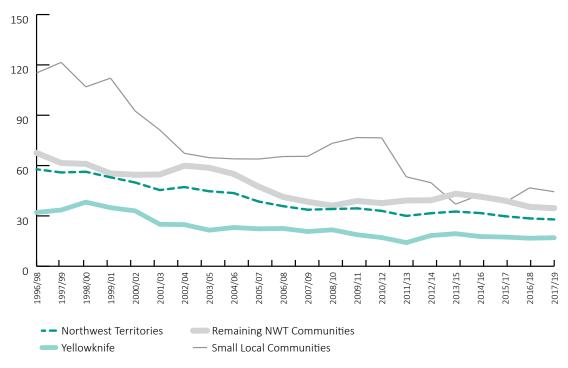
#### **Teen Birth**

Stress and a lack of education, employment opportunities, limited supports, and maturity may affect the well-being of both the child and parents. Some teenage parents may be mature enough to raise a child, while others may not be; teen mothers are more likely to be single, making it more difficult for them to support their children and increasing stress. Trends in teen pregnancy rates can be an indicator of overall sexual health and well-being for young women.

Overall, the rate of teenage births has decreased across Canada and the NWT since 1996. Since 2010/12 the rate of teen births in the SLCs has once again sharply declined in the SLCs. This decline has helped to reduce the gap between teen birth rates in the SLCs and other communities in the NWT. The decrease may be due to an increased use of birth control or a broader social or behavioural change in the community. Given the timing of the trend, it is not possible to directly correlate these changes to mining activity.



#### Three Year Average Birth Rate per 1,000 Persons, Females Between the Ages 15 and 19



Source: Statistics Canada Vital Statistics.

Notes: SLCs includes Dettah, Gamètì, Łutselk'e, Behchokỳ, Wekweètì, Whatì and Fort Resolution.

## Children, Youth, and Families Receiving Child and Family Services

Child and Family Services (CFS) in the Northwest Territories has changed considerably since 1996. In 1998 and 2016, the *Child and Family Services Act* was amended to have an increased focus on prevention services. CFS has also changed their electronic case management system from the Child and Family Information System (CFIS) to the MatrixNT Information System on October 10, 2017. The way information is captured for certain services changed from CFIS to Matrix NT; and for this reason, the data is not comparable between information systems.

The figure on the next page shows the rate of children and youth receiving all services provided through CFS, which includes prevention and protection services. More focus on prevention services through legislative changes may have contributed to steady increase in the rate of children/youth receiving services since 2000. For example, in 2016/2017, approximately half of the services provided to children and youth were prevention services, suggesting a more preventative approach for engagement with families. Examples of prevention services offered through CFS include counselling, services to improve financial or housing situation, respite care, and addictions treatment. The Matrix NT data shows an increase in the rate of children/youth receiving services in small local communities between the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 fiscal years. Much of this increase is related to more children and youth accessing prevention services in these small local communities. It is important to interpret this information cautiously as Matrix NT only has two full fiscal years of data. The Department of Health, and Social Services will continue to monitor this information to determine if trends emerge for increases in protection or prevention services.

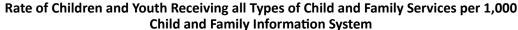


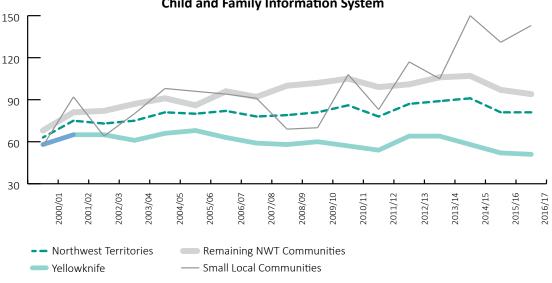
#### MatrixNT Information System

2010/10

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	
	61	94	110	Northwest Territories
	36	51	59	Yellowknife
	31	42	49	Remaining NWT Communities
	230	366	492	Small Local Communities

## Children, Youth, and Families Receiving Child and Family Services

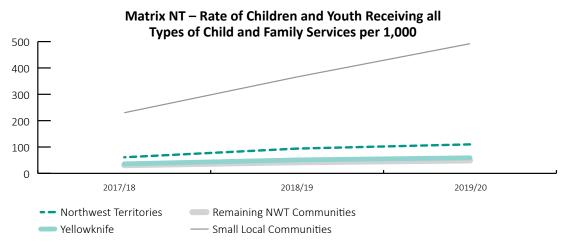






#### Notes:

- 1. Two distinct graphs capturing the rate of children and youth receiving all types of Child and Family Services per 1,000 has been prepared, in order to account for the change in collection methods and indicators from the now retired Child and Family Services Information System to the new Matrix NT system."
- 2. Data from Child and Family Information System and MatrixNT should not be made.



#### Notes:

- 1. 2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020 Some children/youth have missing or blank community fields and were not included in the analyses for Yellowknife, Remaining Communities, and Small Local Communities. Therefore, the total from these three categories will not total the NWT.
- 2. The types of Child and Family Services that were included in the analyses for 2017/2018, 2018/2019, and 2019/2020 include: Voluntary Services Agreement, Support Services Agreement, Plan of Care Agreements, Temporary Custody Orders and Permanent Custody Orders.
- 3. With the shift from CFIS to Matrix NT, the number of Voluntary Services Agreement (VSA) and Plan of Care Agreements (POCA) have increased because reporting practices have changed as VSAs and POCAs are now assigned to the household, and include the full number of children/youth in the household. The calculation of the number of VSAs and POCAs is completed by assigning a VSA or POCA service to each child/youth in the household.
- 4. While a child or youth can receive multiple types of services within the year, only the most recent service was included in the analysis so that the number of unique children/youth could be calculated.
- 5. The numbers reported in the Director's Report for 2017-2018 are not the same as the numbers presented for 2017-2018 in this analyses as the timeframes are different (April 1, 2017 to September 30, 2017 in Director's Report) and October 10, 2017 to March 31, 2018. This is due to the transition between two different information systems. Given that 2017/2018 is from a 6 month time frame, comparisons to this year should not be made.

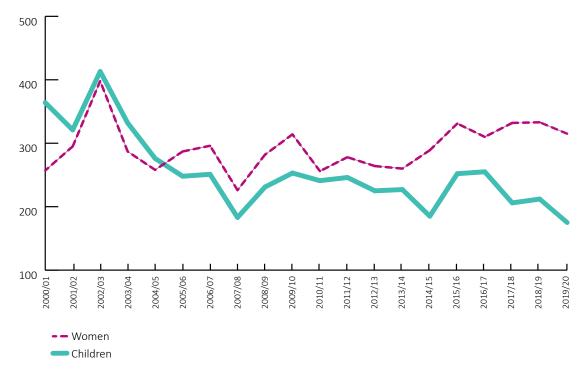
#### Admission of Women and Children in Shelters

There are five family violence shelters in the NWT. These shelters are located in Yellowknife, Hay River, Fort Smith, Inuvik, and Tuktoyaktuk. The shelters make up the Territorial Family Violence Shelters Network, which works to increase the capacity and skills of shelter staff to meet the needs of women and children.

The total admission of women and children to shelters and the total number of shelter bed days has been collected from 1999 onwards. The total number of admissions and the total number of shelter bed days have fluctuated since data collection began, indicating that family violence prevention initiatives and continued support for shelters is important. Because these numbers can fluctuate significantly year by year, it is not possible to identify a long-term trend in the total admission of women and children to shelters or a relationship to mining activity.



#### **Total Admission of Women and Children into NWT Shelters**



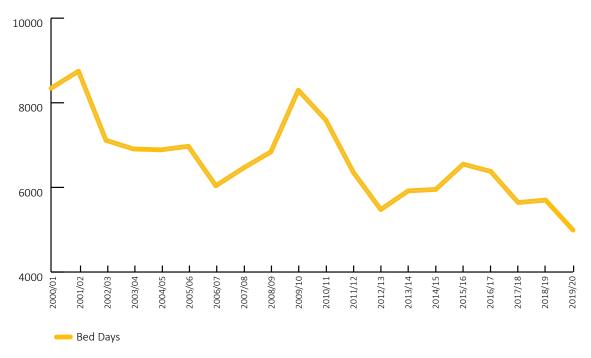
Source: Department of Health and Social Services, *Family Violence Database*. Notes:

- 1. These numbers are subject to future revisions (due to record revisions, data entry delays and database design changes) and are not necessarily comparable to numbers in other tabulations and reports.
- 2. Data for Tuktoyaktuk were unavailable for 2002/03 to 2006/07, and has been estimated based on an average of the previous three years.
- 3. Fort Smith shelter data were not included for 2004/05 as it was not in operation for most of that year. NWT data are based on shelter and not community of residence.
- 4. Some admissions may be from non-NWT residents.

## **Total Shelter Bed Days in the NWT**

Factors that may increase risk of family violence include: unemployment, social isolation, substance abuse, mental health issues, low education rates, and common-law unions. Research also shows that both men and women experience and commit family violence; however, violence against women is typically more pervasive and severe. Many instances of family violence are under-reported due to loyalty or fear of further abuse.

#### **Total Day Beds in NWT Shelters**



Source: Department of Health and Social Services, *Family Violence Database*. Notes:

<sup>1.</sup> These numbers are subject to future revisions (due to record revisions, data entry delays and database design changes) and are not necessarily comparable to numbers in other tabulations and reports.

<sup>2.</sup> Data for Tuktoyaktuk were unavailable for 2002/03 to 2006/07, and has been estimated based on an average of the previous

<sup>3.</sup> Fort Smith shelter data were not included for 2004/05 as it was not in operation for most of that year. NWT data are based on shelter and not community of residence.

<sup>4.</sup> Some admissions may be from non-NWT residents.

### Housing

# The Northwest Territories Housing Corporation and Mine Employment

Gaining employment at a mine can be a significant milestone for both individuals and families. But with this employment there may also be uncertainty about what housing options and programs are available to individuals and families if their household income goes up.

For people living in a Public Housing unit the income information required to calculate rent is on an annual basis from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). What this means is that rent is calculated for the entire year all at once. The only way this assessment can change during the year is if someone's income decreases enough that they move into a lower bracket (table on the right). Over the course of the year, rent can go down, but not up. If someone were to get a job at a mine between July 1 and June 30 of the following year, the increase in income would be captured in next year's assessment. For example, if someone got a job at a mine on August 30, 2020 their rent may not go up until the next assessment on July 1, 2021.

After the new income assessment is completed Public Housing tenants may see an increase in rent or it may remain the same, depending on how much new income they are receiving. The Public Housing rent scale is designed with income ranges, so that earning more income does not necessarily mean that rent increases.

If a household is earning significantly more income, they may want to explore homeownership through the various homeownership options offered by the NWTHC.

The NWTHC supports homeownership through multiple different programs. One of these is the recently launched **Homeownership Initiative**. This initiative's goal is to increase private homeownership in rural and remote communities where families earn enough income to own and operate their own home. To be eligible for this program applicants must have lived in their Public Housing or Homeownership Entry Level Program (HELP) unit for 3 years or more. The NWTHC's existing homeownership rental portfolio will be converted to homeownership units for eligible tenants through this initiative. Public Housing clients currently living in detached units will also have the opportunity their units if they have sufficient income to maintain and operate their home. Financial assistance for this program is in the form of a forgivable loan agreement with the NWTHC.



### Housing

Alternatively, people living in Fort Smith, Hay River, Fort Simpson, Norman Wells, Inuvik, or Yellowknife may be interested in the **Home Purchase Program**. This program provides the opportunity for successful applicants to become homeowners through assistance to purchase a modest home. The financial assistance for this program comes in the form of a forgivable loan to be used as a down payment for the purchase of a home. The loan will cover 5% of the purchase price or maximum construction cost, whichever is lower. Applicants are responsible for obtaining the remainder of project financing through an approved financial institution. Homes must be on titled land or a long-term (30 year) residential lease.

Furthermore, the NWTHC has removed home insurance and land tenure requirements for major repair programming in small communities. In the future the NWTHC will also be introducing a fee-for-service repair program in communities that do not otherwise have access to these services.

For more information about these or any other NWTHC programs please contact your Local Housing Organization, District Office, or visit **nwthc.gov.nt.ca**.



#### **Public Housing Rent Scale**

	Monthly Rent		
Monthly income	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C
<\$1,667	\$80	\$75	\$70
\$1,667-\$2,499	\$160	\$150	\$140
\$2,500-\$3,749	\$365	\$345	\$325
\$3,750-\$4,499	\$610	\$580	\$555
\$5,000-\$6,674	\$890	\$845	\$790
\$6,675-\$8,333	\$1,295	\$1,230	\$1,155
\$8,334 or More	\$1,625	\$1,545	\$1,445

#### Notes:

Zone A Communities: Yellowknife, Hay River, Fort Smith, Inuvik, Norman Wells Zone B Communities: Dettah/Ndilò,Hay River Reserve, Enterprise, Behchokò, Fort Liard, Fort Providence, Kakisa, Jean Marie River, Nahanni Butte, Fort Resolution, Gamètì, Whatì, Trout Lake, Wekweètì, Wrigley

Zone B Communities: Fort McPherson, Tsiigehtchic, Tulita, Łutselk'e, Aklavik, Tuktoyaktuk, Délį nę, Fort Good Hope, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Ulukhaktok, Colville Lake

### *Justice*

#### The Safety Needs of Communities and Northerners

The Department of Justice continues to explore how residents in each NWT community – including those in the SLCs – can access justice services in a way that is both sustainable over time, and appropriate to the needs in that community. The Department of Justice works with the RCMP and communities to enhance community safety and improve the approach to community-based initiatives that reflect community priorities and an understanding of the unique cultural history of the communities, and take into consideration community strengths and resources.

#### **Understanding the Crime Rate in the NWT**

In 2019, the NWT had the highest overall crime, violent crime and property crime rates across Canada and the second highest rate of 'other' *Criminal Code* offenses. Property crime continues to constitute the greater part of the NWT's crime rate. The most common property offence is mischief, which is typically linked to the abuse of alcohol and drugs.

The comparatively high crime rate in the NWT is influenced in part by our small population and the high ratio of police per capita in the NWT – the highest of all provinces and territories, which likely contributes to a higher level of reporting. In 2019, the rate was 433 per 100,000 population, which represented a total of 194 police officers. The high rate of crime in the NWT is also driven by demographic and social factors, such as substance use, our relatively young population, and low educational attainment.

The RCMP reports criminal incidents by detachment, not by community. Thirteen NWT communities do not have RCMP detachments. SLC's in this report without detachments include: Dettah and Ndilò which are patrolled out of Yellowknife. Wekweètì does not have an RCMP detachment and is patrolled out of Behchokò. Gamètì's two dedicated RCMP members are based in Behchokò as the community does not have a detachment building.

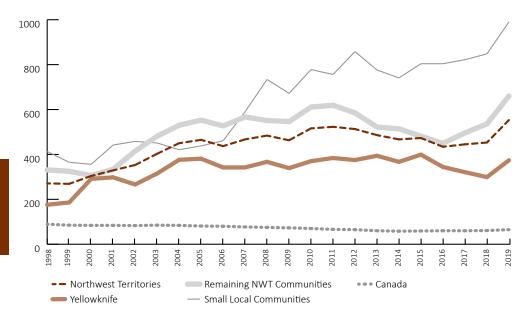
While the overall rate of police-reported crime has been trending upward across the NWT, the rate per 1,000 persons for SLCs peaked in 2019 and is almost double the rate of Yellowknife and over the rate of all other communities.



### Justice

### **Police-reported Crimes**

The rate of violent crime in SLCs remains higher than all other NWT Communities as well, and has continued to increase since 2017, with a rate of 203 per 1,000 persons.

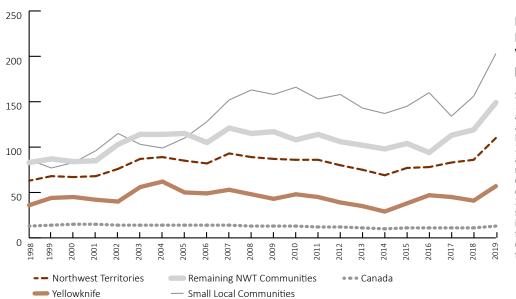


#### Number of Police-reported Crimes per 1,000 Persons

Source:
1. Criminal incidents and rate statistics are only available by RCMP detachment.
2. Detachments are captured in neighbouring community detachments.
3. Regional summaries only include statistics from RCMP detachments in that region.

### **Police-reported Violent Crimes**

The rate of violent crime has been on the rise for SLCs and the remaining NWT communities, with the highest rates reported in 2019; more than double of what they were in 1998.



#### Number of Police-reported Violent Crimes per 1,000 Persons

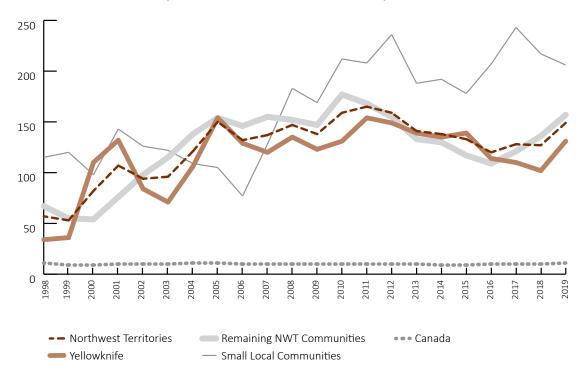
Source: 1. Criminal incidents and rate statistics are only available by RCMP detachment. 2. Detachments are captured in neighbouring community detachments. 3. Regional summaries only include statistics from RCMP detachments in that region.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION AND SUMMARY DATA TABLES 2020

# **Police-reported Other Criminal Code Crimes**

The rate of 'other' Criminal Code offences continues to trend downward for all of the NWT since 2011. The SLCs continue to fluctuate over the years, but are also experiencing a downward trend since 2017.

#### Police-reported Other Criminal Code Crimes per 1,000 Persons





- 1. Criminal incidents and rate statistics are only available by RCMP detachment.
- 2. Detachments are captured in neighbouring community detachments.
- 3. Regional summaries only include statistics from RCMP detachments in that region.

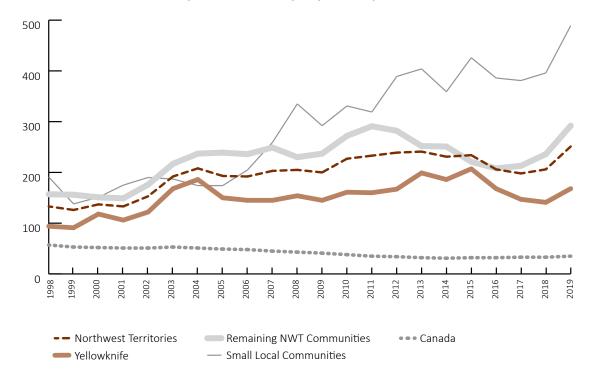


# **Police-reported Property Crimes**

Property crime continues to constitute most of the NWT crime, and continues trend upward for SLCs. The most common property offence is mischief, which is typically linked to the abuse of alcohol and drugs.



#### Police-reported Other Property Crimes per 1,000 Persons



Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

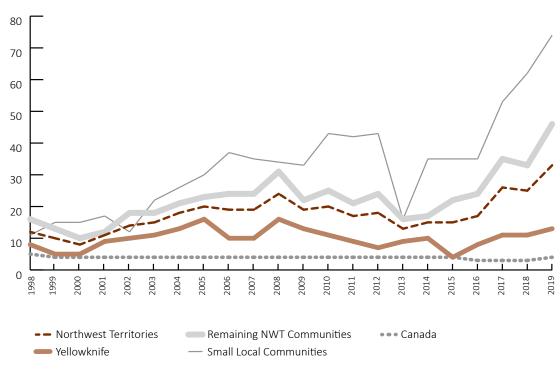
- Criminal incidents and rate statistics are only available by RCMP detachment.
   Detachments are captured in neighbouring community detachments.
   Regional summaries only include statistics from RCMP detachments in that region.

# Justice

# **Police-reported Traffic Crimes**

Aside from Yellowknife, whose rate of traffic crimes has remained similar to what it was in 1998, the other community groups, particularly the SLCs, have seen a steady upward trend to their highest rates to date in 2019. It is worth noting, however, that traffic data has not always been and is not available now for all communities.

#### Police-reported Traffic Crimes per 1,000 Persons





- 1. Criminal incidents and rate statistics are only available by RCMP detachment.
- Detachments are captured in neighbouring community detachments.
   Regional summaries only include statistics from RCMP detachments in that region.



### **Police-reported Federal Statutes Crimes**

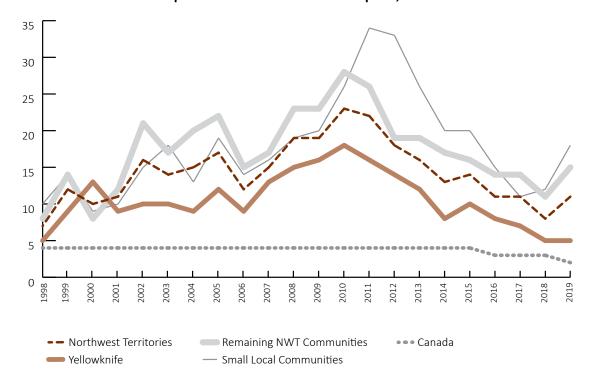
The majority of these offences are Controlled Drugs and Substances Act violations (i.e. drug crimes).

Although somewhat stable, the overall police-reported crime rate for federal statutes in Yellowknife is lower than it has been since 2003, by 50%. Similarly, the SLCs have experienced an overall decline since 2012, albeit with a slight increase between 2018 and 2019.

While there is an upward trend in most rates of crime in Yellowknife and SLCs during the period of increased mining activity, trends in crime are influenced by many factors and it is not possible to definitively conclude that there is a relationship between the two.



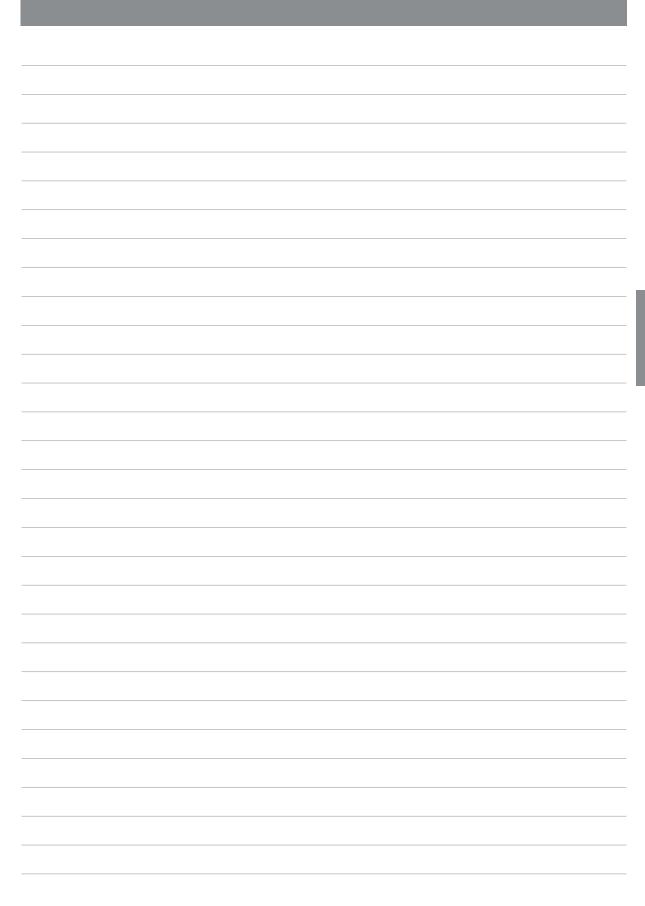
#### Police-reported Federal Statutes Crimes per 1,000 Persons



Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

- 1. Criminal incidents and rate statistics are only available by RCMP detachment.
- Detachments are captured in neighbouring community detachments.
   Regional summaries only include statistics from RCMP detachments in that region.

# Notes





# Notes





