

Tough times for students looking for work: StatsCan
By 24 HOURS NEWS SERVICES
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The unemployment rate for students aged 19-24 shot up to 21% in July, a report released by Statistics Canada says.

That's the highest July unemployment rate since 1977.

"Students who are unable to find work this summer will have a much harder time paying for their education this fall, and might not be able to return to school in September " said Arati Sharma, National Director of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

Despite having invested in significant new programs such as the Repayment Assistance Plan and the Canada Student Grant Program, the federal government has not been successful in promoting awareness regarding these programs, Sharma said.

With fewer students working, there will be an increased need for Student Financial Aid. CASA is asking the Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development to expand the needs assessment process for student financial aid.