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### SE Neb Unemployment Rates Higher in December

(KLZA)-- Unemployment rates were up slightly in most Southeast Nebraska counties for the month of December.

Nemaha County has the highest jobless rate at 4.1 percent, up seven-tenths from November.

Pawnee County has the lowest unemployment rate at 2.2 percent, with no change from November. Other area county rates were 3.7 in Richardson County up 3-tenths, 2.9 percent in Johnson County up half a percentage point. Otoe County had an unemployment rate of three percent, up five-tenths and the Gage County rate was up three-tenths to 3.6 percent.

Statewide the unemployment rate for December was 2.9 percent, the lowest December rate since 2006.

The Nebraska unemployment rate is second in the nation behind the 2.7 percent in North Dakota. Kansas and Iowa are tied for 10th at 4.3 percent unemployment and Missouri is 21st at 5.6 percent.

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