

Local unemployment rates take big jump

(KNZA)--Unemployment rates in local northeast Kansas counties took a big jump in April due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to figures released Friday by the Kansas Department of Labor, Jackson County had the highest unemployment rate among area counties at 12.4 percent, while Marshall County had the lowest at 5.2 percent.

Elsewhere, Atchison County's jobless rate climbed to 11.6 percent; Brown, 8.6 percent; Doniphan, 9.3 percent; Jefferson, 10.1 percent; Leavenworth, 11.4 percent; Nemaha, 5.3 percent; and Pottawatomie County, 7.6 percent.

All the figures were up significantly from March and also from April 2019.

Statewide, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 11.2 in April. That's up from a historical low of 2.8 percent in March and 3.2 percent in April 2019.

Governor Kelly's state-at-home order in response to COVID-19 went into effect March 30.

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