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Unemployment Figures Climb in SE Neb Counties (KLZA) -- Unemployment figures in southeast Nebraska in December bucked the statewide downward trend.

Statewide in December the unemployment rate was down a tenth of a point to 3.6 percent. That compares to the national unemployment rate of 6.7 percent.

Pawnee County continues to have the lowest unemployment rate among the counties in extreme southeast Nebraska at 2.9 percent. That figure was up 3 tenths from November.

Nemaha County Nebraska has the highest unemployment rate in the area at 4.7 percent. In Richardson County the rate was 4.3 percent in December, Johnson County 3.3 percent; Otoe County 4 percent and Gage County 3.7 percent. All those figures represent a slight increase in unemployment.

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