Economic Growth Expected to Slow in Midwest

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) - A new survey suggests economic growth in rural areas of Iowa, Nebraska and eight other Midwestern states will continue slowing down in the next few months.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss said Thursday that crop prices are significantly lower than last year, and that's a drag on the economy in rural areas.

The overall economic index from the monthly survey of bankers declined to 48.2 in September from August's already weak 48.3 reading.

The survey indexes range from 0 to 100. Any score below 50 suggests decline in the months ahead.

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