

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=26526>

### Economy of Plains States Projected to Grow

(KLZA/AP) Conductors of a monthly survey of business leaders in nine Midwest and Plains states say the region's economy will grow in the coming months, despite a fourth month of decline in the survey's overall index.

The overall economic index for the region declined to 53.5 in July from June's 55.6, but any score above 50 suggests growth.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey. He says the regional economy will continue to add jobs, but at a slow pace.

The survey of business leaders and supply managers uses a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth, while a score below that suggests decline.

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Associated Press