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FOR SIOUXLAND

Empowering Our Community Through Comprehensive Strategies.



THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: EMPLOYMENT DISPARITY & BARRIERS

UNEMPLOYMENT

In Siouxland

In terms of poverty rates, Woodbury County faced the highest prevalence at **15.5%**, surpassing the state average by over 4%. In contrast, Dakota County reported a **10.4%** poverty rate, while Union County had the lowest rate at **6.5%**—just over half of the state average of 12.3%.

There are multiple areas of opportunity in Siouxland to address employment barriers. Investing in **accessible education programs** aimed at developing relevant skills can equip individuals for available job opportunities. Implementing **anti-discrimination policies** will ensure fair opportunities for everyone. **Enhancing transportation** and **community development** in underserved areas will reduce geographic barriers to employment. **Mentorship programs** and **vocational training** can help those with limited work experience. **Affordable childcare** and **mental health support** will enable more people to participate in the workforce.

Based on 2023 data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Woodbury County, IA, exhibited a **2.8%** unemployment rate, reflecting a 0.4% decrease from the 2022 data. Dakota County, NE, reported a slightly lower unemployment rate at **2.7%**, with a 0.2% decrease from the previous year. Union County, SD, had the lowest unemployment rate among the three counties, boasting a **1.7%** unemployment rate—0.7% decrease from 2022.

POVERTY

In Siouxland