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A Research Report: Quality of Life in Nonmetropolitan Nebraska (2011 Nebraska Rural Poll Results) as Spoken on KNCY Radio Extension Update, October 1, 2011

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KNCY Radio Extension Update on October 1, 2011

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A Research Report: Quality of Life in Nonmetropolitan Nebraska
2011 Nebraska Rural Poll Results

(Note: most of the information below comes directly from the research report with only a few changes for radio)

Hello! This is Connie Reimers-Hild with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension at the Kimmel Education and Research Center in Nebraska City, NE and host of the television show Market Journal with your Extension Update. Today, I am going to update you on some of the results of the well-being section of the 2011 Nebraska Rural Poll. This particular section of the poll will detail the 2,490 responses from the 2011 Poll.

With all the negativity these days, I get to be the bearer of positive news, which is great! The 2011 Rural Poll found that ***most rural Nebraskans believe they are better off than they were five years ago.*** Over one-half (52%) of rural Nebraskans believe they are better off than they were five years ago, up from 50 percent last year. *This represents the second highest proportion of persons believing they are better off compared to five years ago in the study's history (behind 53% occurring in 2008).* This is a really interesting finding considering the state of the economy.

Also, rural Nebraskans continue to be generally positive about their future. The proportion stating they will be better off ten years from now has generally remained about 42 percent. This year, that proportion increased to 45 percent.

Most rural Nebraskans say they are very happy or fairly happy. Over one-quarter (27%) of rural Nebraskans are very happy and 61 percent report being fairly happy.

I will end this segment with great news for all of us living in Southeast Nebraska! The poll found that *persons living in the Southeast region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to report being very happy.* Thirty-two percent of respondents from Southeast Nebraska residents are very happy! That is great news for all of us living in this area. Let's hope this positive trend continues. After all, Nebraska is the good life where possibilities are endless. But, more on that in our next segment!

More information on the Nebraska Rural Poll can be found online at: ruralpoll.unl.edu

This is Connie Reimers-Hild with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension at the Kimmel Education and Research Center in Nebraska City, NE with your Extension Update. Thanks for listening!