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KS Jobless Rate Declines

(MSC News)--Kansas labor officials say the state's unemployment rate dropped to 5.1 percent in November, its lowest mark in nearly five years.

The state Department of Labor reported Thursday that November's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined from 5.6 percent in October. The jobless rate in November 2012 was 5.5 percent.

Statewide unemployment has not been so low since December 2008.

Locally, Atchison County had the highest rate of unemployment with 7.4 percent, while Nemaha had the lowest at 2.5 percent.

Brown's rate of unemployment for November was 3.9 percent, Doniphan at 6.1 percent, Jackson at 4.2 percent, Jefferson at 5.4 percent, Leavenworth at 5.6 percent, Marshall at 2.8 percent and Pottawatomie County standing at 4.0 percent.

Labor Department spokeswoman Barbara Hersh said about 6,000 Kansans who had been receiving unemployment benefits found jobs in November.

Governor Sam Brownback said in a statement that the numbers show that 2013 was a good year for the state's economy.

Associated Press/Many Signals Communications