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KS Tax Collections Exceed Expectations

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - Kansas collected \$22 million more in taxes than expected this month.

The Department of Revenue reported Friday that the state collected almost \$310 million in taxes in February, when it anticipated taking in \$287 million. The surplus is 7.7 percent.

The numbers are good news for Republican Gov. Sam Brownback and legislators, but they don't solve the state's budget problems.

Officials must close a budget shortfall that had been projected at nearly \$600 million for the fiscal year that begins July 1.

Tax collections for the current fiscal year, starting in July 2014, still remain behind expectations, after falling short in December and January.

During those eight months, the state collected \$3.55 billion in taxes, when it expected \$3.6 billion. The difference is \$37 million, about 1 percent.

Associated Press