

Unemployment rates drop in most SE Neb counties

(KLZA)--Unemployment numbers improved in most Southeast Nebraska counties in February.

Unemployment in Otoe County was up two-tenths of a point to 3.3 percent. The jobless rate in the other five counties in extreme Southeast Nebraska dipped slightly in February.

Pawnee County has the best jobless rate at 2.7 percent. The highest unemployment rate is in Johnson County at 4.2 percent.

In Richardson and Nemaha counties the unemployment rate is 3.3 percent for February and in Gage County the unemployment figure is 3.6 percent.

In all five counties the unemployment rate was one to two-tenths of a percent lower than in January.

The statewide jobless rate dropped a tenth of a point to 2.8 percent. That is well below the national unemployment rate of 4.1 percent.

Nebraska Labor Commissioner John Albin says the state labor force and number of employed workers both increased in February.