

Arkansas has seen its second-largest spike in new coronavirus cases following two days of decreasing numbers of people testing positive. Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced today (Wed) 734 Arkansans tested positive for COVID-19, bringing the state's total number of cases to 25,246. Four more Arkansans died from the disease, bringing the death toll to 305. Speaking in the governor's daily briefing on the pandemic, Health Secretary Dr. Nate Smith said new case growth in Arkansas is being driven by spread among the general public.

News01

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"...know you're infected."

Pulaski County had the highest number of new cases today (Wed) with 87 people testing positive. Washington County saw 72 new cases, with 60 residents of Benton County testing positive. Hutchinson also discussed results from a recent survey of 600 adult Arkansans, where 82 percent of respondents said they wear personal protective equipment like face masks when in public.

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"...some of the time."

Results from the survey, done by the Little Rock-based Gilmore Strategy Group, also show over half of respondents favor a regional approach to health directives and business restrictions related to the pandemic as opposed to a statewide approach. Today's (Wed) increase brought the state's total number of active COVID-19 cases to 5,545. The number of Arkansans hospitalized with COVID-19 decreased by 11 for a total of 358, with 79 patients on a ventilator.