

Arkansas has seen yet another triple-digit increase in new coronavirus cases as the number of people hospitalized with COVID-19 reaches its highest point since the pandemic began. Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced the state saw 728 new cases today (Tues) bringing the total to 34,655, while an additional 11 COVID-19 deaths brought the state's death toll to 374. Speaking in his daily briefing, Hutchinson said schools in Arkansas are still on track to reopen between August 24th and 26th.

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"...back to school safely."

An additional 17 Arkansans were hospitalized with COVID-19 as of today (Tues) bringing the state's total to 488. Pulaski County saw the highest number of new cases with 110 residents testing positive, while the state's active COVID-19 cases totaled 6,998. Education Secretary Johnny Key cited the Jacksonville/North Pulaski School District's reopening plan as a successful example of safely returning to in-class instruction.

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"...all their students."

Key said the Little Rock School District, which remains under state control, will open at the same time as other districts despite the Little Rock Education Association teachers' union's calls for a phased approach to school reopening.