

Arkansas's governor says he's committed to opening schools for in-class instruction in a little over a month as the state continues to see new COVID-19 cases and deaths. Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced today (Fri) the state saw 648 new coronavirus cases, bringing the total to 31,762. The state's COVID-19 death toll also rose by 12 to 353. Speaking in his daily briefing on the pandemic, Hutchinson said the state has factored in the risk of teachers and students spreading the coronavirus in the decision to open schools between August 24th and 26th.

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"...another look at it."

The number of Arkansans hospitalized with COVID-19 decreased by six to 464, with 97 patients on a ventilator. Pulaski County had the highest increase in new cases today (Fri) with 68 residents testing positive, followed by Washington and Craighead counties with 44 and 32 new cases, respectively. Today's (Fri) increase brought the state's total number of active COVID-19 cases to 6,633, including 1,013 inmates of the state's correctional facilities.