

The daily increase in new coronavirus cases in Arkansas has had its third-highest spike since the pandemic began as more than 400 COVID-19 patients are hospitalized with the disease. Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced 751 Arkansans tested positive for the coronavirus today (Fri) for a total of 26,803, while the state's COVID-19 death toll rose by four to 313. Speaking in his daily briefing in De Queen, Hutchinson said increasing virus activity in states across the country is having a ripple effect on testing turnaround time in Arkansas.

News01

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"...back to us."

The number of Arkansans hospitalized with COVID-19 increased by 8 to 402, with 84 patients on a ventilator. Health Secretary Dr. Nate Smith spoke on the benefits of "serial testing," a practice recommended by the C-D-C where individuals at high risk of coronavirus exposure are tested multiple times.

News02

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"...would be useful."

Hot Spring County saw the highest increase in cases today (Fri) with 145 residents testing positive. Smith said that's likely due to an outbreak of COVID-19 at the Ouachita River Unit state prison in Malvern. An additional 100 residents of Pulaski County tested positive for the virus, with a combined increase of just over 100 new cases from Washington and Benton counties.