

9-3 COVID 2A & 2B

MEH

9/3 (Thurs PM & Fri AM)

Washington County in northwest Arkansas is leading the state in new confirmed cases of the coronavirus. 969 cases were reported today (Thurs). 211 of those were from the county, which is home to the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. A vast majority of those were between the ages of 18 and 24. Health Secretary Dr. Jose Romero said he's leery about the upcoming Labor Day weekend...

News19 0:15 "...under control now."

Jefferson County – home to UA Pine Bluff – also saw a significant number of college age people becoming infected. The state also reported 20 additional deaths today (Thurs), with many coming from a nursing home in Mississippi County. Meanwhile 18 Republican lawmakers today (Thurs) filed a lawsuit challenging the state's mask mandate. Governor Asa Hutchinson responded to the lawsuit saying the state has followed appropriate protocols.

News20 0:25 "...how this works."

The lawsuit has been assigned to Pulaski County Circuit Judge Wendell Griffen. Meanwhile, the Department of Corrections has announced that beginning next month, prisons will begin allowing in-person visitations. Those had been halted as the virus first began its spread through the state.