Arkansas has seen its third-highest daily increase in new coronavirus cases, the day after experiencing the second-highest uptick in new infections. Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced today (Fri) the state saw 751 new coronavirus cases, bringing the total to 26,803. An additional four Arkansans died from COVID-19 bringing the death toll to 313. Speaking at the University of Arkansas Cossatot Community College in De Queen, Hutchinson called on the federal government to utilize the Defense Production Act to cope with a shortage of coronavirus testing supplies.

News03   0:24   "…states like Arkansas."

Hot Spring County had the highest number of new cases today (Fri) with 145 people testing positive. Health Secretary Dr. Nate Smith said that's likely due to a continued outbreak at the Ouachita River Unit state prison, even though the Health Department previously tested all inmates and staff for the coronavirus.

News04   0:27   "…negative at first."

The state had 5,847 active COVID-19 cases as of today (Fri), including 584 inmates of correctional facilities. The number of Arkansans hospitalized with COVID-19 rose by 8 today (Fri) for a total of 402. An additional 100 residents of Pulaski County also tested positive for the virus.