

Arkansas has seen its fifth-highest daily increase in new coronavirus cases with 824 people testing positive. Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced today's (Mon) increase brought the state's total to 39,447, while seven additional COVID-19 deaths brought the death toll to 408. Speaking in the governor's daily briefing, Acting Health Secretary Dr. Jose Romero said the Health Department has purchased 200 point-of-care machines for hospitals in an effort to shorten the time between testing and beginning to notify those who may have been exposed to a COVID-19 patient.

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"...not doing this anymore."

Today's (Mon) increase brought the state's total number of active COVID-19 cases to 6,674, while the number of Arkansans hospitalized with COVID-19 rose by nine to 489. Hutchinson said he's optimistic a state legislative panel will approve \$7 million dollars for outreach to Latinx and Marshallese communities tomorrow (Tues) after opting not to consider the proposal last week.

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"...resources into place."

Hutchinson also announced \$10 million dollars will go toward purchasing 20-thousand "access points" to provide K-12 students with wireless internet access to attend online classes. Schools in Arkansas are currently set to resume classes between August 24th and 26th.