

The total number of coronavirus cases in Arkansas has surpassed 51,000 as the state added just over 700 new cases today (Wednesday).

According to numbers from the Arkansas Department of Health, the state added 703 new cases, which is around fifty shy of double the number of new cases announced on Tuesday. The total number of COVID-19 cases in Arkansas is now 51,114.

Hospitalizations due to COVID-19 in Arkansas decreased by 21 for a total of 486. Patients on a ventilator also decreased by three to a total of 113. The death toll increased by 7, meaning 573 Arkansans have died from COVID-19.

During his daily briefing on the coronavirus, taking place today (Wednesday) in Monticello, Gov. Asa Hutchinson spoke on the increase in cases.

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**“...as a state.”**

“Obviously that’s an increase from yesterday, but it’s a decrease from the previous three days I believe it is and so it shows that we continue to be flat, but we’re not where we need to be as a state,” Hutchinson said.

Of those cases, 6,725 are considered active. Pulaski county led the state in new cases with 78. Logan county has 47 new cases while Sebastian county added 43. The state tested 4,401 Arkansans in the past 24 hours.

Of the state’s 6,725 active COVID-19 cases, 69 are among nursing home residents, 741 are inmates of correctional facilities and 5,915 are among the general public. Gov. Hutchinson also announced today (Wed) he’s signed a letter of intent with the Rockefeller Foundation and a small group of other states to “work as a consortium” to help with purchasing and creating demand for COVID-19 testing supplies in order to mitigate delays in receiving test results from commercial laboratories.