

Arkansas has added more than 1-thousand new coronavirus cases in a single day as more than 48-thousand people have tested positive since the pandemic began. Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced the state saw 1,011 new cases today (Fri), bringing the total to 48,039. An additional six Arkansans died from COVID-19 for a death toll of 521. Speaking in his daily briefing, Hutchinson said he believes the spread of COVID-19 in Arkansas is under control despite the sharp uptick.

News01

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“...uh, out of control.”

Pulaski County saw the highest increase in new cases today (Fri) with 182 residents testing positive, including 100 inmates of the Wrightsville Unit state prison. The number of Arkansans hospitalized with COVID-19 increased by nine to 523, with 116 patients on a ventilator. With Arkansas schools set to reopen in just over two weeks, Education Secretary Johnny Key said the state plans to use \$20 million dollars in CARES Act funding to provide two weeks of paid leave for school employees needing to enter quarantine.

News02

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“...and cafeteria workers.”

The funding would last through the end of the calendar year and is still subject to approval by state lawmakers. As of today (Fri) Arkansas had 7,158 active COVID-19 cases, including 53 nursing home residents and 687 inmates of correctional facilities. Today’s (Fri) increase of 1,011 new cases marks the third-highest single-day increase in new positive test results since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic.