

Arkansas recorded nearly 800 more cases of the coronavirus as the total number of COVID-19 cases in the state passes 41,000.

The state added 791 new cases of the coronavirus. The total number of cases recorded is now 41,559. Of those cases 6,580 are considered active.

Pulaski county had the highest number of new cases with 73. Sebastian county has 57, while Benton county had the third highest with 47.

Hospitalizations decreased by four for a total of 504. The death toll increased by eight to a total of 442.

These numbers come as the state continues its plan to reopen schools the week of August 24, less than a month away. Gov. Asa Hutchinson, spoke on that plan during his daily briefing on the coronavirus.

NEWS08**:24****“...August 24”**

“There’s obviously nervousness about it. There’s uncertainty and that’s just a natural part of whether it’s state workers returning or whether its other factory workers that’s going to work. In this environment [there’s] clearly a nervousness about it and we want to make it as safe and healthy as we can and those are the steps we’re going to be taking between now and August 24,” Hutchinson said

Thanks to a new tool from the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement, the number of active coronavirus cases in cities where there are at least 10 cases is now accessible. Speaking during the briefing. Dr. Joe Thompson, president of the ACHI, spoke on the new available data.

NEWS09**:14****“...their community”**

“We think this is important. I was on a phone call with the municipal league and its membership this morning. Those local leaders need information that they can put into action to make sure that their citizenry that this COVID virus is in their community,” Thompson said.

According to data from the ACHI, Little Rock has the highest number of active cases with 495. Springdale has the second highest with 421.