

Arkansas has recorded its highest number of COVID-19 deaths in a single day as the total number of cases in the state surpasses 40,000.

The state saw 734 new cases today (Tuesday), according to numbers from the Arkansas Department of Health. The total number of coronavirus cases in the state is now 40,181. Of those cases, 6,595 are considered active.

The state recorded 20 deaths from COVID-19, bring the total to 428. The number of Arkansans hospitalized with the virus is now 501 due to an increase of 12.

Pulaski County recorded the highest number of new cases with 55. Benton had the second highest with 48.

Speaking during his daily briefing on the coronavirus, Gov. Asa Hutchinson presented a new chart that measured the positivity percentage of total coronavirus cases in each county.

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“...that information”

“This is helpful to us as we make decisions on our testing, on our focus on resources. As we measure schools...if they have a positive COVID case in a school after it starts, how do you respond to that. Some of it will be the extend of spread in the community. This...gives us that information,” Hutchinson said.

According to the data provided, Lincoln county has the highest percentage of positive cases with 32.5%. Hot Spring, Lee, Washington and Yell counties all have a positivity percentage of over 20%.

While Pulaski county currently has the second highest number of total coronavirus cases in the state at 4,492, its percentage positive rate is 7.4%.