



ARKANSAS COVID-19 UPDATE MARCH 27, 2020

Governor's Daily Update: <https://www.youtube.com/c/GovernorAsaHutchinson/live>
AR Div. of Emergency Mgmt.: create a Smart911 profile for your family: <https://www.smart911.com>
AR Department of Health: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/>

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- STATE OF EMERGENCY: **YES** (since 3/11/2020)
- AR COUNTIES (75) WITH CONFIRMED CASES: **40**
- NUMBER CONFIRMED CASES, BY AGE GROUP:
 - 1-18: **15**
 - 19-64: **242**
 - 65+: **124**
- HOSPITALIZED: **48** WITH VENTILATOR: **17**
- NURSING HOME CASES: **42**

OTHER INFORMATION:

- SCHOOLS REMAIN CLOSED THROUGH: **4/17/2020**
- UNEMP BENEFITS UPDATE: **18,100** claims to date
- ESSENTIAL SERVICES: **Contact us with concerns about essential services**
- MEDICAL LICENSURE: **Expedited process for healthcare licensees resulting in an additional 100+ physicians and 300+ nurses.**
- TELEMEDICINE: **Regulations eased; major insurers expanding telemedicine benefits**
- PUBLIC /SOCIAL GATHERINGS: **The COVID-19 guidance the AR Department of Health (ADH) has already provided to the public will be issued later today as a directive carrying the power of law. See language of ADH Directive on the following page.**
- RESTAURANTS AND BARS: **Carry-out or delivery only**
- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES: **Restaurants and package stores may deliver**
- CURFEWS: **City-wide curfew in Little Rock extended: 9PM-5AM**
- PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE): **The state dedicated \$30 million for PPE; AR Attorney General Leslie Rutledge dedicates additional \$1M; PPE: 3 million N95 masks, 4M surgical masks, 2.1M face shields, 4M disposable gowns, and 7M gloves, are scheduled to begin arriving this weekend.**
- WORK FROM HOME: **All government employees are working from home unless their job function is considered an 'essential function.'**

ARKANSAS NUMBERS

Total Confirmed Positive To Date: 381*

Total Deaths to Date: 3

*As of 1:30 pm today; This number continues to change rapidly.

LEGISLATIVE SPECIAL SESSION

The House and Senate both passed companion bills to address the state's projected budget shortfall in FY21. Both will reconvene at midnight for final passage.

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Secretary of Health DIRECTIVE (ORDER) Limitations on Gatherings 10 people / 6 feet
March 26, 2020

The Secretary of Health, in consultation with the Governor, has sole authority over all instances of quarantine, isolation, and restrictions on commerce and travel throughout Arkansas, as necessary and appropriate to control disease in the state of Arkansas as authorized by Ark. Code Ann. §20-7-109—110. Based on available scientific evidence, it is necessary and appropriate to take further action to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Arkansas remain safe.

All public and private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are subject to the following directives and exceptions:

Due to the high risk of community spread of COVID-19, gatherings of more than ten (10) people in any confined indoor or outdoor space are prohibited until further notice. Gatherings subject to this directive include, without limitation, community, civic, public, leisure, commercial, or sporting events, concerts, conferences, conventions, fundraisers, parades, fairs, and festivals.

This directive does not apply to gatherings of ten (10) or more people in unenclosed, outdoor spaces such as parks, trails, athletic fields and courts, parking lots, golf courses, and driving ranges where social distancing of at least six (6) feet can be easily achieved.

This directive does not apply to businesses, manufacturers, construction companies, places of worship, the Arkansas General Assembly, municipal or county governing bodies, or the judiciary; however, these entities are advised to limit person-to-person contact and maintain appropriate social distancing of at least six (6) feet to prevent the spread of this virus.

The Secretary of Health reserves the right to exercise his authority to prevent the spread of disease in this State if, in his judgment, any of the excluded entities are operating in a manner that is a risk to public health.