



## ARKANSAS COVID-19 UPDATE May 18, 2020

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

- STATE OF EMERGENCY: **Yes** (since 3/11/2020)
- AR Major Disaster Declaration: **Fed Approval**
- AR COUNTIES (75) WITH CONFIRMED CASES: **73**

### CONFIRMED CASES

- **HOSPITALIZED: 77 WITH VENTILATOR: 12**
- **CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CONFIRMED CASES**
  - Number of Locations: **3**
  - Federal Facility, Forrest City: **335** inmates, **16** staff
  - State Facilities
    - Little Rock: **62** inmates, **27** staff
    - Pine Bluff: **900** inmates, **60** staff
- **NURSING HOME CONFIRMED CASES**
  - Number of Locations: **51** Deaths: **34**
  - Nursing Home Residents: **316**
  - Nursing Home Workers: **176**

### OTHER INFORMATION:

- **UNEMP BENEFITS: Total of \$357.9M has been paid to unemployed Arkansans including \$109M from the state unemployment fund. PUA is to begin paying May 18.**
- **RESOURCE FOR BUSINESS: [www.arkansasready.com](http://www.arkansasready.com) launched by the Arkansas COVID19 Recovery Task Force as a resource for businesses reopening as well as consumers.**
- **\$\$ FOR SMALL BUSINESS: General Assembly approves additional \$92.7 million dollars for the "Arkansas Ready for Business" Grant Program for a total of \$147.7 million**
- **STATE/ NATIONAL PARKS: State parks – beginning on May 1 will be open to overnight stays for in-state travelers in self-contained RVs while the bath houses will remain closed. Friday May 15 lodges and cabins will reopen; Buffalo River Nat'l Park - closed**
- **PUBLIC /SOCIAL GATHERINGS: Advised: 10 or less with appropriate social distancing**
- **RESTAURANTS AND BARS: Starting on May 11 restaurants will be able to accommodate up to 1/3 capacity for dine-in service, must follow Dept. of Health guidelines including daily staff screenings, PPE for all employees and regular disinfecting of tables and menus along with other requirements.**
- **TESTING: CDC has guaranteed 90,000 test kits be provided to the state during the month of May—shipments to begin arriving this week. The state aims to do 60,000 tests over the next month.**
- **CARES ACT FUNDING: \$1.25 billion in federal funds for Arkansas**

**Active COVID-19 Cases in AR: 1068**

Total Confirmed 5/17: 4759

New since 5/17: **+54**

**Total Confirmed Positive to Date: 4813**

Total Deaths 5/17: 98

New since 5/17: **+2**

**Total Deaths to Date: 100**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING BARS**

Bars associated with restaurants can be operational effective tomorrow May 19. Those bars not associated with restaurants, or stand-alone bars, can open for operation beginning May 22. Dept. of Health will release guidelines for operation going forward.