



**ARKANSAS COVID-19 UPDATE**  
May 23, 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: 86 WITH VENTILATOR: 17**
- **CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CONFIRMED CASES**
  - Number of Locations: **3**
  - Federal Facility, Forrest City: **622** inmates, **16** staff
  - State Facilities
    - Little Rock: **62** inmates, **27** staff
    - Pine Bluff: **900** inmates, **60** staff
- **NURSING HOME CONFIRMED CASES**
  - Nursing Home Residents: **358**
  - Nursing Home Workers: **204**

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

- **UNEMP BENEFITS: Unemployment Rate is at 10.2% for the State of Arkansas. PUA checks have started to go out, 7,105 claims paid, additional 3,000 will be paid over the weekend.**
- **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: 8,198 AR Ready for Business Grants have been approved and will begin paying out over the weekend.**
- **STATE/ NATIONAL PARKS: State parks – beginning on May 1 will be open to overnight stay. Most State Parks as well as trails on National Parks have been reopened, check the State Parks [website](#) for a full list of trails and parks.**
- **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.**

**Active COVID-19 Cases in AR: 1564**

Total Confirmed 5/22: 5612

New since 5/22: **+163\***

**\*3 are from correctional facilities**

**Total Confirmed Positive to Date: 5775**

Total Deaths 5/22: 113

New since 5/22: **+2**

**Total Deaths to Date: 115**

**Elective Surgeries: Effective Monday 5/25**

- **All ASA ratings have been removed allowing more at-risk patients to avail themselves to surgery.**
- **Removed the restriction on length of hospital stay**
- **Now require testing within 72 hours**
- **And antibody testing can be used where available.**