



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Contact:

Lacy Booker
830.221.1106
bookel@co.comal.tx.us

County reports 68 new COVID-19 cases

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, AUGUST 18, 2020:

NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County is reporting 68 new cases of COVID-19 for a total of 2,772.

Of the new cases, all 68 are confirmed; 54 are New Braunfels-area residents, nine are from the Bulverde/Spring Branch area, one lives north of Canyon Lake, one lives south of Canyon Lake, and three are from the Garden Ridge area. Twenty-eight are younger than 30, 22 are in their 30s or 40s; 15 are in their 50s or 60s; and three are older than 70.

The county also confirmed 77 more recoveries from COVID-19, for a total of 2,187. With 72 deaths, the county now has 513 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases. Of them, 77 are hospitalized.

On Tuesday morning, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 13 COVID-19 patients; of those, eight are in intensive care beds, and seven are on ventilators. Not all of these patients are necessarily county residents; likewise, not all county residents hospitalized with COVID-19 are in Comal County hospitals.

As of Tuesday morning, Public Health has received reports of the following test information:

- 17,332 tests conducted
- 2,200 confirmed cases
- 572 probable cases

Comal County's positivity rate is now 15.99%, up slightly from 15.86% on Monday.

Of the 2,772 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Comal County, the location breakdown is:

- 2,108 from the New Braunfels area, including eastern and central Comal County
- 387 from western Comal County, including Bulverde and Spring Branch
- 131 from south of Canyon Lake
- 76 from north of Canyon Lake, including Fischer

- 62 from southern Comal County, including Garden Ridge and Schertz
- 8 from Fair Oaks Ranch

Residents wishing to be tested for COVID-19 can call the county's dedicated hotline, 830-221-1120, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Probable case definition

“Probable cases” is a category established by the Texas Department of State Health Services to describe those who do not have a positive PCR test for COVID-19, but meet two of the following three criteria:

- A positive quick-result antigen test
- Experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Close contact with a confirmed positive COVID-19 case

A probable case is treated identically to a confirmed case and counts toward the county's positivity rate and total case tally.

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