



# COMAL COUNTY

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## PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### **County confirms two new COVID-19 deaths, reports nine new cases**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, AUGUST 21, 2020:**

*NEW BRAUNFELS* — Comal County has confirmed two new deaths related to COVID-19, for a total of 80, and is reporting nine new cases of the disease for a total of 2,857.

A New Braunfels man in his 70s died on August 6. A woman in her 90s from Kirkwood Manor in New Braunfels died August 12.

Of the nine new cases, seven are confirmed and two are probable; five are New Braunfels-area residents, two are from the Bulverde/Spring Branch area, one lives south of Canyon Lake, and one lives north of Canyon Lake. Three are younger than 30, two are in their 30s or 40s, three are in their 50s or 60s, and one is older than 70.

Comal County also confirmed four more recoveries from COVID-19, for a total of 2,263. With 80 deaths, the county now has 514 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases. Of them, 73 are hospitalized.

On Friday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 15 COVID-19 patients; of those, eight are in intensive care beds, and six 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.

### **Nursing home reports**

Long-term residential care facilities in Comal County have reported the following active cases and new deaths as of Friday:

- Colonial Manor, New Braunfels: 40 cases (18 residents, 22 staff)
- Eden Hill, New Braunfels: 1 case (1 staff)
- Elan Westpointe, New Braunfels: 1 case (1 staff)
- Kirkwood Manor, New Braunfels: 3 cases (1 resident, 2 staff) 7 deaths
- Legend Oaks, New Braunfels: 8 cases (6 residents, 2 staff) \*
- Memory Care of New Braunfels: 2 cases (2 staff)

\*Legend Oaks has begun accepting COVID-19 positive residents. This number represents cases that were identified prior to admission.

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

- 18,234 tests conducted
- 2,270 confirmed cases
- 587 probable cases

Comal County's positivity rate is now 15.67%, a slight increase from Thursday's rate of 15.64%.

Of the 2,857 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Comal County, the location breakdown is:

- 2,178 from the New Braunfels area, including eastern and central Comal County
- 393 from western Comal County, including Bulverde and Spring Branch
- 134 from south of Canyon Lake
- 79 from north of Canyon Lake, including Fischer
- 65 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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