



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Comal County reports 76 additional COVID-19 cases; Active cases now at 612

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, December 8, 2020:

NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County reports an additional 76 COVID-19 cases today, bringing the County's total to 5,060.

48 are confirmed cases. 28 are probable cases.

The County now has 612 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases.

Of those, 38 are hospitalized.

“We are seeing a spike in cases and an increased positivity rate in the county. This is no surprise; with the holidays, it seems to be the trend state-wide and nationally,” said Comal County Public Health Director Cheryl Fraser. “The Public Health Department would like to remind everyone of the importance of following CDC guideline of wearing a face-covering, social distancing, hand hygiene and staying home when you are sick. These are simple things that we can all do to do our part in protecting ourselves and others in our community.”

The County also confirms another death. A New Braunfels woman in her 70's passed away on December 5, 2020. The total number of deceased is now 133.

Region:	Number of new cases:
New Braunfels	54
N of Canyon Lake	5
S of Canyon Lake	4
S Comal County (Garden Ridge)	4
Bulverde/Spring Branch	9
Fair Oaks	0

Age Range:	Number of new cases:
Under 20	13
20's	7
30's / 40's	19
50's / 60's	18
70 and older	19

There are an additional 54 COVID-19 recoveries in Comal County.
The total recovered is 4,316.

On Tuesday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 44 COVID-19 patients; of those, twelve are in intensive care, 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.

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

- 37,664 tests conducted
- 3,514 confirmed cases
- 1,542 probable cases
- Four suspect cases

The seven-day positivity rate for Tuesday in Comal County is 20.85%.

Of the 5,060 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Comal County, the location breakdown is:

Location:	Number of cases total:
New Braunfels (Includes Eastern and Central Comal Co.)	3, 640
Western Comal County (Includes Bulverde and Spring Branch)	786
South of Canyon Lake	269
North of Canyon Lake	182
Southern Comal County (Includes Garden Ridge and Schertz)	163
Fair Oaks Ranch	20

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 to schedule an appointment.

Testing is only done on Tuesday and Friday, and you must have an appointment.

Probable case definition

“Probable case” 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:

- Meets clinical criteria AND epidemiologic linkage with no confirmatory laboratory testing performed for SARS-CoV-2.
- Meets presumptive* laboratory evidence.
 - Presumptive* laboratory evidence:
 - Detection of SARS-CoV-2 by antigen test in a respiratory specimen
- Meets vital records criteria with no confirmatory laboratory evidence for SARS-CoV-2.

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

Suspect case definition

A “Suspect case” meets supportive laboratory evidence with no prior history of being a confirmed or probable case. It is also counted towards the total case tally.

Supportive Laboratory Evidence means:

- **Detection of specific antibody in serum, plasma, or whole blood**
- **Detection of specific antigen by immunocytochemistry in an autopsy specimen.**

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