



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Comal County reports two deaths, 94 COVID-19 cases; Active cases now at 785

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, December 15, 2020:

NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County reports an additional 94 COVID-19 cases today, bringing the County's total to 5,425. 13 are confirmed cases and 81 are probable cases.

The County now has 785 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases.

Of those, 37 are hospitalized.

Comal County Health Department also confirms the deaths of two New Braunfels residents.

A man in his 60's passed away on December 12 and a woman in her 70's who passed away on December 11.

The total number of deceased is now 138.

Region:	Number of new cases:
New Braunfels	73
N of Canyon Lake	2
S of Canyon Lake	6
S Comal County (Garden Ridge)	0
Bulverde/Spring Branch	13
Fair Oaks	0

Age Range:	Number of new cases:
Under 20	9
20's	13
30's / 40's	25
50's / 60's	25
70 and older	22

There are an additional 77 COVID-19 recoveries in Comal County.

The total recovered is 4,502.

On Tuesday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 54 COVID-19 patients; of those, 17 are in intensive care, and nine 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:

- 39,154 tests conducted
- 3,658 confirmed cases
- 1,762 probable cases
- Five suspect cases

The seven-day positivity rate for Tuesday in Comal County is 26.18%.

Of the 5,425 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.)	3,907
Western Comal County (Includes Bulverde and Spring Branch)	825
South of Canyon Lake	292
North of Canyon Lake	206
Southern Comal County (Includes Garden Ridge and Schertz)	174
Fair Oaks Ranch	21

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.

Comal County’s Public Health Department reminds every one of the importance of following CDC guidelines of wearing a face covering, social distancing, staying home when you are sick and hand hygiene.

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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