



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Comal County reports 76 COVID-19 cases; Active cases now 773

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, December 21, 2020:

NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County reports an additional 76 COVID-19 cases today, bringing the County's total to 5,760. 18 are confirmed cases and 58 are probable cases. The County now has 773 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases. Of those, 40 are hospitalized. The total number of deceased remains at 141.

Region:	Number of new cases:
New Braunfels	51
N of Canyon Lake	4
S of Canyon Lake	2
S Comal County (Garden Ridge)	1
Bulverde/Spring Branch	17
Fair Oaks	1

Age Range:	Number of new cases:
Under 20	12
20's	14
30's / 40's	19
50's / 60's	24
70 and older	7

There are an additional 48 COVID-19 recoveries in Comal County. The total recovered is 4,846.

On Monday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 65 COVID-19 patients; of those, 16 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 Monday morning, Public Health has received reports of the following test information:

- 40,513 tests conducted
- 3,787 confirmed cases
- 1,964 probable cases
- Nine suspect cases

The seven-day Molecular positivity rate for Monday in Comal County is 17.13%.

The seven-day Antigen positivity rate for Monday in Comal County is 17.92%.

Of the 5,760 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.)	4,172
Western Comal County (Includes Bulverde and Spring Branch)	860
South of Canyon Lake	308
North of Canyon Lake	219
Southern Comal County (Includes Garden Ridge and Schertz)	179
Fair Oaks Ranch	22

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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