



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Comal County reports five deaths, 80 COVID-19 cases; Active cases now 772

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, December 22, 2020:

NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County reports 80 new COVID-19 cases today, bringing the County's total to 5,840. 20 are confirmed cases and 60 are probable cases.

The county also confirms the deaths of five Comal County residents:

A New Braunfels man in his 50s and a New Braunfels man in his 80s both passed away on December 18.

On December 19, a New Braunfels man in his 80s and a New Braunfels woman in her 70s passed away.

On December 20, a New Braunfels woman in her 40's passed away.

The total number of deceased is now 146.

The County now has 773 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases.

Of those, 46 are hospitalized.

Region:	Number of new cases:
New Braunfels	67
N of Canyon Lake	5
S of Canyon Lake	6
S Comal County (Garden Ridge)	0
Bulverde/Spring Branch	2
Fair Oaks	10

Age Range:	Number of new cases:
Under 20	7 (one infant under 12 months old)
20's	15
30's / 40's	22
50's / 60's	25
70 and older	11

There are an additional 76 COVID-19 recoveries in Comal County.

The total recovered is 4,922.

On Tuesday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 62 COVID-19 patients; of those, 15 are in intensive care, and eleven 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:

- 40,826 tests conducted
- 3,807 confirmed cases
- 2,024 probable cases
- Nine suspect cases

The seven-day Molecular positivity rate for Tuesday in Comal County is 18.29%.

The seven-day Antigen positivity rate for Tuesday in Comal County is 18.99%.

Of the 5,840 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.)	4,239
Western Comal County (Includes Bulverde and Spring Branch)	862
South of Canyon Lake	314
North of Canyon Lake	224
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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