



# COMAL COUNTY

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## PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### Comal County adds 71 new COVID-19 cases

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, December 31, 2020:**

*NEW BRAUNFELS* — Comal County is reporting 71 new cases of COVID-19 for a total of 6,248 cases.

11 are confirmed cases and 60 are probable.

The County now has 681 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases. Of those, 53 are hospitalized.

Region:	Number of new cases:
New Braunfels	61
N of Canyon Lake	1
S of Canyon Lake	4
S Comal County (Garden Ridge)	0
Bulverde/Spring Branch	5
Fair Oaks	0

Age Range:	Number of new cases:
Under 20	3
20's	4
30's / 40's	15
50's / 60's	17
70 and older	32

There are 69 additional COVID-19 recoveries in Comal County. The total recovered is 5,409.

On Thursday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 82 COVID-19 patients; of those, 21 are in intensive care and 13 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.

**TSA P percentage today is 17.46%.**

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

- 43,019 tests conducted
- 3,899 confirmed cases
- 2,340 probable cases
- Nine suspect cases.

**The seven-day Molecular positivity rate for Thursday in Comal County is 21.16%.**

**The seven-day Antigen positivity rate for Tuesday in Comal County is 19.24%.**

Of the 6,248 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.)	4,538
Western Comal County (Includes Bulverde and Spring Branch)	918
South of Canyon Lake	342
North of Canyon Lake	243
Southern Comal County (Includes Garden Ridge and Schertz)	184
Fair Oaks Ranch	23

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.**

**There is no testing this Friday, January 1, 2021 due to the New Year holiday.**

**If you are interested in receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, please visit**

**<https://www.co.comal.tx.us/Health.htm> for information on vaccination criteria and locations.**

**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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