



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

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County reports 27 new COVID-19 cases

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NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County is reporting 27 new cases of COVID-19 for a total of 1,831, its smallest daily increase in cases since June 19.

Of the new cases, nine are confirmed and 18 are probable; 23 are New Braunfels-area residents, and four are from the Bulverde/Spring Branch area. Six are younger than 30, nine are in their 30s or 40s, nine are in their 50s or 60s, and three are older than 70.

Comal County's positivity rate is now 18.32%, down from 18.34% on Wednesday and up from 16.28% one week ago. It's the first day-to-day decline in the county's positivity rate since the July 4 holiday weekend.

The county also confirmed 65 more recoveries from COVID-19, for a total of 771. With 43 deaths, the county now has 1,017 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases, a decline of 38 from Tuesday and the second consecutive day with a decline in active cases. Of those, 76 are hospitalized, an increase of two.

“Any reduction in cases is encouraging, but it's too soon to say whether today's numbers are an anomaly or part of a flattening of the curve, and we know that hospitalizations continue to increase and put stress on our local health care system,” said Cheryl Fraser, Comal County director of public health. “The only way to make sure we see more reports like today's is to continue social distancing, stay home when sick, wear face coverings in public, and practice good personal hygiene.”

On Thursday morning, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 46 COVID-19 patients; of those, 19 are in intensive care beds, and 12 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 Thursday morning, Public Health has received reports of the following test information:

- 9,996 tests conducted

- 1,415 confirmed cases
- 416 probable cases

Of the 1,831 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Comal County, the location breakdown is:

- 1,369 from the New Braunfels area, including eastern and central Comal County
- 279 from western Comal County, including Bulverde and Spring Branch
- 97 from south of Canyon Lake
- 40 from north of Canyon Lake, including Fischer
- 39 from southern Comal County, including Garden Ridge and Schertz
- 7 from Fair Oaks Ranch

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.

Probable case definition

“Probable cases” 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:

- A positive quick-result antigen test
- Experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Close contact with a confirmed positive COVID-19 case

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

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