



# COMAL COUNTY

## PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### **County reports 89 new COVID-19 cases**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, JULY 28, 2020:**

*NEW BRAUNFELS* — Comal County is reporting 89 new cases of COVID-19 for a total of 2,057.

Of the new cases, 63 are confirmed and 26 are probable; 69 are New Braunfels-area residents, 12 are from the Bulverde/Spring Branch area, four live north of Canyon Lake, two live south of Canyon Lake, and two are from the Garden Ridge area. Twenty-six are younger than 30, including one infant; 29 are in their 30s or 40s; 28 are in their 50s or 60s; and six are older than 70.

The county also confirmed 54 more recoveries from COVID-19, for a total of 884. With 45 deaths, the county now has 1,128 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases. Of them, 70 are hospitalized, a decrease of eight.

On Tuesday morning, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 47 COVID-19 patients; of those, 18 are in intensive care beds, 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.

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

- 12,562 tests conducted
- 1,602 confirmed cases
- 455 probable cases

Comal County's positivity rate is now 16.37%, a decline of three percentage points from Saturday because ongoing efforts to ensure the Office of Public Health receives reports of COVID-19 tests from all providers in the county have led to an additional 1,941 tests reported by CVS pharmacies. The county will begin going through those tests today to confirm their results.

“In the interest of transparency, we will keep reporting the daily positivity rate, but we should expect it to take a couple of days to settle as we work through these newly received reports,” said

Cheryl Fraser, Comal County director of public health. “We are in constant communication with local testing providers to make sure we continue reporting information as accurately as possible.”

Of the 2,057 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Comal County, the location breakdown is:

- 1,543 from the New Braunfels area, including eastern and central Comal County
- 312 from western Comal County, including Bulverde and Spring Branch
- 105 from south of Canyon Lake
- 48 from north of Canyon Lake, including Fischer
- 42 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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