



# COMAL COUNTY

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## PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### **County confirms two COVID-19 deaths, reports 29 new cases**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, JULY 30, 2020:**

*NEW BRAUNFELS* — Comal County has confirmed two more deaths related to COVID-19, for a total of 54, and is reporting 29 new cases of the disease for a total of 2,130.

A New Braunfels man in his 70s died July 15 in a New Braunfels hospital, and a woman in her 80s from Colonial Manor in New Braunfels died Wednesday in a New Braunfels hospital, the seventh COVID-19 death of a resident from Colonial Manor since the pandemic began.

Of the 29 new cases, 27 are confirmed and two are probable; 23 are New Braunfels-area residents, two are from the Bulverde/Spring Branch area, two live south of Canyon Lake, and two live north of Canyon Lake. Eight are younger than 30, seven are in their 30s or 40s, eight are in their 50s or 60s, and six are older than 70.

A rolling seven-day average of newly reported cases indicates Comal County is seeing its lowest level of COVID-19 spread since the end of June. Over the past week, the county has averaged just under 60 new cases per day after being consistently above 70 cases per day through most of July and peaking above 80 cases per day.

Comal County also confirmed 128 more recoveries from COVID-19, for a total of 1,056. With 54 deaths, the county now has 1,020 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases – an increase of just two from one week ago. Of them, 62 are hospitalized.

On Thursday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 47 COVID-19 patients; of those, 16 are in intensive care beds, and 10 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:

- 12,916 tests conducted
- 1,662 confirmed cases
- 468 probable cases

Comal County's positivity rate is now 16.49%, up slightly from Wednesday's rate of 16.36%.

Of the 2,130 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Comal County, the location breakdown is:

- 1,602 from the New Braunfels area, including eastern and central Comal County
- 317 from western Comal County, including Bulverde and Spring Branch
- 110 from south of Canyon Lake
- 51 from north of Canyon Lake, including Fischer
- 42 from southern Comal County, including Garden Ridge and Schertz
- 8 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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