



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

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County confirms two COVID-19 deaths, reports 13 new cases

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NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County has confirmed two more deaths related to COVID-19, for a total of 56, and is reporting 13 new cases of COVID-19 for a total of 2,157.

Both deaths were residents of New Braunfels nursing homes:

- A man in his 70s from Kirkwood Manor died at the facility July 25, and the COVID-19 test taken before his death returned positive Saturday.
- A man in his 70s from Colonial Manor died Saturday at the facility.

Fourteen residents of Kirkwood Manor and eight residents of Colonial Manor have died of COVID-19 since the pandemic began.

Of the 13 new cases, 10 are confirmed and three are probable; 11 are New Braunfels-area residents, one is from the Bulverde/Spring Branch area, and one is from the Garden Ridge area. Four are younger than 30, seven are in their 30s or 40s, and two are in their 50s or 60s. None is older than 70.

Comal County also confirmed 62 more recoveries from COVID-19, for a total of 1,216. With 56 deaths, the county now has 885 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases – its smallest number since July 15 and the fourth consecutive decline. Of them, 53 are hospitalized, a decline of three from Friday.

On Monday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for 33 COVID-19 patients; of those, 15 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.

Living Health Holistic Health Care

The Comal County Office of Public Health is aware of the allegations concerning COVID-19 testing at Living Health Holistic Health Care in New Braunfels. The FBI has asked anyone

receiving a COVID-19 test from the facility to report it by calling 210-225-6741 or visiting tips.fbi.gov, as well as to contact their primary care physician or other health care provider to be retested.

The county cannot comment on an active federal investigation, but the Office of Public Health has confirmed Living Health did not report any tests to the county, and that no Living Health tests are part of the county's COVID-19 data.

The best way for any resident to be tested for COVID-19 is by calling the Office of Public Health testing hotline at 830-221-1120 to make an appointment for testing.

COVID-19 data

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

- 13,069 tests conducted
- 1,679 confirmed cases
- 478 probable cases

Comal County's positivity rate is now 16.50%, essentially unchanged from Friday's rate of 16.47%.

Of the 2,157 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Comal County, the location breakdown is:

- 1,623 from the New Braunfels area, including eastern and central Comal County
- 319 from western Comal County, including Bulverde and Spring Branch
- 110 from south of Canyon Lake
- 54 from north of Canyon Lake, including Fischer
- 43 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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