



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

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Comal County reports five new COVID-19 cases; TSA P remains below 5%

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 18, 2021:

NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County is reporting five new COVID-19 cases today. Total cases for the County is now 9,495. Three are confirmed cases and two are probable cases. The total number of deceased remains at 303.

Comal County has 246 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases. Of those, 41 are hospitalized. There are another 24 COVID-19 recoveries to report today. The total recovered is 8,946.

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

Age Range:	Number of new cases:
Under 20	0
20's	2
30's / 40's	2
50's / 60's	0
70 and older	1

On Thursday, Comal County hospitals reported caring for ten COVID-19 patients; of those, six are in intensive care and one is on a ventilator. 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 4.43%.

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

- 68,050 tests conducted
- 5,000 confirmed cases
- 4,474 probable cases
- 21 suspect cases

**The seven-day Molecular positivity rate for Thursday in Comal County is 26.48%.
The seven-day Antigen positivity rate for Thursday in Comal County is 3.37%.**

Of the 9,495 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.)	6,821
Western Comal County (Includes Bulverde and Spring Branch)	1,374
South of Canyon Lake	542
North of Canyon Lake	419
Southern Comal County (Includes Garden Ridge and Schertz)	296
Fair Oaks Ranch	43

The Comal County COVID-19 Vaccine Standby List is now open.

Residents interested in receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, who meet criteria in Phase 1A, Phase 1B and Phase 1C of the State of Texas vaccination plan, can visit www.co.comal.tx.us to register.

Registering online is the best option for residents because phone resources are limited.

Those who do not have computer access or need assistance can call 830.620.5575.

Vaccines will be distributed to the public as they are received by Comal County and according to all state distribution guidelines.

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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