



Public Health
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MIDDLETON BY THE NUMBERS

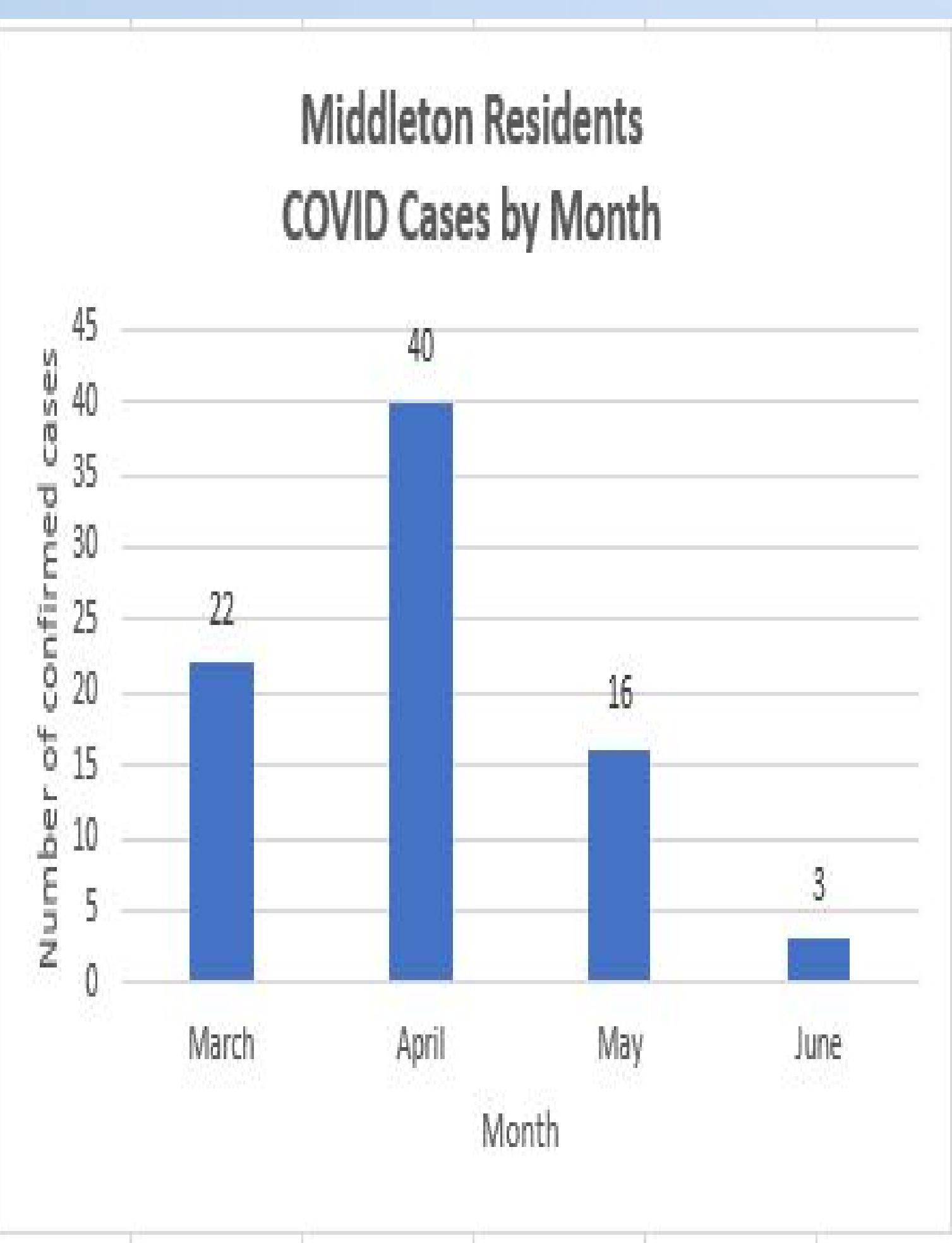
COVID CASES

Middleton Residents @ Large **81**

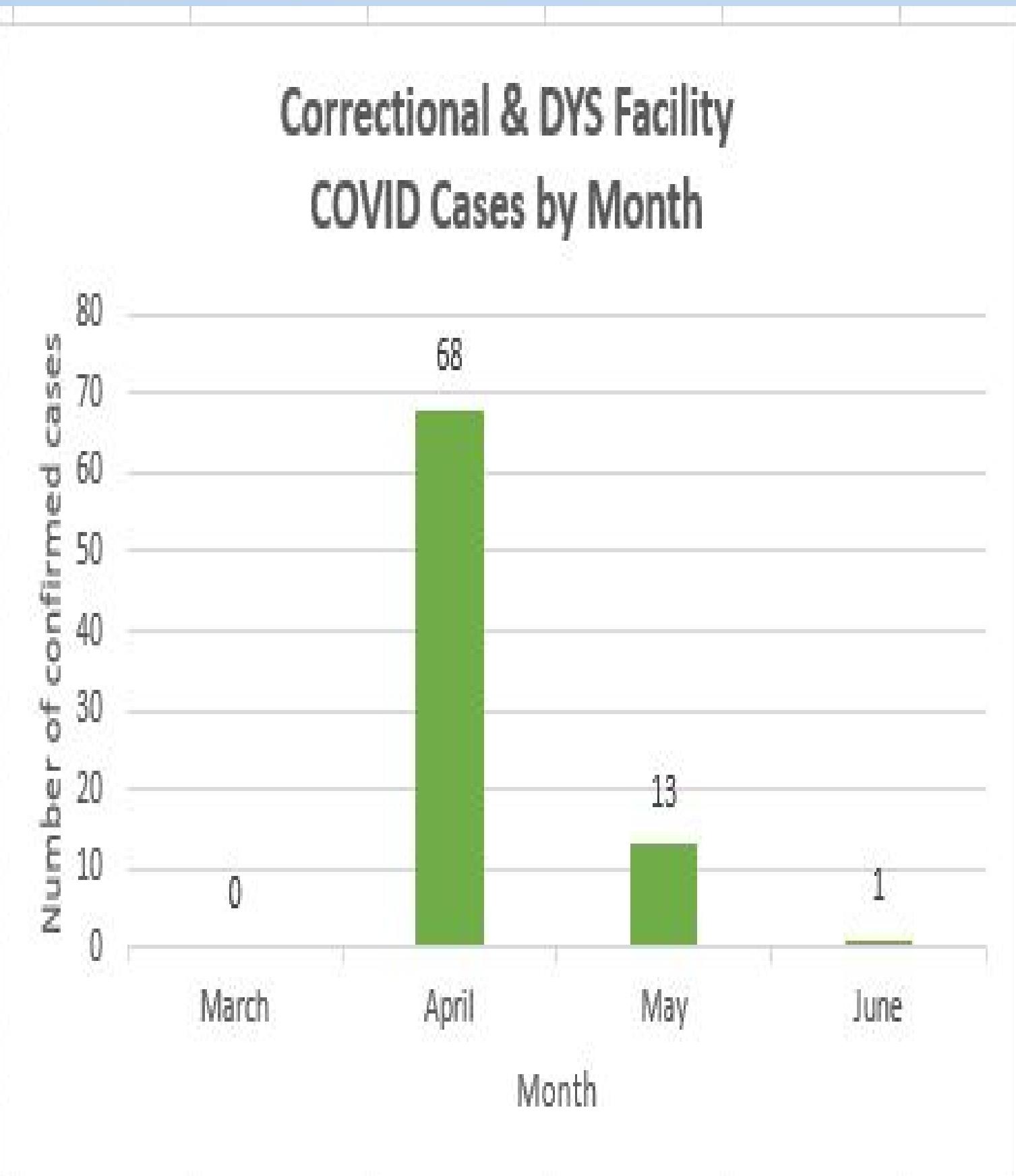
Recovered: 73

Active Cases: 2

Mortalities: 6



COVID CASES
Middleton Jail & DYS: **82**



COVID-19

WEEKLY REPORT



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INITIAL BACK TO SCHOOL GUIDELINES** FOR THE FALL ANNOUNCED

To reopen schools in the fall, school officials must develop the following three models of learning:

- In-person learning with new health and safety requirements: Students return to school buildings, but schedules, classrooms and protocols are modified to meet health and safety requirements.
- Hybrid learning: Students learn both in-person and remotely.
- Remote learning: Learning takes place entirely remotely.

"There is clear consensus from both education and medical groups that while we must respect the risks of COVID-19 transmission associated with in-person schooling, we must also acknowledge the challenges and consequences of keeping students out of school, **which affects their physical health, social and emotional well-being and educational progress,**" said Education Secretary James Peyser.

At this time, the public health evidence suggests schools have not played a significant role in COVID-19 transmission and that children, particularly younger children, are less likely than adults to be infected with COVID-19. Furthermore, if they become infected, it appears children may be less likely to transmit COVID-19 to others.

"The message from the medical community remains strong and consistent: **We need to get our children back to school, as soon as it is safe to do so,**" said Sandra Nelson, MD, an infectious diseases physician at Massachusetts General Hospital. "We believe that returning to the classroom — with appropriate precautions in place — can be done safely if we all remain vigilant. Our children deserve nothing less."

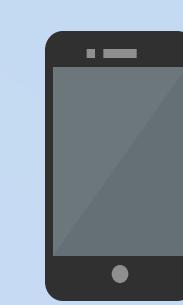
The Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics endorsed the guidance.



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BACK TO SCHOOL GUIDELINES CONTINUED,,,**

In-Person Learning

The guidance prioritizes getting students back to in-person learning — safely, following a comprehensive set of health and safety requirements. The Department DESE is asking school officials to change classroom configurations to space students farther apart from each other, set up additional classrooms in libraries, auditoriums, and cafeterias, and make scheduling changes.

- Elementary schools should aim to keep students in the same group throughout the day, and middle and high schools are encouraged to minimize mixing student groups to the extent feasible.
- **All students in second grade or older are required to wear a mask or face covering, with time built in for mask breaks throughout the day.**
 - Kindergarten and first grade students should be encouraged to wear a mask or face shield.
 - Face shields may be an option for students with medical, behavioral or other challenges who are unable to wear masks.
- **All adults, including educators and staff, are required to wear masks or face coverings.**
- Exceptions to mask or face covering requirements must be made for people for whom wearing a mask or face covering is impossible due to medical conditions, disability impact or other health or safety factors.

Physical Distancing

As reviewed and advised by the Massachusetts COVID-19 Command Center Medical Advisory Board, **schools are encouraged to aim for a physical distance of 6 feet when feasible, and 3 feet is the minimum distance allowed as informed by evidence.** There is no maximum number for group size, so long as schools adhere to the physical distancing requirements above.

Health Screening

Families will be the primary health screeners of students, looking for signs or symptoms of COVID-19. Screening procedures are not required for students to enter school. Temperature checks are not recommended for students due to the high likelihood of potential false positive and false negative results.

Families will receive information to support them in conducting symptom checks, and they should not send students to school if they exhibit COVID-19 symptoms. The Department will provide a symptoms checklist and other guides to help families and students.

**Source and for additional information/guidelines visit:

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/> and view initial-return-to-school guidance 6/25/2020