



STATE OF MARYLAND

**DHMH**

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

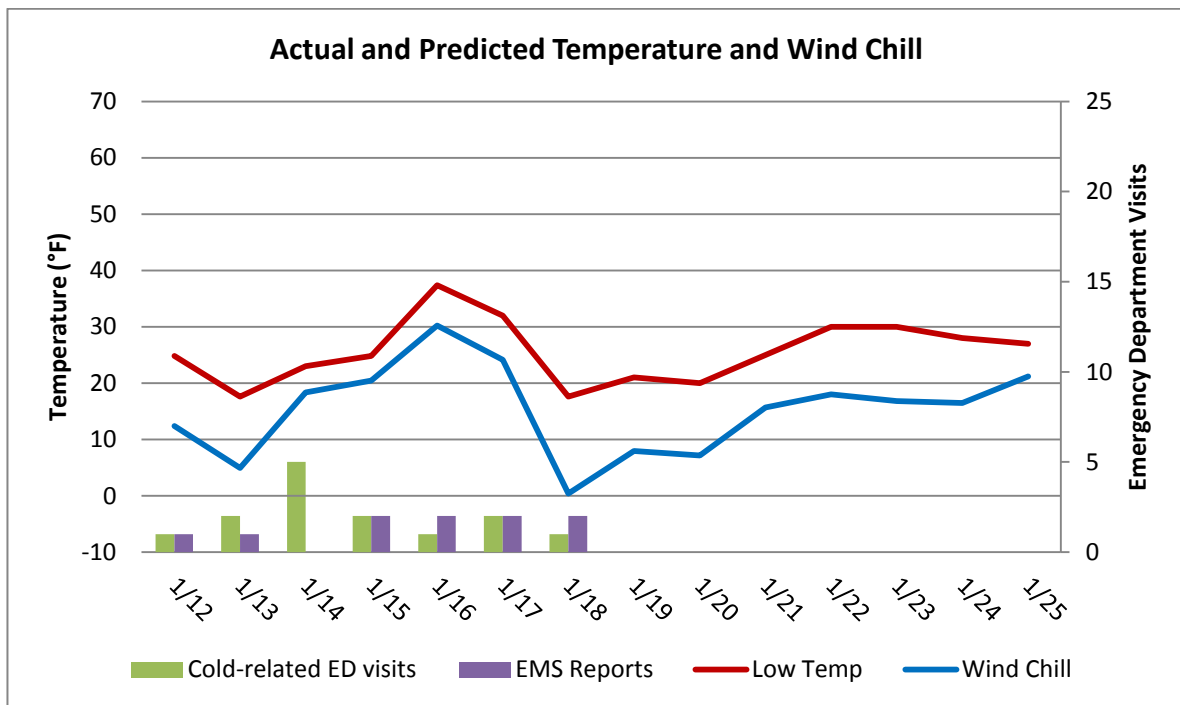
*Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van Mitchell, Secretary*

## Weekly Cold-related Illness Surveillance Report

**January 20, 2016**

**Reporting for January 12, 2016 to January 18, 2016**

**National Weather Service Forecast:** No current wind chill advisories.  
**Wind Chill Advisories Declared During the Previous Week:** 5  
**Total Wind Chill Advisories Declared This Winter:** 5

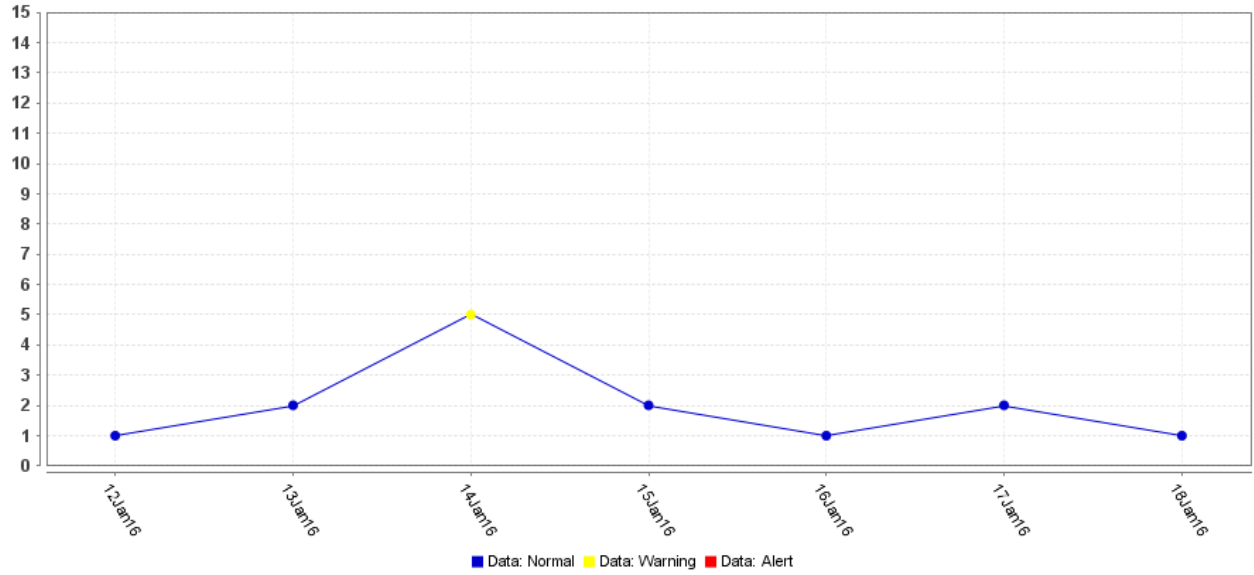


Wind Chill is only calculated for temperatures at or below 50°F and wind speeds above 3 mph

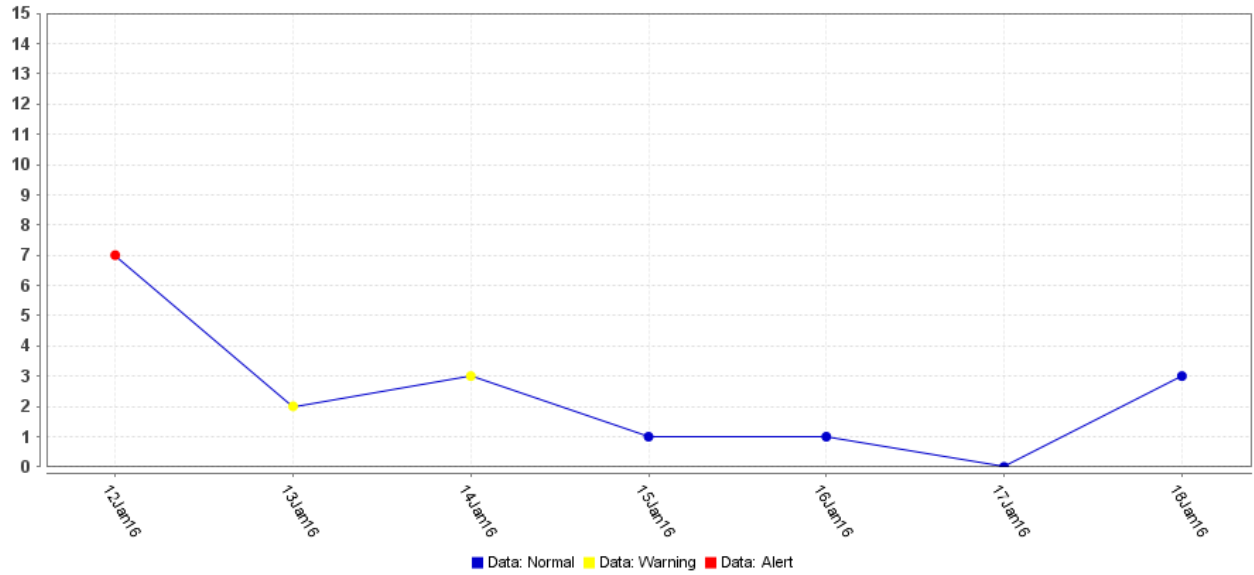
**Note on Emergency Department Data:** The results from the query used in ESSENCE, an electronic biosurveillance system, to track cold-related illnesses may be an overestimation of the actual burden of illness related to the cold weather. This overestimation may be due to the nature of the query, in which a positive case is determined from either a cold-related chief complaint or confirmed discharge diagnosis.

**Disclaimer on eMEDS cold weather-related data:** These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has selected “hypothermia” as a primary or secondary impression of a patient’s illness. This impression is solely based on the signs and symptoms seen by the provider, not on any diagnostic tests. Since these numbers do not include all primary or secondary impressions that may be seen with cold weather-related exposure, the actual numbers may be underestimated. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

Emergency Department Visits Regarding Cold-related Illness



Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure

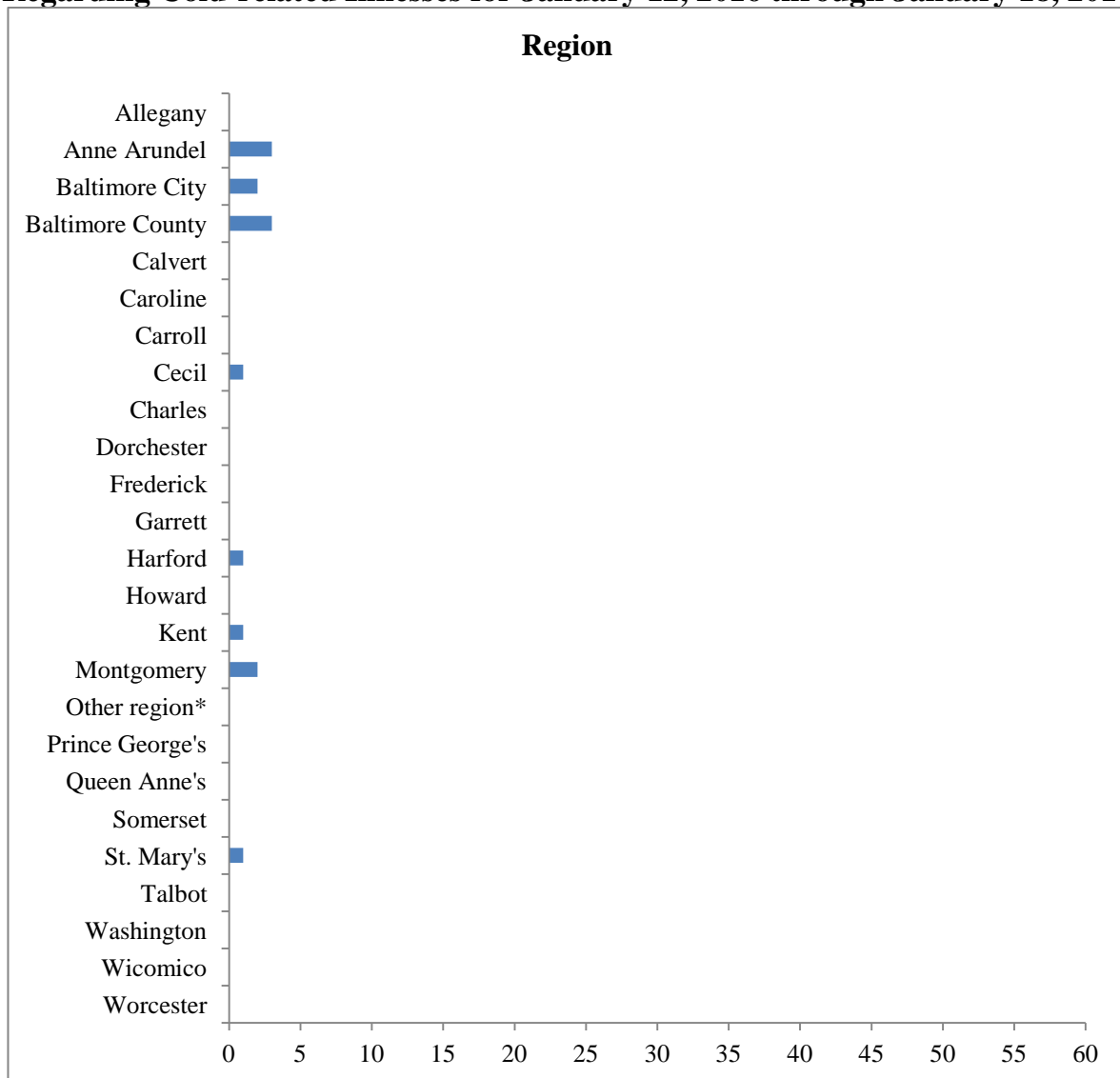


Date	Number of ED visits Regarding Cold-related Illness	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure
January 12	1	7
January 13	2	2
January 14	5	3
January 15	2	1
January 16	1	1
January 17	2	0
January 18	1	3

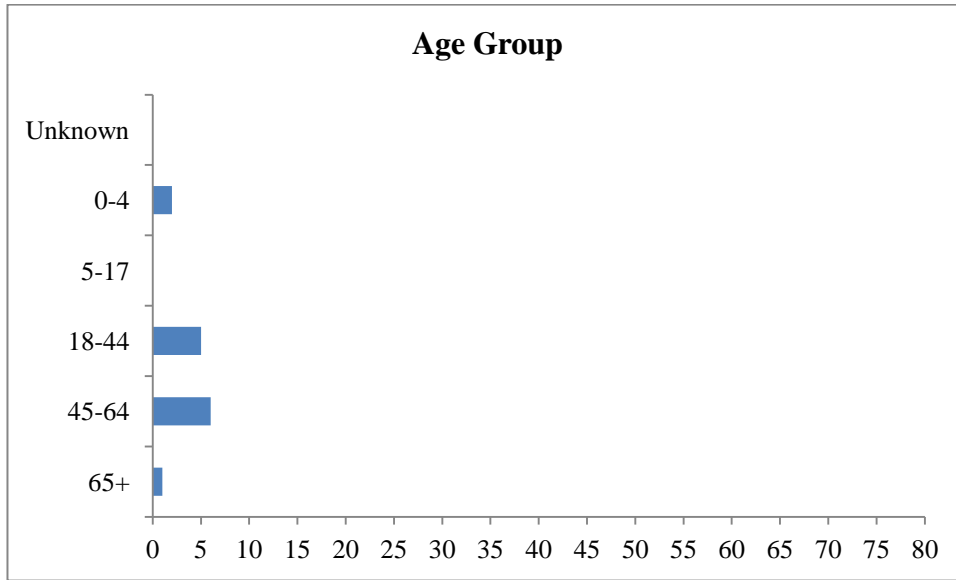
\*Note: ESSENCE query for cold-related illness contains the following terms: frostbite, frostnip, hypothermia, chilblain, and trench foot.

There were no chief complaint clusters identified this week.

### Geographical and Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Visits Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for January 12, 2016 through January 18, 2016



\*Geographical distribution of emergency department visits is based on patients' jurisdictions of residence. The "Other Region" category includes patient records without a ZIP code and patients who reside outside of Maryland.



Total Number of Cold-related Deaths	Jurisdiction*	Age Group	Gender
2	Kent County	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Anne Arundel	45-64 Years Old	Male

\*Refers to the jurisdiction where the death occurred.

\*\*Refers to a death that occurred during this week's reporting period.

There were no cold-related deaths reported this week.

There have been 2 cold-related deaths during this reporting period.

For media inquiries, please contact the Office of Communications: [410-767-6490](tel:410-767-6490)

**Wind Chill Advisory/Warning Criteria:** The National Weather Service issues a Wind Chill Advisory for projected wind chill factors of -5°F to -20°F, and a Wind Chill Warning when the projected wind chill is for -20°F or less.

**Prepared by:**

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