



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

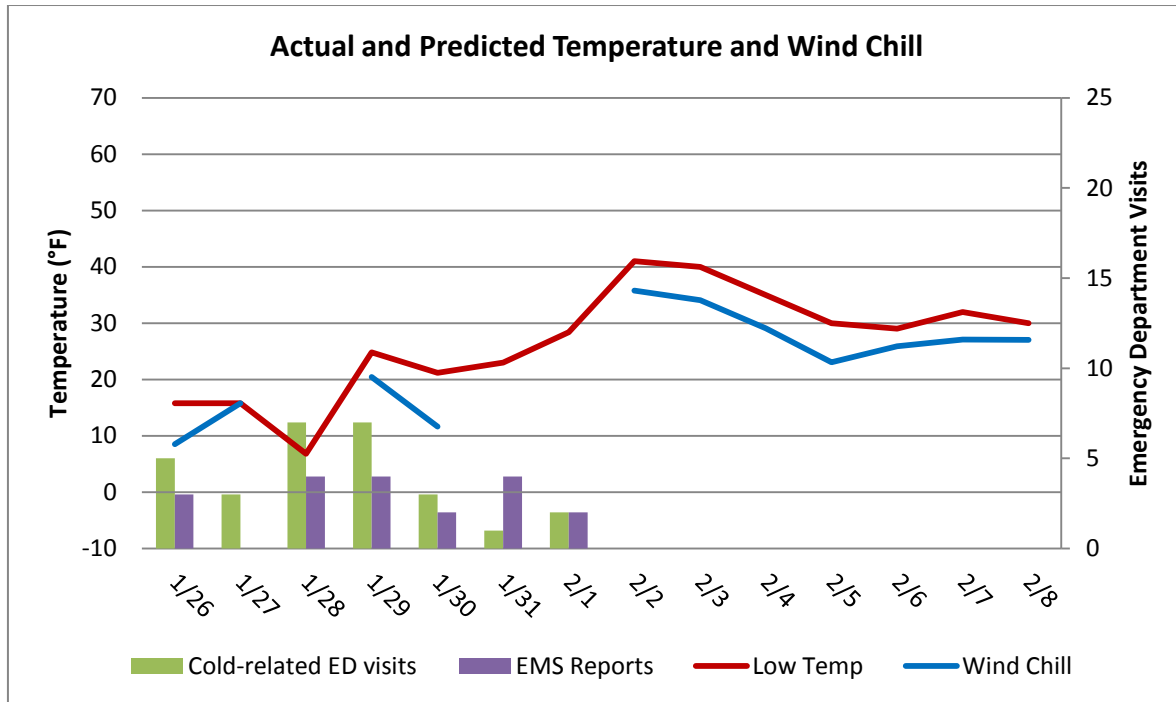
Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van Mitchell, Secretary

## Weekly Cold-related Illness Surveillance Report

February 3, 2016

Reporting for January 26, 2016 to February 1, 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

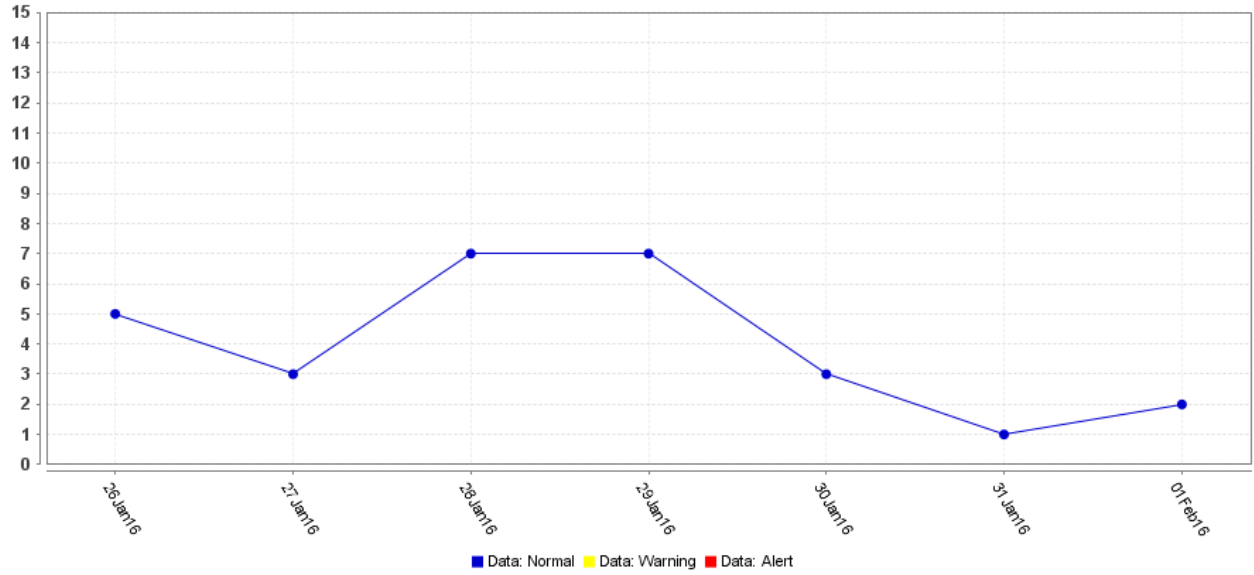


Wind Chill is only calculated for temperatures at or below 50°F and wind speeds above 3 mph

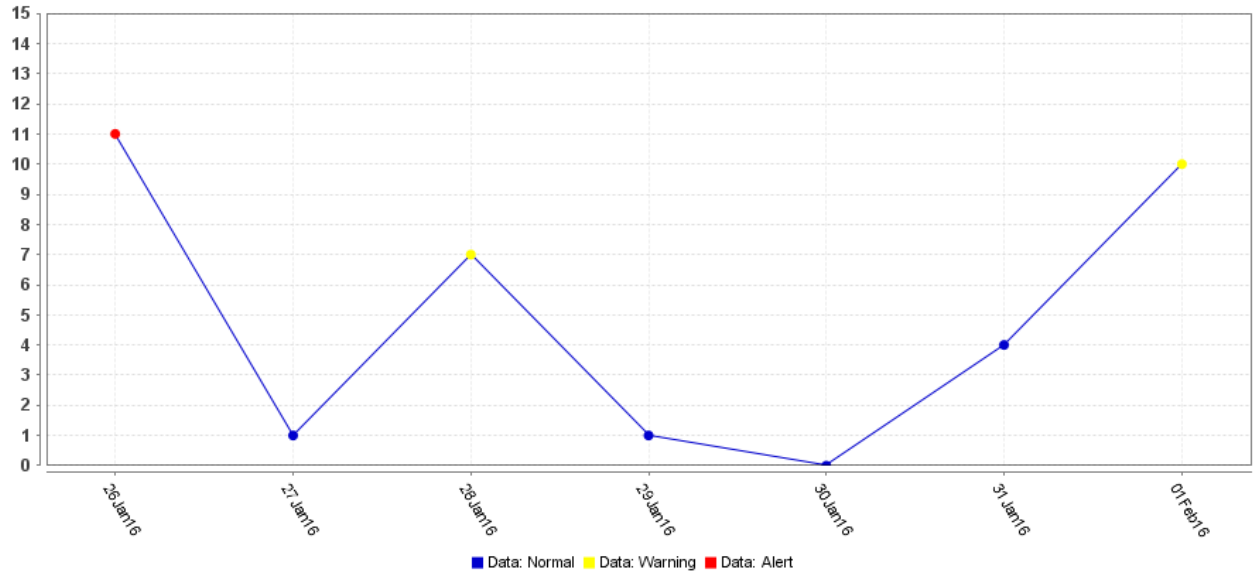
**Note on Emergency Department Data:** The results from the query used in ESSENCE, an electronic biosurveillance system, to track cold-related illnesses may be an overestimation of the actual burden of illness related to the cold weather. This overestimation may be due to the nature of the query, in 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**

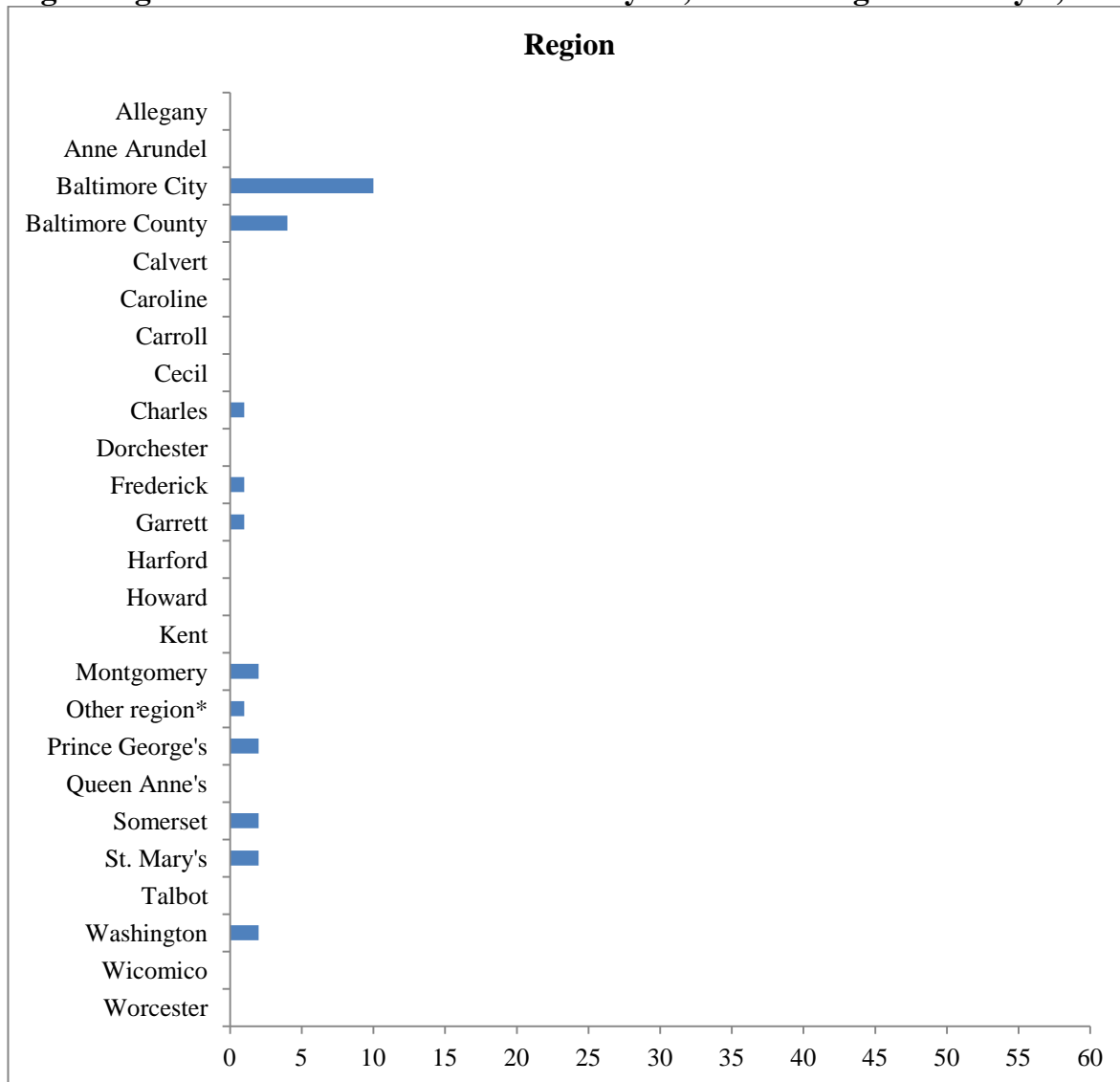


Date	Number of ED visits Regarding Cold-related Illness	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure
January 26	5	11
January 27	3	1
January 28	7	7
January 29	7	1
January 30	3	0
January 31	1	4
February 01	2	10

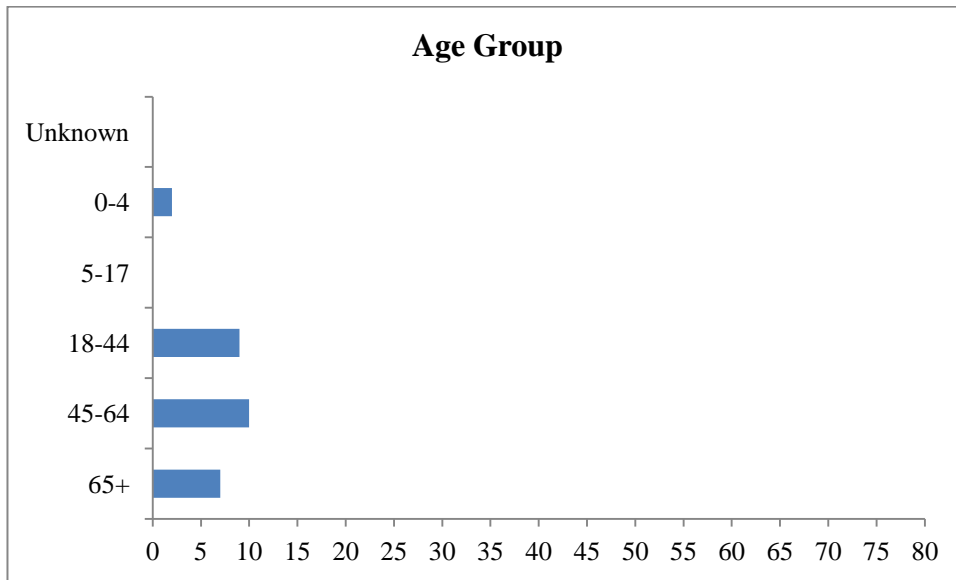
\*Note: ESSENCE query for cold-related illness contains the following terms: frostbite, frostnip, hypothermia, chilblain, and trench foot.

There were three chief complaint clusters regarding carbon monoxide exposure identified this week.

### Geographical and Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Visits Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for January 26, 2016 through February 1, 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
8	Prince George's	18-44 Years Old	Male
	Anne Arundel	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Anne Arundel	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Kent	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Carroll	65+ Years Old	Female
	Frederick**	65+ Years Old	Female
	Prince George's**	65+ Years Old	Female
	Worcester	65+ Years Old	Female

\*Refers to the jurisdiction where the death occurred.

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

There were 5 cold-related deaths reported this week.

There have been 8 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.

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