



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

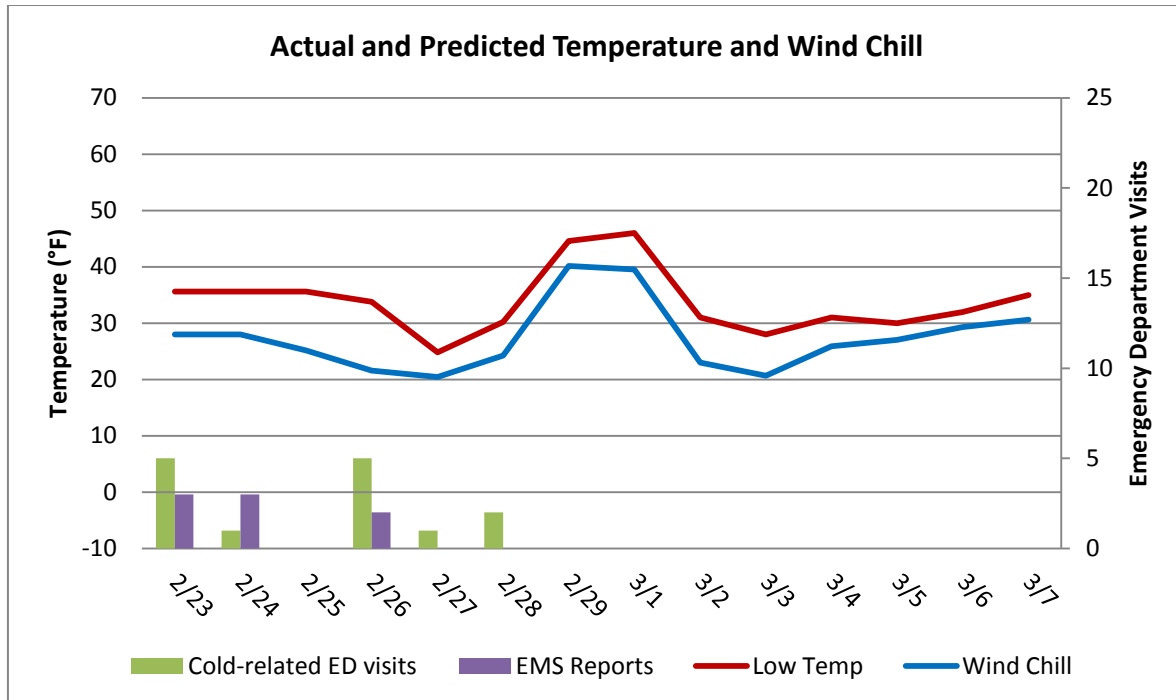
Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van Mitchell, Secretary

## Weekly Cold-related Illness Surveillance Report

March 2, 2016

Reporting for February 23, 2016 to February 29, 2016

**National Weather Service Forecast:** No current wind chill advisories.  
**Wind Chill Advisories Declared During the Previous Week:** 0  
**Total Wind Chill Advisories Declared This Winter:** 9

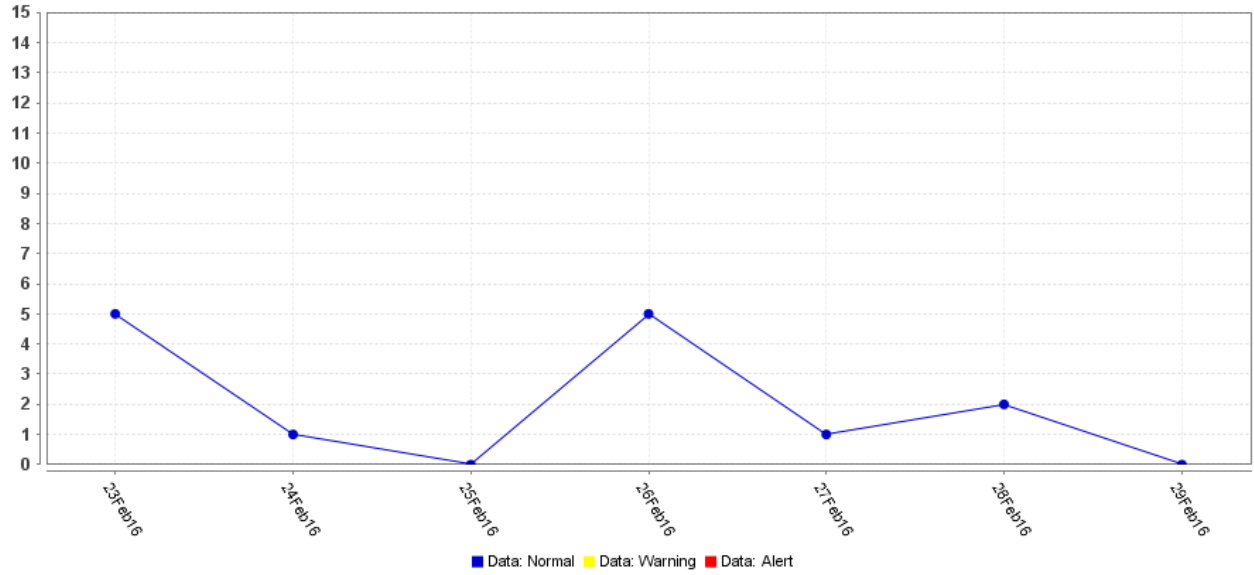


Wind Chill is only calculated for temperatures at or below 50°F and wind speeds above 3 mph

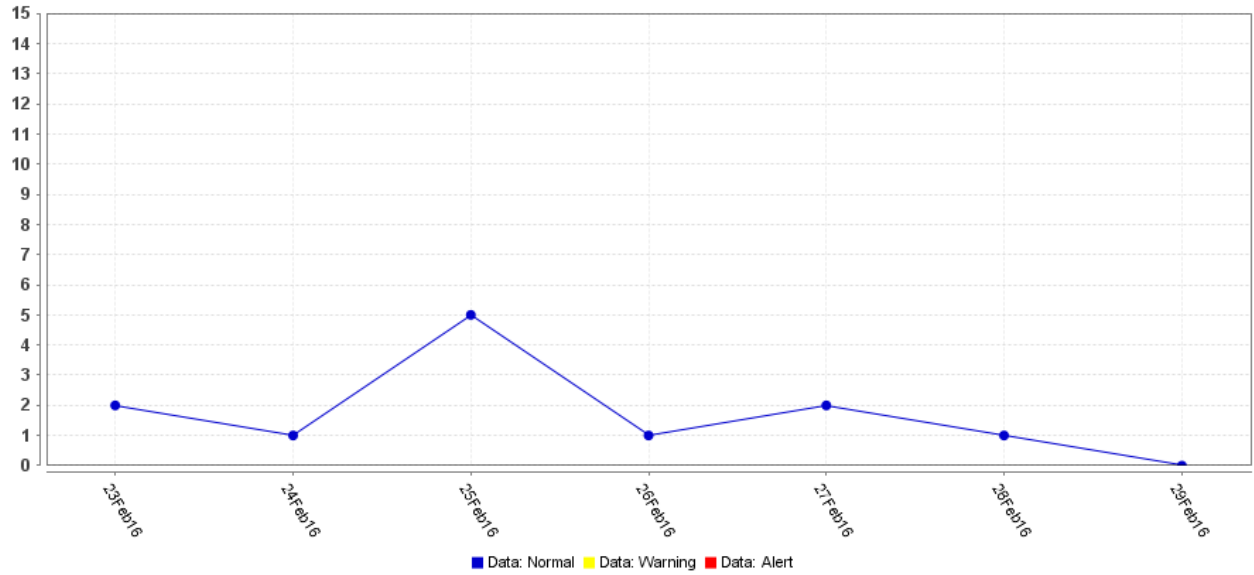
**Note on Emergency Department Data:** The results from the query used in ESSENCE, an electronic biosurveillance system, to track cold-related illnesses may be an overestimation of the actual burden of illness related to the cold weather. This overestimation may be due to the nature of the query, in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

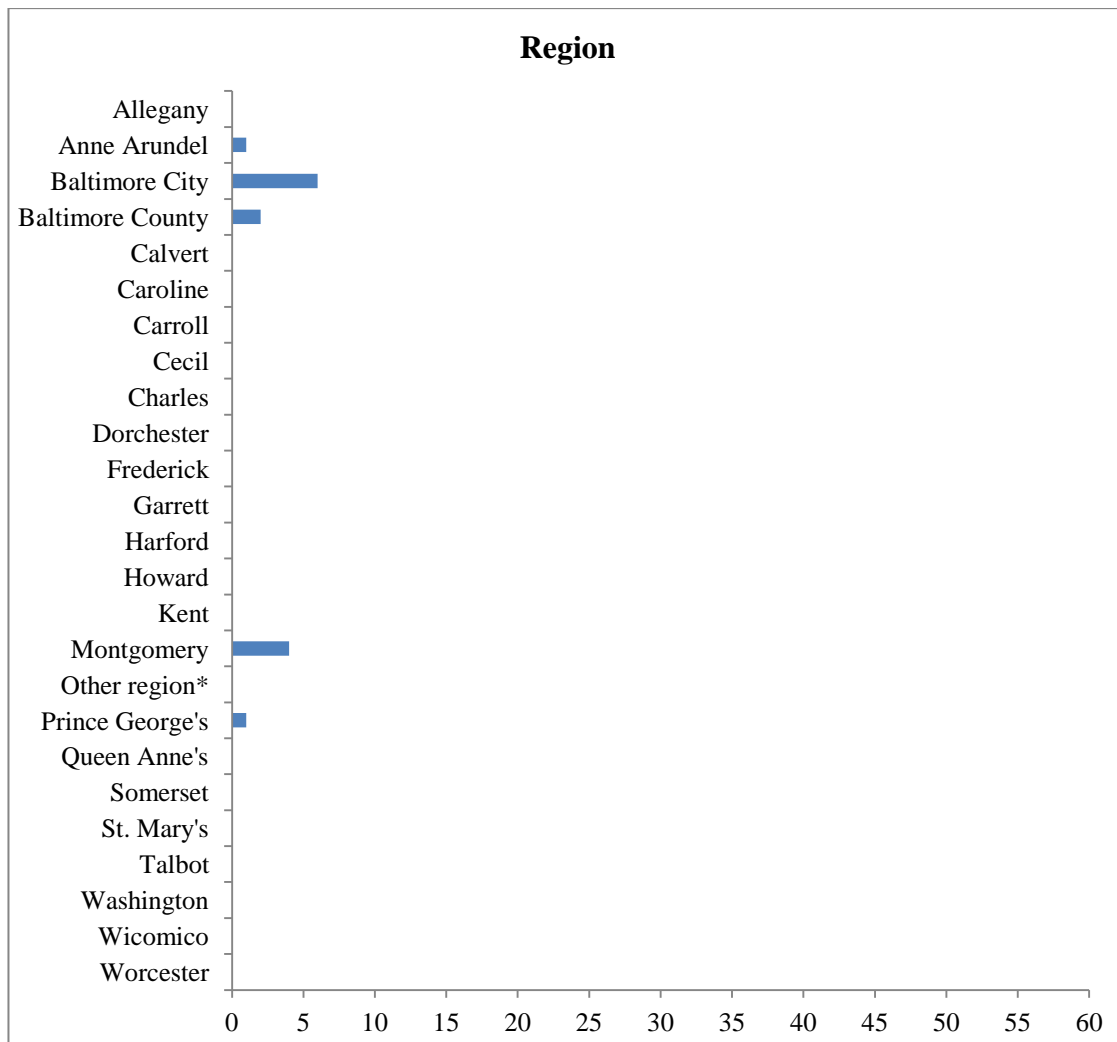


Date	Number of ED visits Regarding Cold-related Illness	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure
February 23	5	2
February 24	1	1
February 25	0	5
February 26	5	1
February 27	1	2
February 28	2	1
February 29	0	0

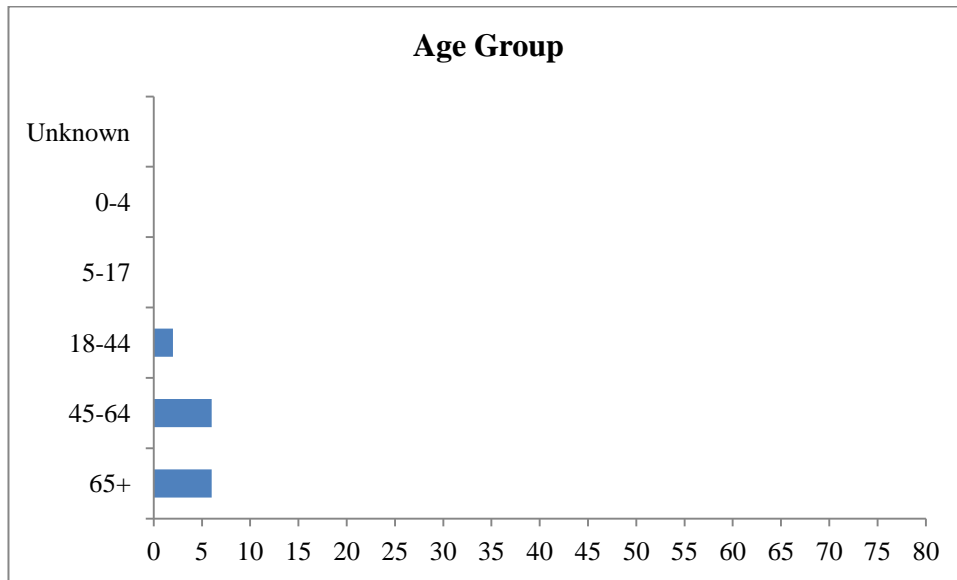
\*Note: ESSENCE query for cold-related illness contains the following terms: frostbite, frostnip, hypothermia, chilblain, and trench foot.

There was 1 chief complaint cluster regarding carbon monoxide exposure identified this week. On February 25, 3 people visited an ED after the fire department detected CO in their home. All patients were discharged.

### Geographical and Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Visits Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for February 23, 2016 through February 29, 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.



<b>Total Number of Cold-related Deaths</b>	<b>Jurisdiction*</b>	<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Gender</b>
16	Baltimore City	18-44 Years Old	Male
	Prince George's	18-44 Years Old	Male
	Anne Arundel	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Anne Arundel	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Baltimore City	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Charles	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Frederick	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Kent	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Montgomery	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Prince George's	45-64 Years Old	Male
	Baltimore City	65+ Years Old	Female
	Carroll	65+ Years Old	Female
	Frederick	65+ Years Old	Female
	Prince George's	65+ Years Old	Female
	Prince George's	65+ Years Old	Male
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 was 1 cold-related death unpended this week.

There have been 16 cold-related deaths during this reporting season.

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:**

Office of Preparedness and Response  
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
300 W. Preston Street, Suite 202  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Joseph Anelli, MS  
Special Projects Coordinator  
Office: 410-767-6201  
Email: [Joseph.Anelli@maryland.gov](mailto:Joseph.Anelli@maryland.gov)

Anikah H. Salim, MPH, CPH  
Biosurveillance Epidemiologist  
Office: 410-767-2074  
Email: [Anikah.Salim@maryland.gov](mailto:Anikah.Salim@maryland.gov)

Sara Luell  
Public Information Officer  
Office: 410-767-0590  
Email: [Sara.Luell@maryland.gov](mailto:Sara.Luell@maryland.gov)

Lisa Stancill, MPH  
Biosurveillance Epidemiologist  
Office: 410-767-5668  
Email: [Lisa.Stancill@maryland.gov](mailto:Lisa.Stancill@maryland.gov)

Sara Barra, MS  
Chief Planner  
Office: 410-767-8438  
Email: [Sara.Barra@maryland.gov](mailto:Sara.Barra@maryland.gov)