



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

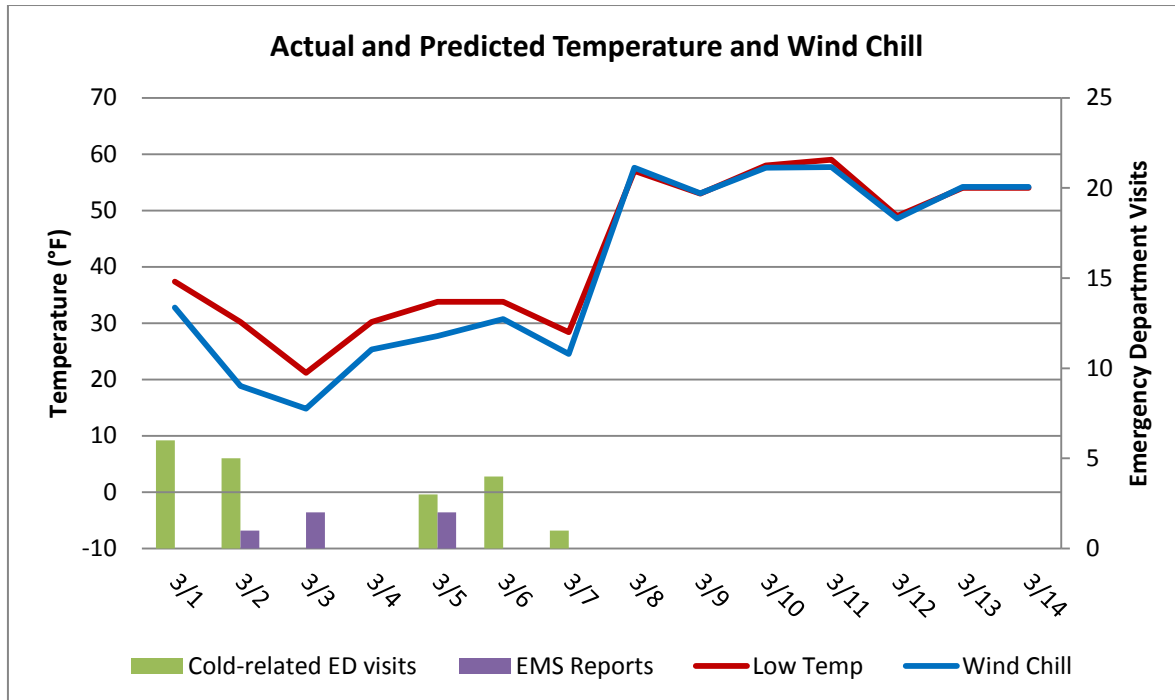
Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van Mitchell, Secretary

Weekly Cold-related Illness Surveillance Report

March 9, 2016

Reporting for March 1, 2016 to March 7, 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

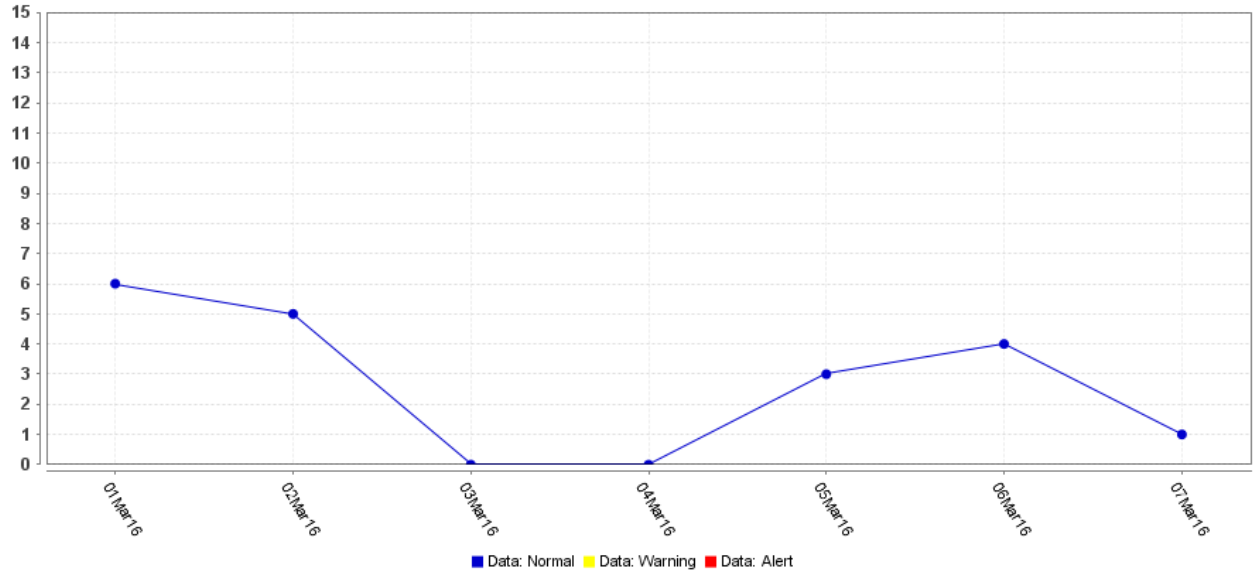


Wind Chill is only calculated for temperatures at or below 50°F and wind speeds above 3 mph

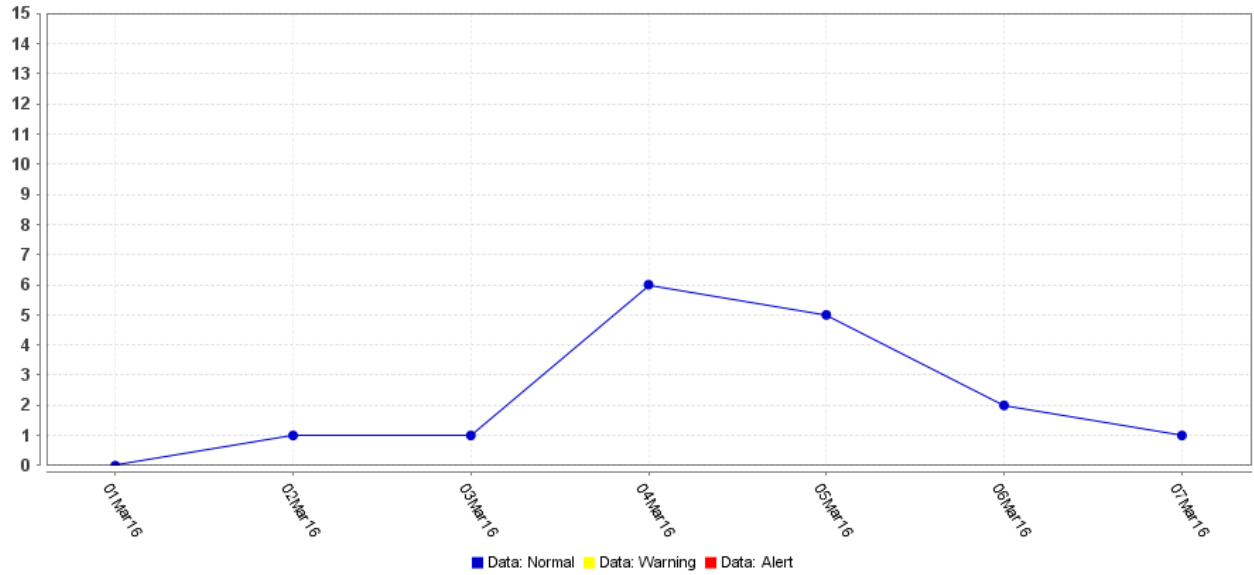
Note on Emergency Department Data: The results from the query used in ESSENCE, an electronic biosurveillance system, to track cold-related illnesses may be an overestimation of the actual burden of illness related to the cold weather. This overestimation may be due to the nature of the query, in which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

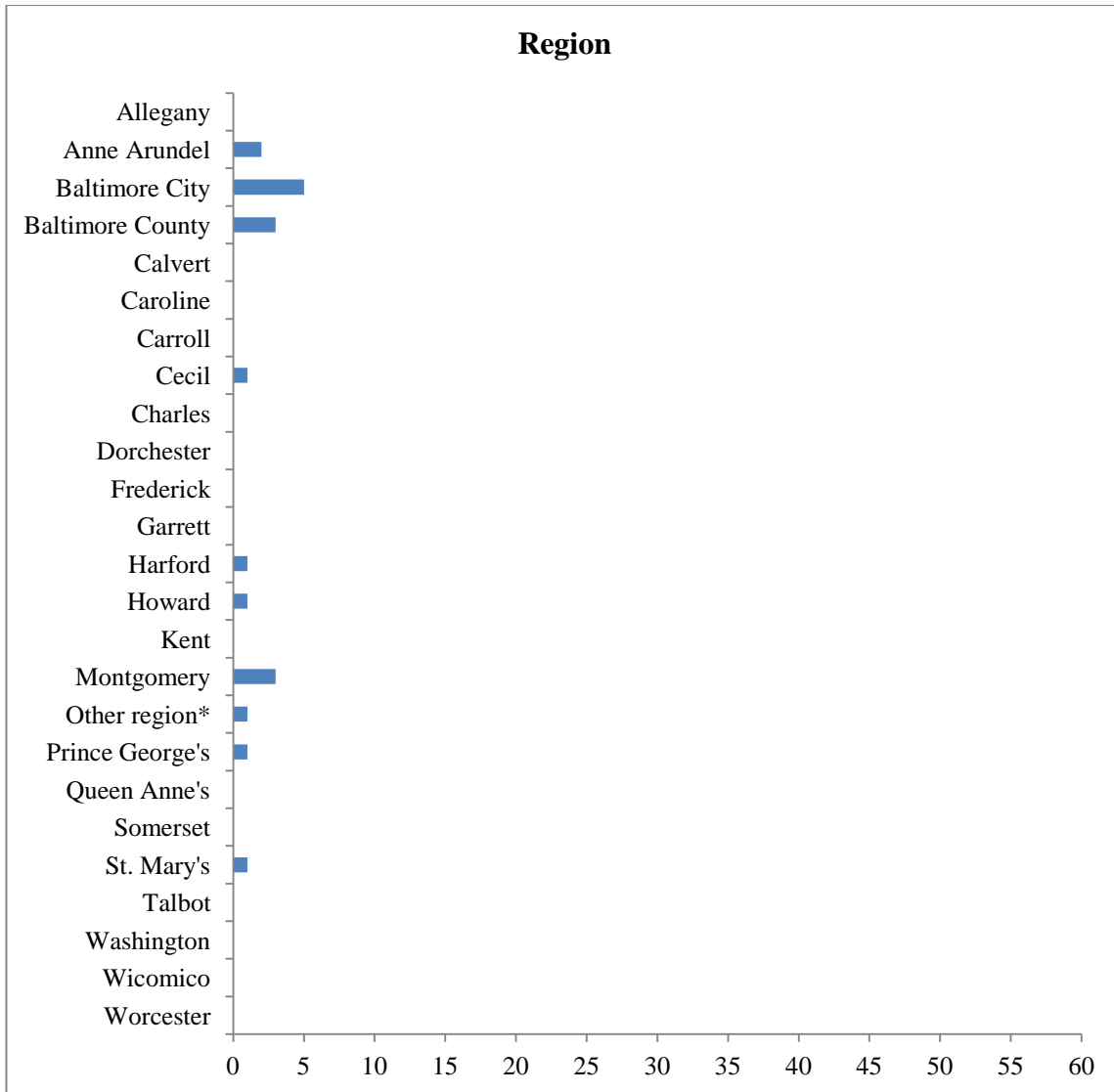


Date	Number of ED visits Regarding Cold-related Illness	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure
March 1	6	0
March 2	5	1
March 3	0	1
March 4	0	6
March 5	3	5
March 6	4	2
March 7	1	1

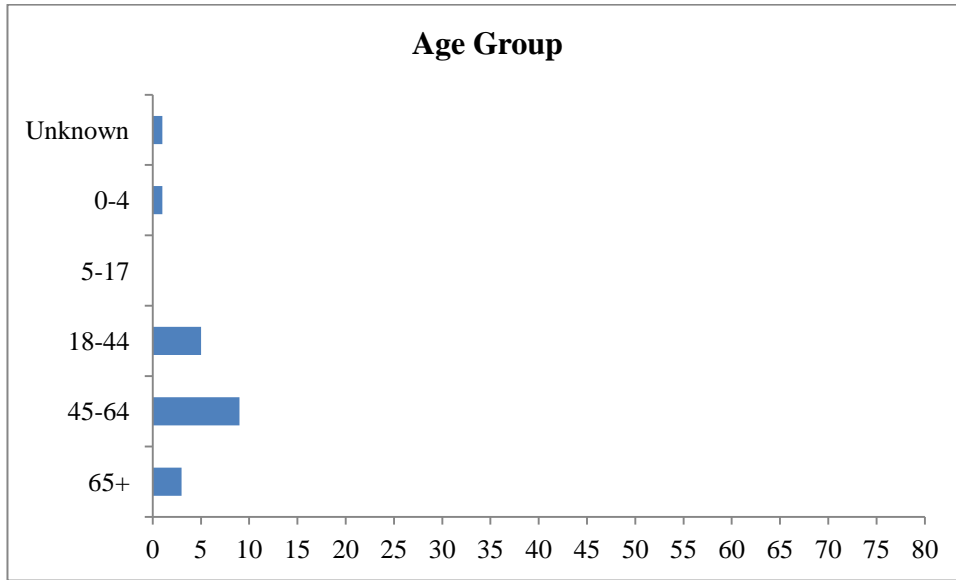
*Note: ESSENCE query for cold-related illness contains the following terms: frostbite, frostnip, hypothermia, chilblain, and trench foot.

There were 2 chief complaint clusters regarding carbon monoxide exposure identified this week. On March 5, 5 people visited an ED at the recommendation of the fire department after a CO alarm went off in their home. All patients were discharged. The second cluster is still under investigation.

Geographical and Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Visits Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for March 1, 2016 through March 7, 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
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 were no cold-related deaths reported this week.

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

This is the final weekly report of the 2015-2016 reporting season. A summary report will be posted on [our website](#) in April.

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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