



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

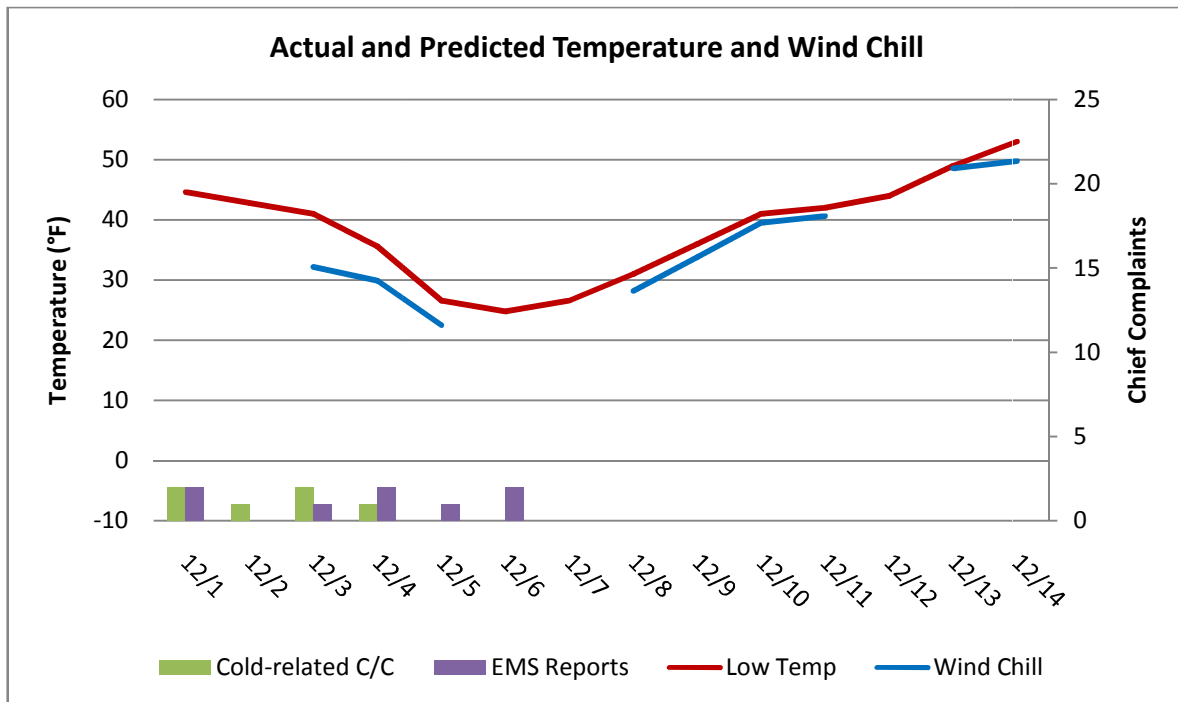
Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van Mitchell, Secretary

Weekly Cold-related Illness Surveillance Report

December 9, 2015

Reporting for December 1, 2015, to December 7, 2015

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

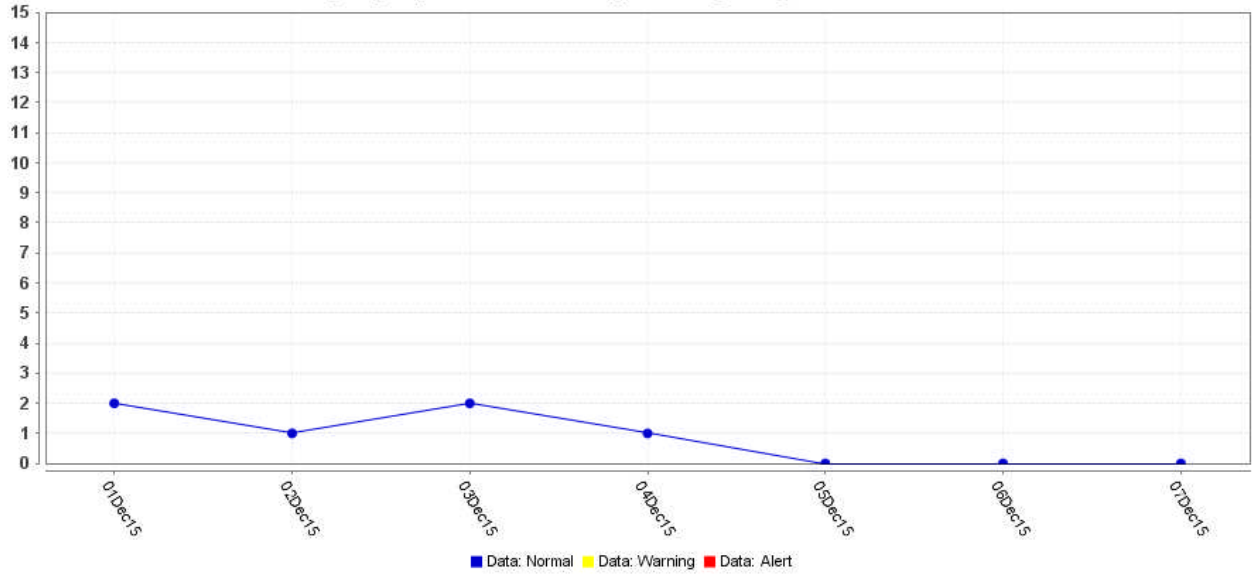


Wind Chill is only calculated for temperatures at or below 50°F and wind speeds above 3 mph

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 is due to the nature of the query, which is based on chief complaints (C/C) and not confirmed discharge diagnoses.

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 Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illness



Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure

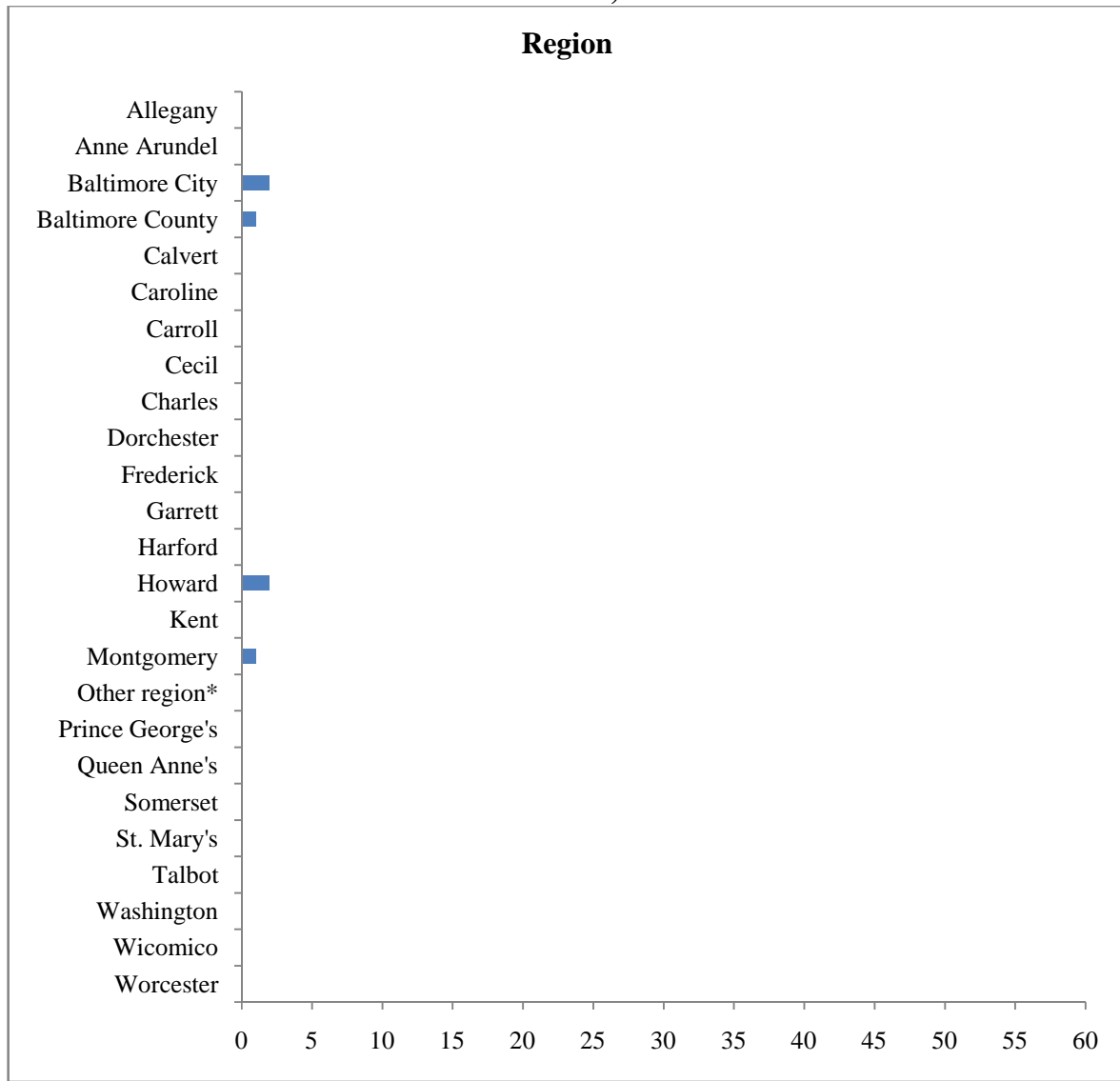


Date	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illness	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure
December 1	2	1
December 2	1	0
December 3	2	1
December 4	1	1
December 5	0	0
December 6	0	0
December 7	0	1

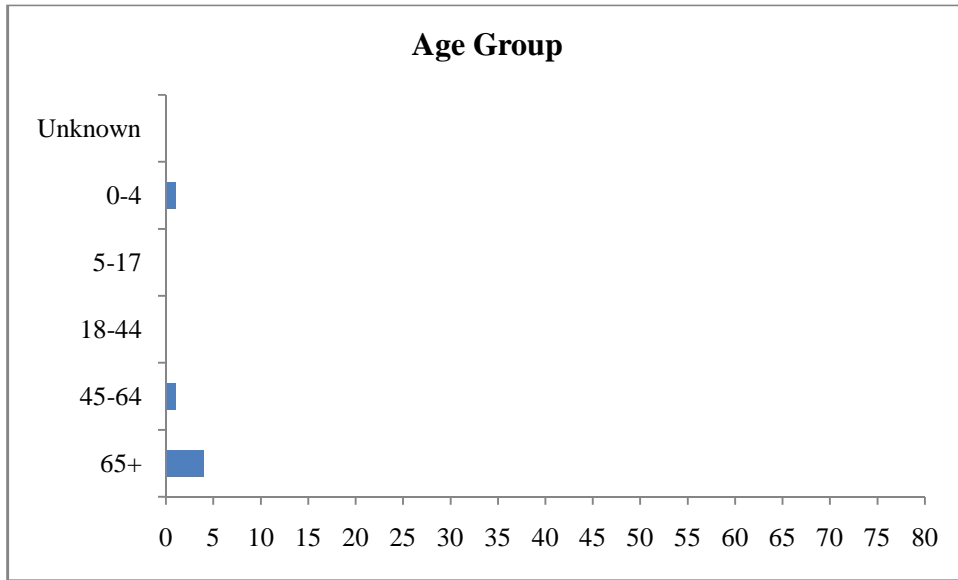
*Note: ESSENCE chief complaint query for cold-related illness contains the following terms: frostbite, frostnip, hypothermia, chilblain, and trench foot

There were no chief complaint clusters identified this week.

Geographical and Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for December 1, 2015 through December 7, 2015



*Geographical distribution of emergency department chief complaints 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.



There were no cold-related deaths reported this week.

There have been no 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:

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

Anikah H. Salim, MPH, CPH
Biosurveillance Epidemiologist
Office: 410-767-2074
Email: Anikah.Salim@maryland.gov

Sara Luell
Public Information Officer
Office: 410-767-0590
Email: Sara.Luell@maryland.gov

Lisa Stancill, MPH
Biosurveillance Epidemiologist
Office: 410-767-5668
Email: Lisa.Stancill@maryland.gov

Sara Barra, MS
Chief Planner
Office: 410-767-8438
Email: Sara.Barra@maryland.gov