



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

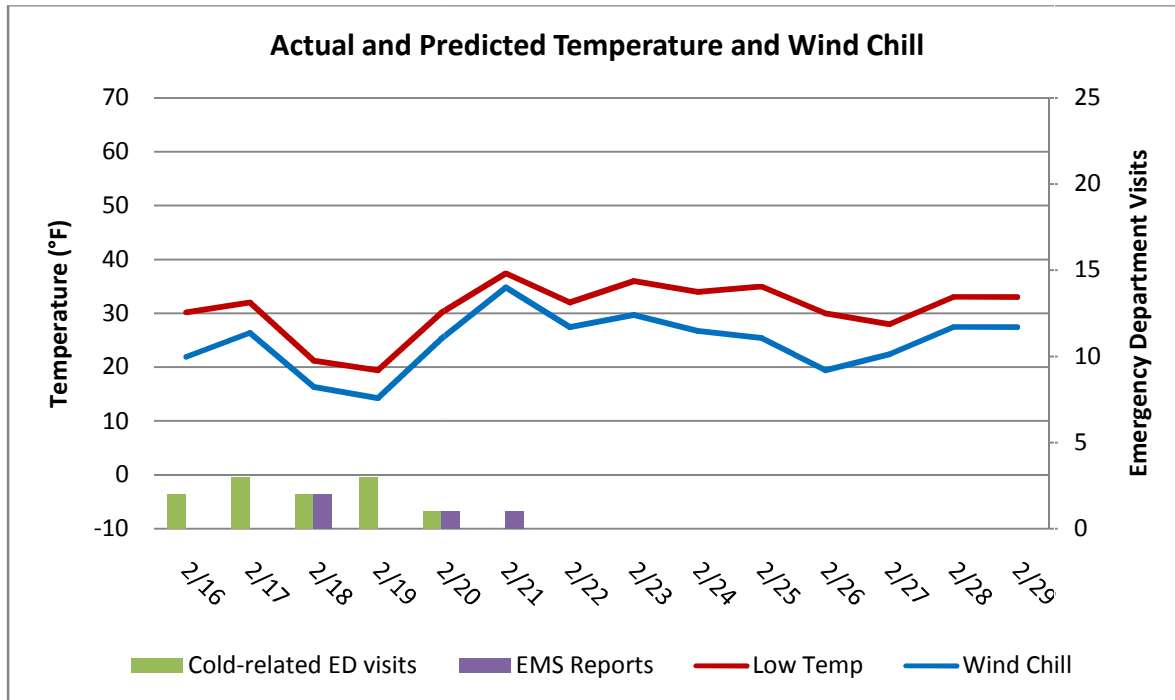
Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van Mitchell, Secretary

Weekly Cold-related Illness Surveillance Report

February 24, 2016

Reporting for February 16, 2016 to February 22, 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

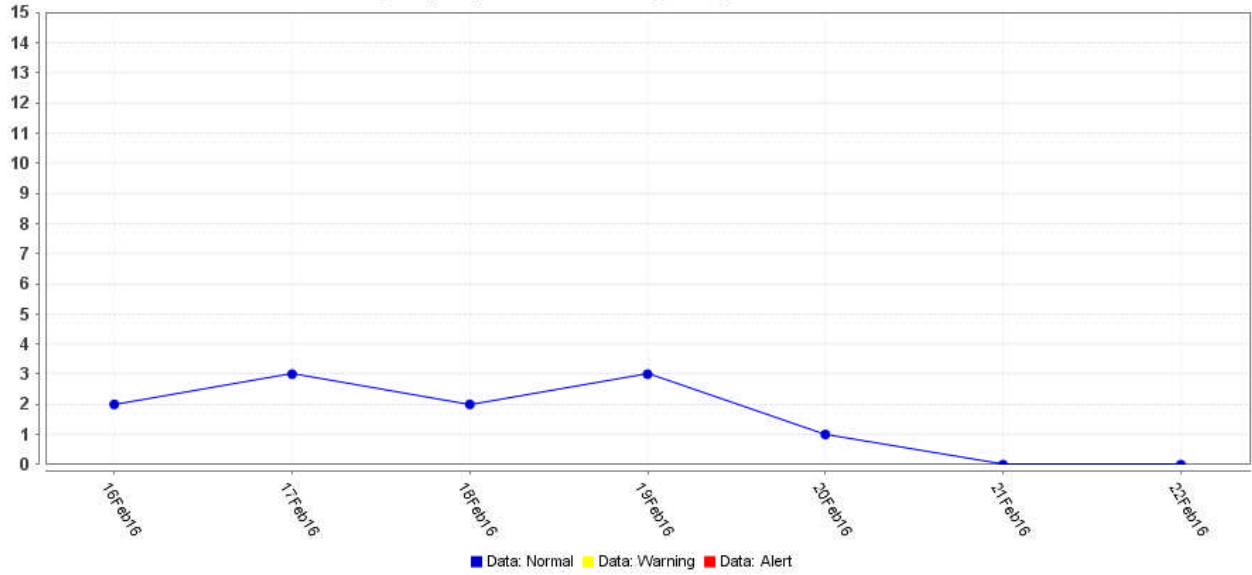


Wind Chill is only calculated for temperatures at or below 50°F and wind speeds above 3 mph

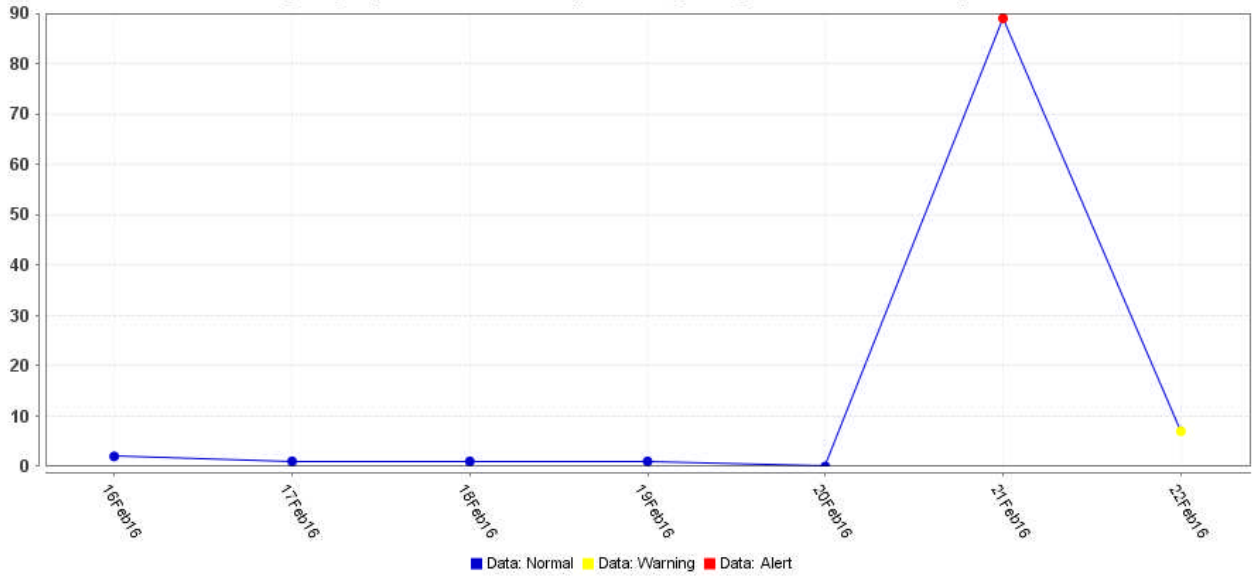
Note on Emergency Department Data: The results from the query used in ESSENCE, an electronic biosurveillance system, to track cold-related illnesses may be an overestimation of the actual burden of illness related to the cold weather. This overestimation may be due to the nature of the query, in which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

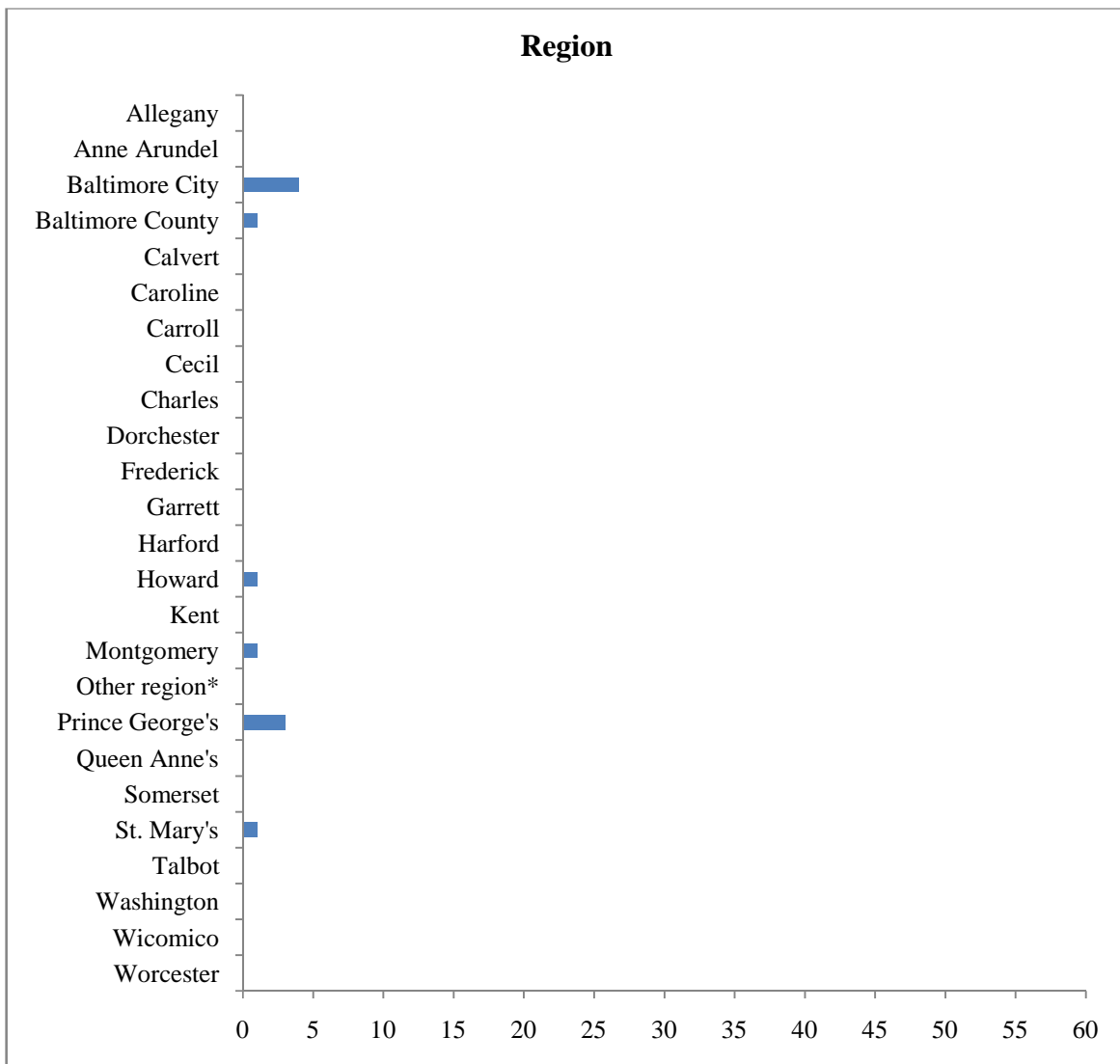


Date	Number of ED visits Regarding Cold-related Illness	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure
February 16	2	2
February 17	3	1
February 18	2	1
February 19	3	1
February 20	1	0
February 21	0	89
February 22	0	7

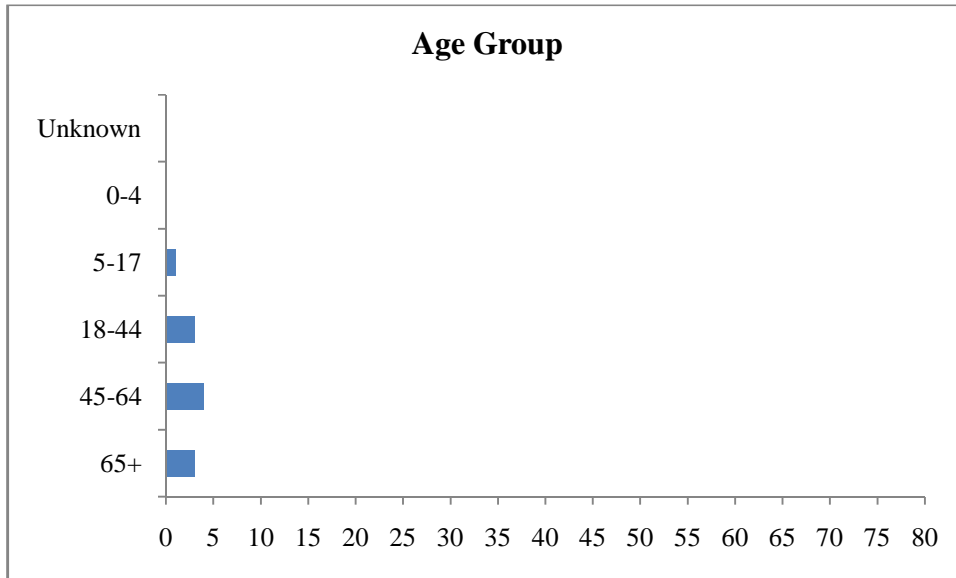
*Note: ESSENCE query for cold-related illness contains the following terms: frostbite, frostnip, hypothermia, chilblain, and trench foot.

There was 1 chief complaint cluster regarding carbon monoxide exposure identified this week. The cluster may be associated with a recent carbon monoxide leak at a church.

Geographical and Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Visits Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for February 16, 2016 through February 22, 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
15	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
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 unpended this week; one of these deaths occurred during this week's reporting period.

There have been 15 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.

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