



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

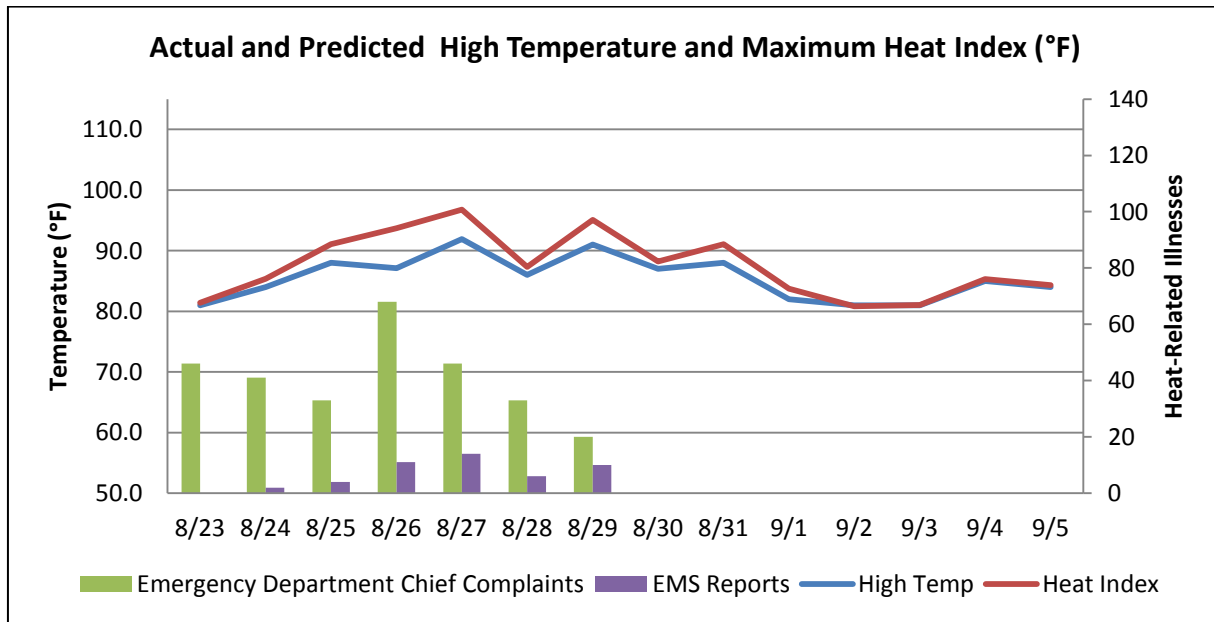
Larry Hogan, Governor – Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor – Van T. Mitchell, Secretary

## Weekly Heat-related Illness Surveillance Report

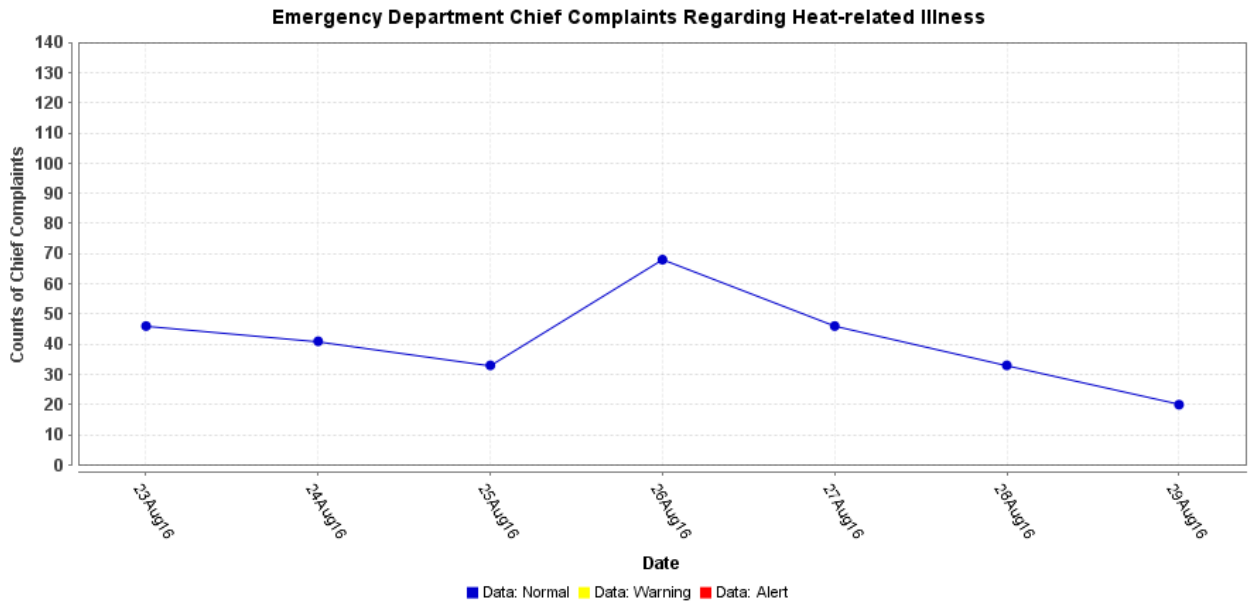
August 31, 2016

Reporting for August 23, 2016 through August 29, 2016

**National Weather Service Forecast:** No hazardous heat forecast.  
**Heat Advisories Declared During the Week:** 0  
**Total Heat Advisories Declared This Year:** 12



Heat Indexes are calculated for temperatures above 80°F with humidity of 43% or greater.

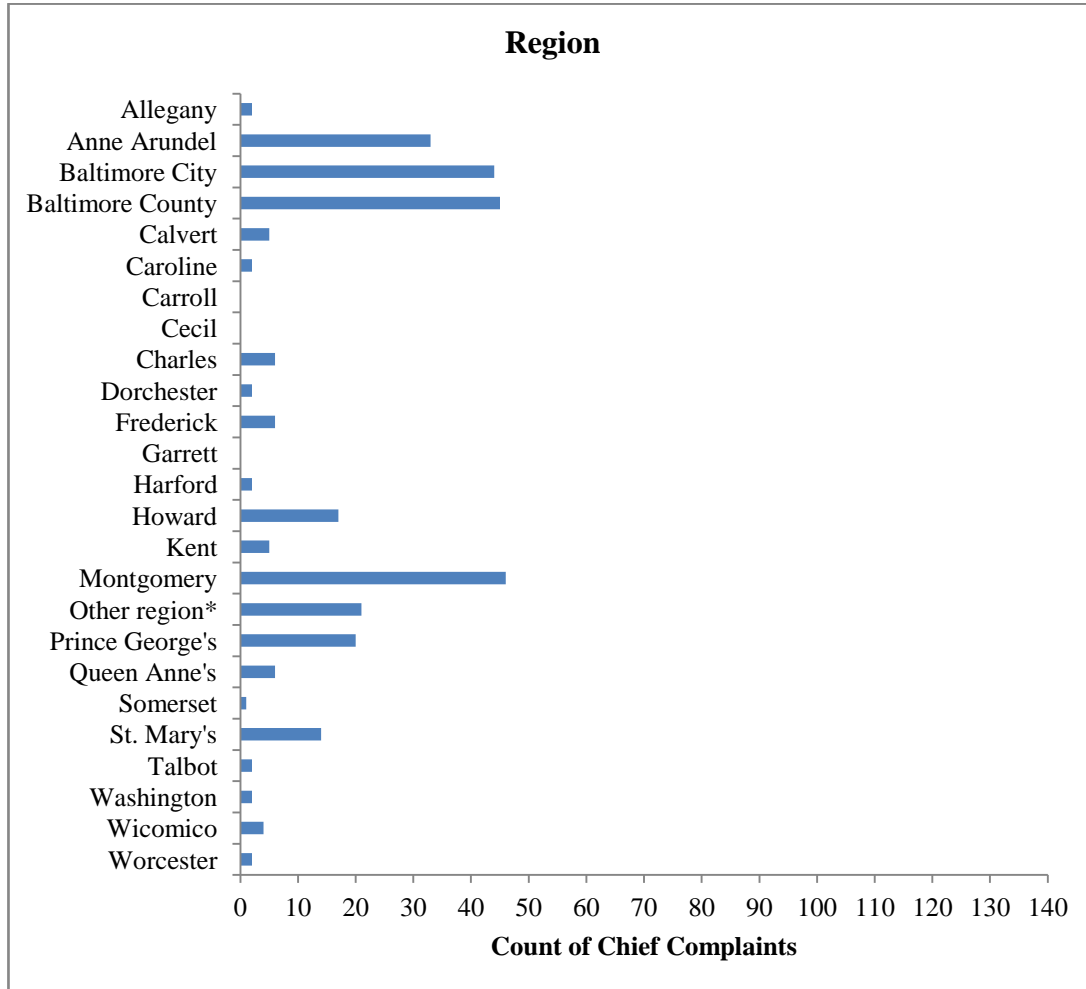


<b>Date</b>	<b>Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Heat-related Illnesses State of Maryland</b>
August 23	46
August 24	41
August 25	33
August 26	68
August 27	46
August 28	33
August 29	20

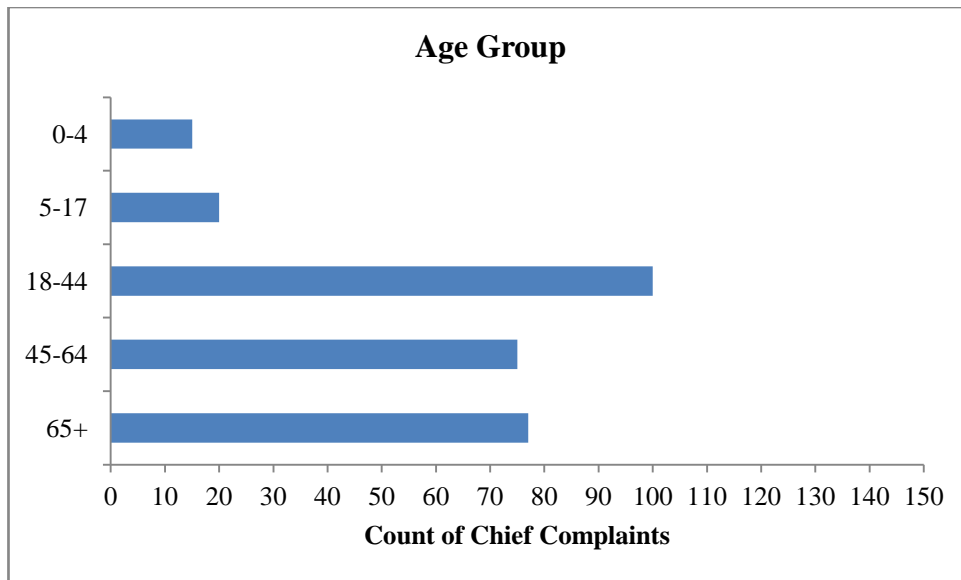
ESSENCE chief complaint query contains the following terms: hyperthermia, heat, dehydration and sunburn

There were no chief complaint clusters identified during the week.

## Geographical and Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Heat-related Illnesses for August 23 through August 29, 2016



\*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.



Death Total	Jurisdiction	Age Group	Gender
15	Allegany	18-44	Male
	Anne Arundel	45-64	Female
	Anne Arundel	65+	Female
	Baltimore City	45-64	Male
	Baltimore City	65+	Male
	Baltimore City	65+	Male
	Baltimore City	65+	Female
	Baltimore County	45 – 64	Male
	Baltimore County	65+	Male
	Baltimore County	65+	Male
	Cecil	65+	Male
	Charles	18 – 44	Male
	Kent	65+	Female
	Montgomery	18-44	Male
	Montgomery	45-64	Male

There were three heat-related deaths reported this week.

There have been fifteen heat-related deaths during our reporting period this summer.  
No deaths are suspected or presumed homeless individuals.

For media inquiries, please contact the Office of Communications: [410-767-6490](tel:410-767-6490)

**Heat Advisory criteria:** The National Weather Service will issue a Heat Advisory when the heat index value is expected to reach 105 to 109 degrees Fahrenheit within the next 12 to 24 hours. A Heat Advisory may be issued for lower criteria if it is early in the season or during a multiday heat wave. NWS will issue an Excessive Heat Warning when the heat index value is expected to reach or exceed 110 degrees Fahrenheit within the next 12 to 24 hours. An Excessive Heat Warning may be issued for lower criteria if it is early in the season or during a multiday heat wave.

**Emergency Department Data:** The results from the query used in ESSENCE, an electronic biosurveillance system, to track heat-related illnesses may be an overestimation of the actual burden of illness related to the hot weather. This overestimation is due to the nature of the query, which includes the term dehydration, a condition that may be caused by factors other than heat.

**Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Data:** These data are based on EMS pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has selected “Heat Exhaustion/Heat Stroke” and/or “Hyperthermia” as a primary or secondary impression 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 heat exposure the actual numbers may be low. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

**Suspected Homeless Death Data:** Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) Field Investigators use the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [homeless definition](#) to determine suspected homeless deaths. Homeless deaths are listed as suspected due to the limited information available to the Field Investigators at the time of investigation, which may result in some misclassifications.

**Prepared by:**

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