



MARYLAND
Department of Health

Public Health Preparedness and Situational Awareness Report: #2021:19

Reporting for the week ending 05/15/21 (MMWR Week #19)

May 21st, 2021

CURRENT HOMELAND SECURITY THREAT LEVELS

National: No Active Alerts

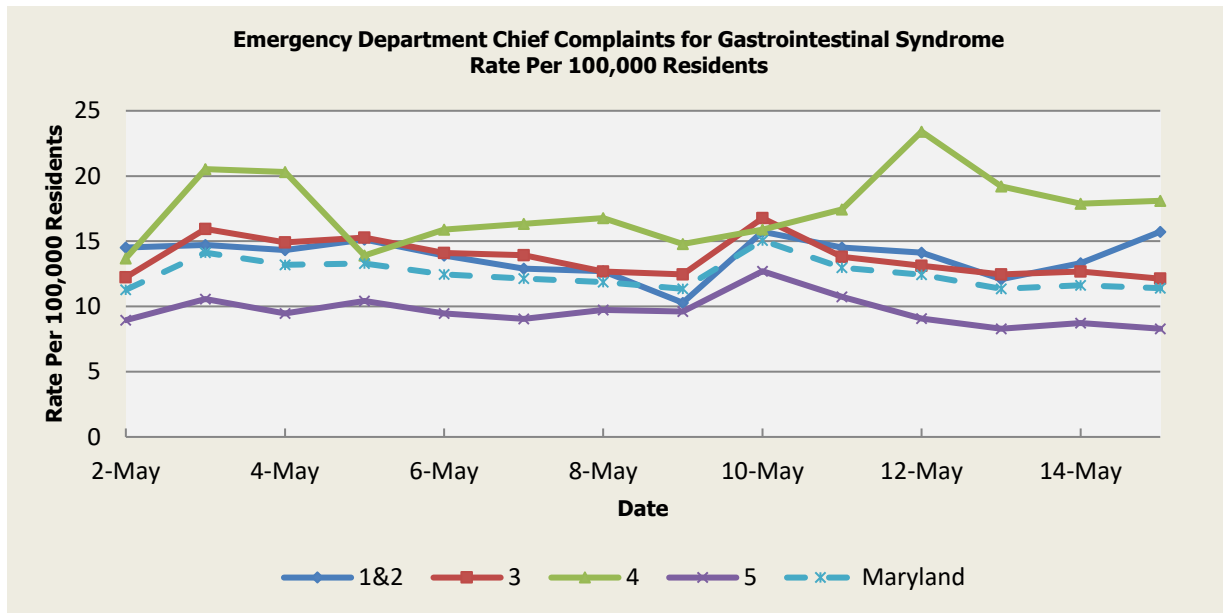
Maryland: **ENHANCED** (MEMA status)

SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE REPORTS

ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics): Graphical representation is provided for all syndromes (excluding the “Other” category; see Appendix 1) by Health and Medical Regions (See Appendix 2). Emergency department chief complaint data is presented as rates per 100,000 residents using data from the 2010 census. Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Baltimore, MD: Maryland Department of Health; 2021.

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Gastrointestinal Syndrome



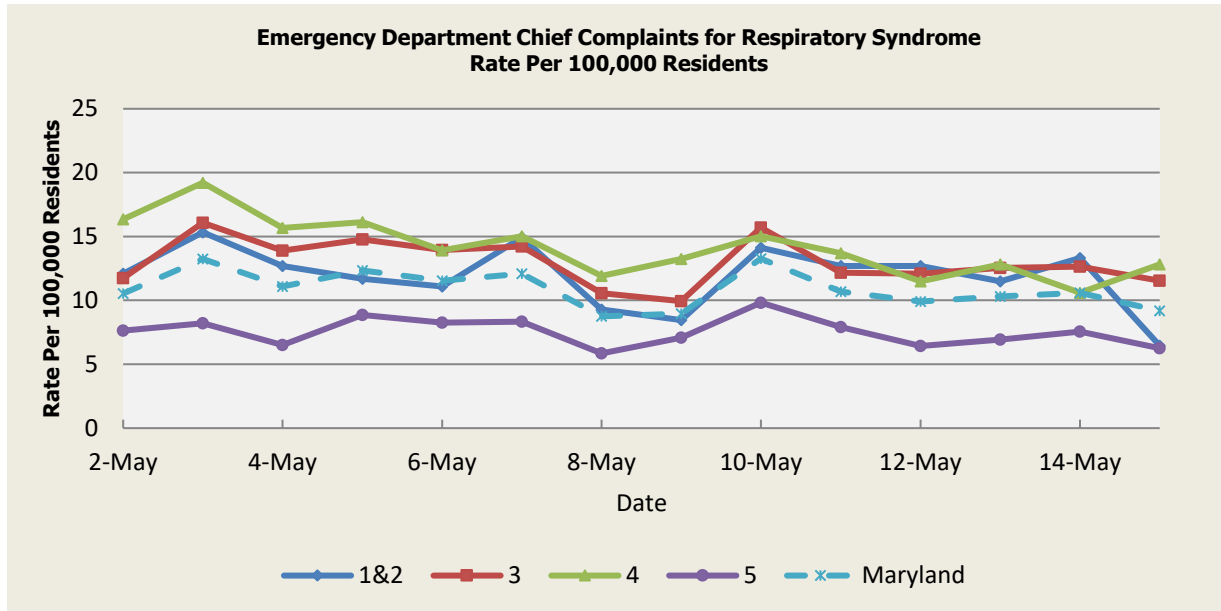
There were no Gastrointestinal Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Gastrointestinal Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	13.13	14.72	15.83	10.05	12.89
Median Rate*	13.11	14.61	15.46	10.00	12.83

** Per 100,000 Residents*

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Respiratory Syndrome



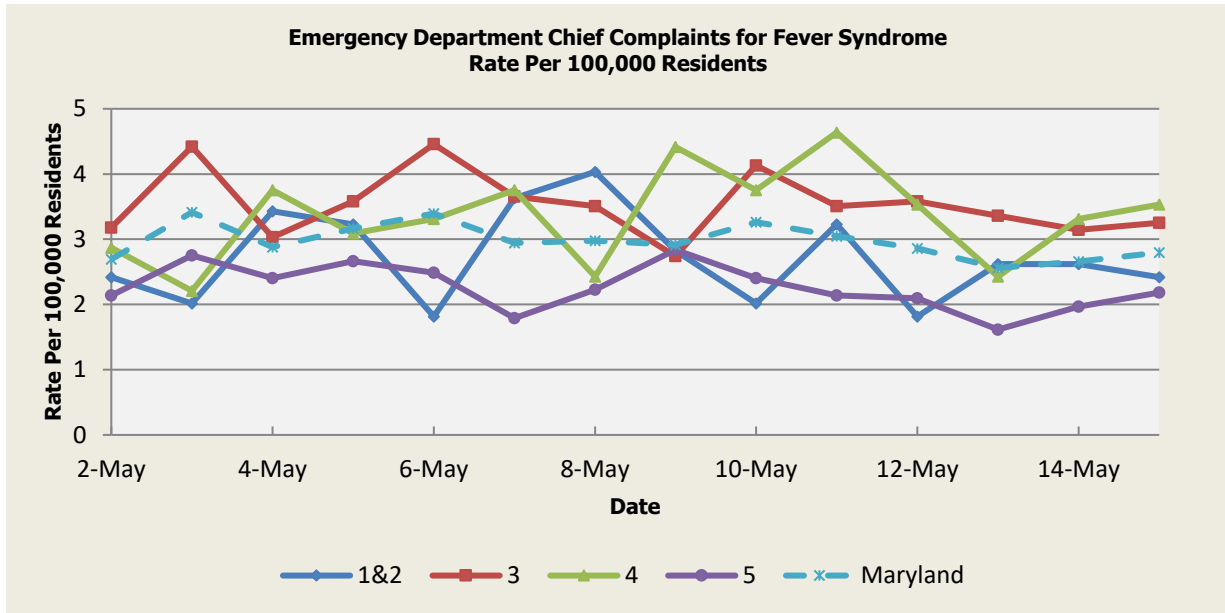
There were fifty-three (53) respiratory syndrome outbreaks reported this week: eight (8) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Assisted Living Facilities (Regions 1,2,3), three (3) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Correctional Facilities (Regions 1,2,3,4), five (5) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Daycare Facilities (Regions 3,5), seven (7) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Group Homes (Regions 1,2,3,4), six (6) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Hospitals (Regions 3,4), six (6) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes (Regions 1,2,3,4), twelve (12) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Schools (Regions 1,2,3,4,5), four (4) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Substance Use Treatment Facilities (Regions 3,5), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Transitional Housing Facility (Region 3), and one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Workplace (Region 3).

Respiratory Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	12.43	14.69	15.21	9.90	12.70
Median Rate*	12.10	14.03	14.35	9.47	12.15

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Fever Syndrome



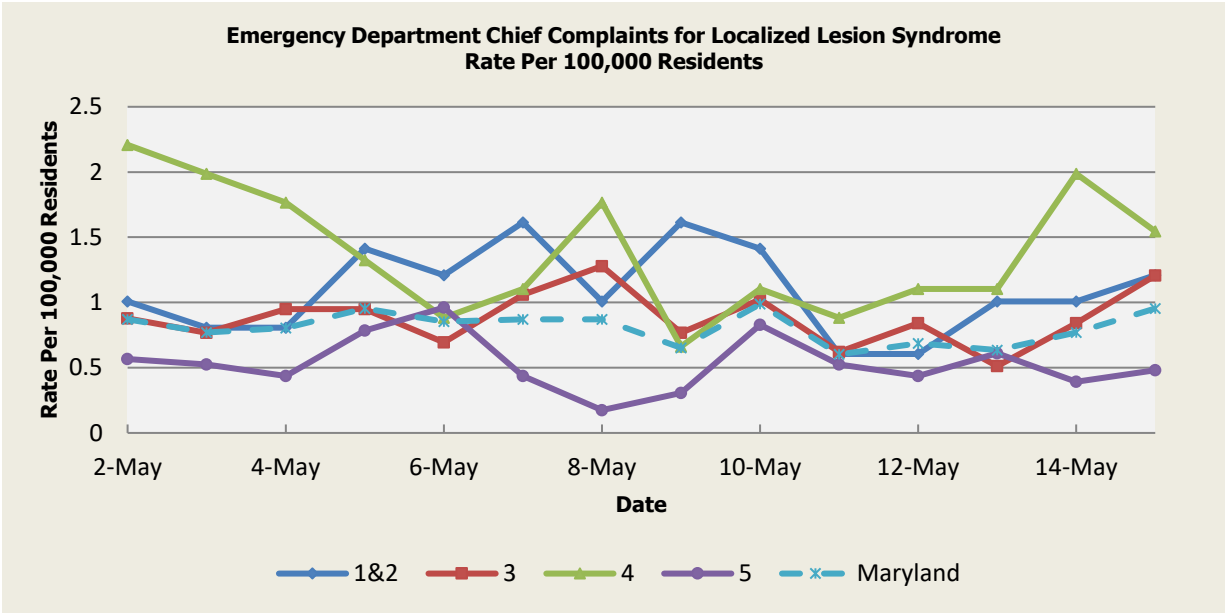
There were no Fever Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Fever Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.03	3.87	4.10	2.99	3.48
Median Rate*	2.82	3.73	3.97	2.88	3.35

*Per 100,000 Residents

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Localized Lesion Syndrome



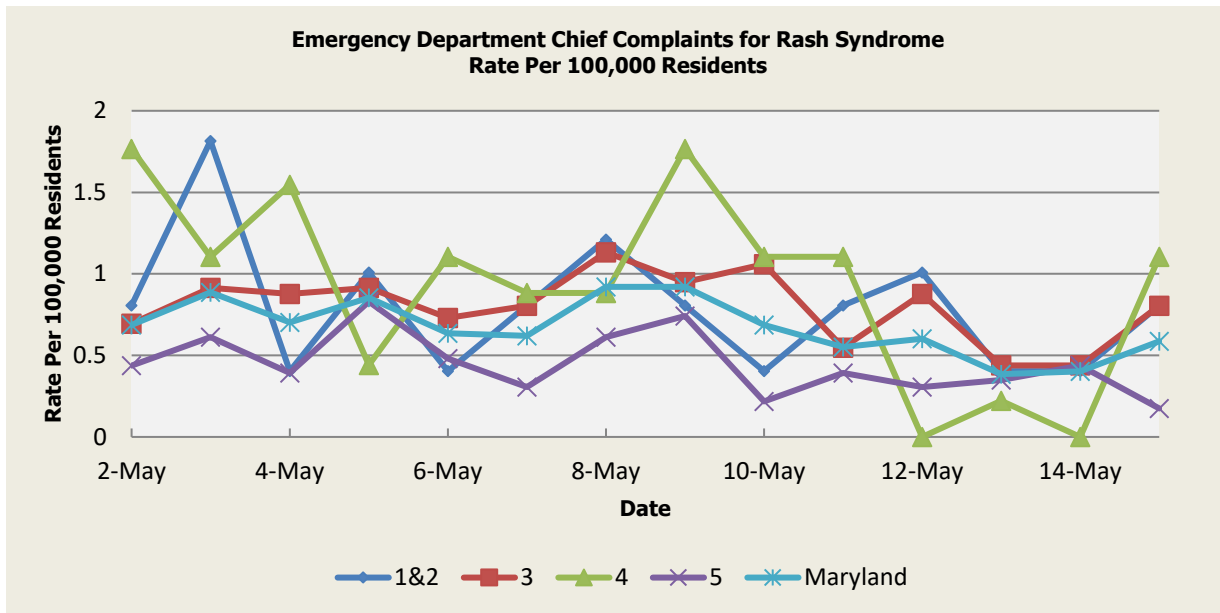
There were no Localized Lesion Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Localized Lesion Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.15	1.67	1.95	0.85	1.34
Median Rate*	1.01	1.64	1.77	0.83	1.29

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Rash Syndrome



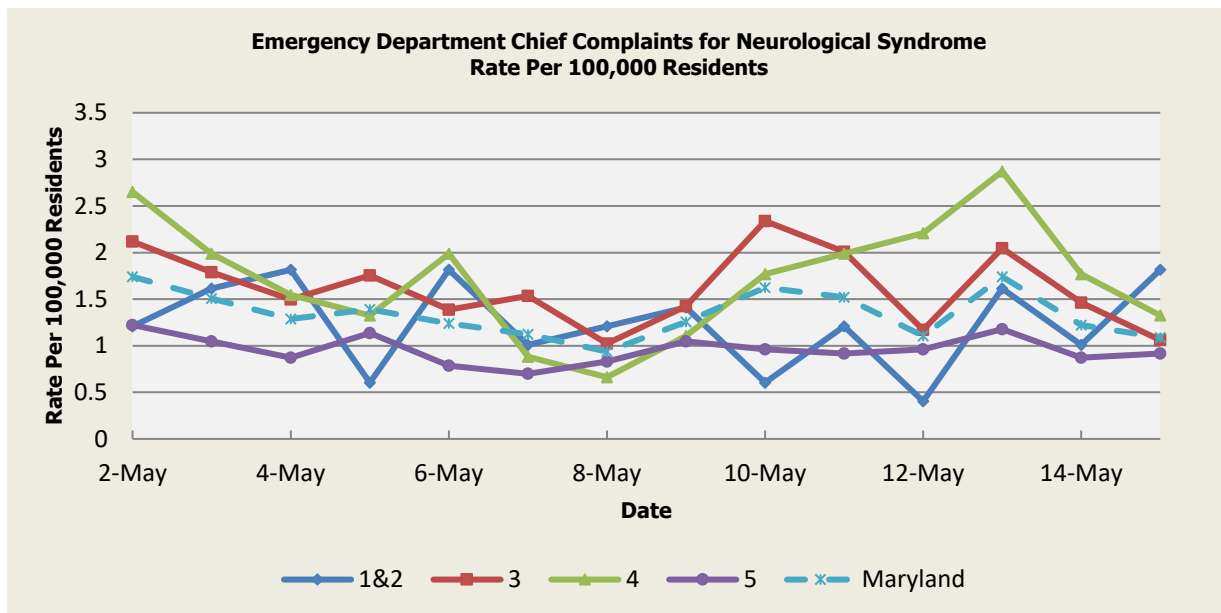
There was one (1) rash illness outbreak reported this week: one (1) outbreak of Hand, Foot, and Mouth disease, in a Daycare Facility (Region 3).

Rash Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.17	1.56	1.65	0.91	1.28
Median Rate*	1.01	1.53	1.55	0.87	1.25

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Neurological Syndrome



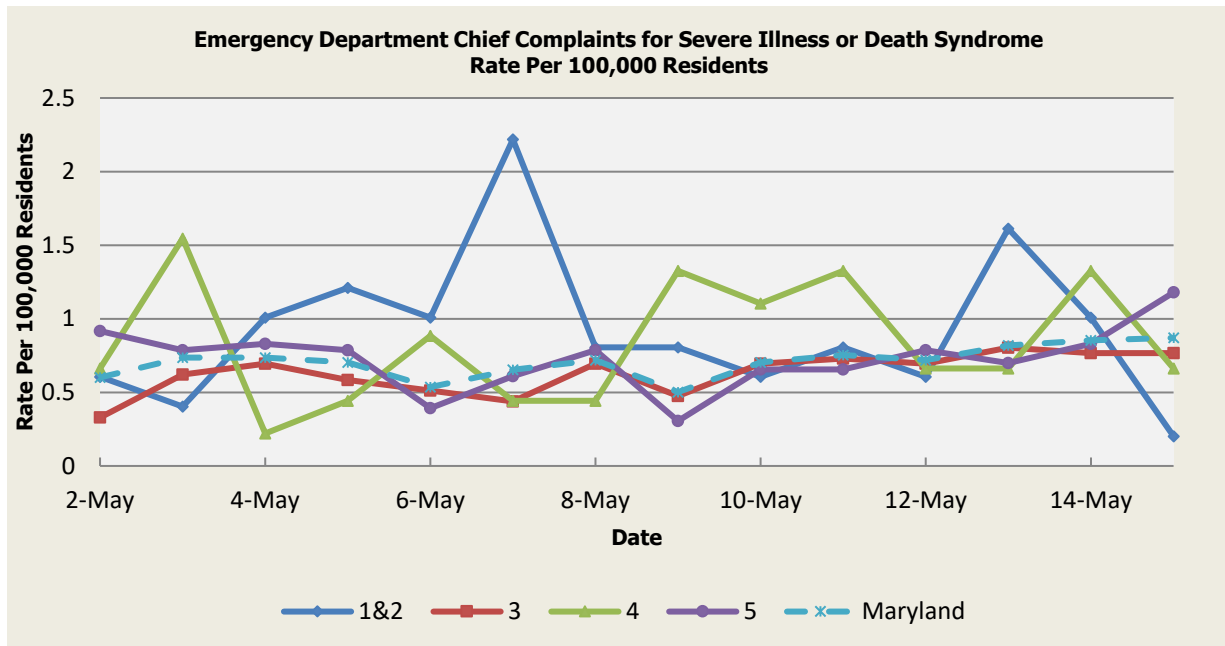
There were no Neurological Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Neurological Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.83	1.03	0.96	0.66	0.86
Median Rate*	0.81	0.99	0.88	0.61	0.84

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Severe Illness or Death Syndrome



There were no Severe Illness or Death Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

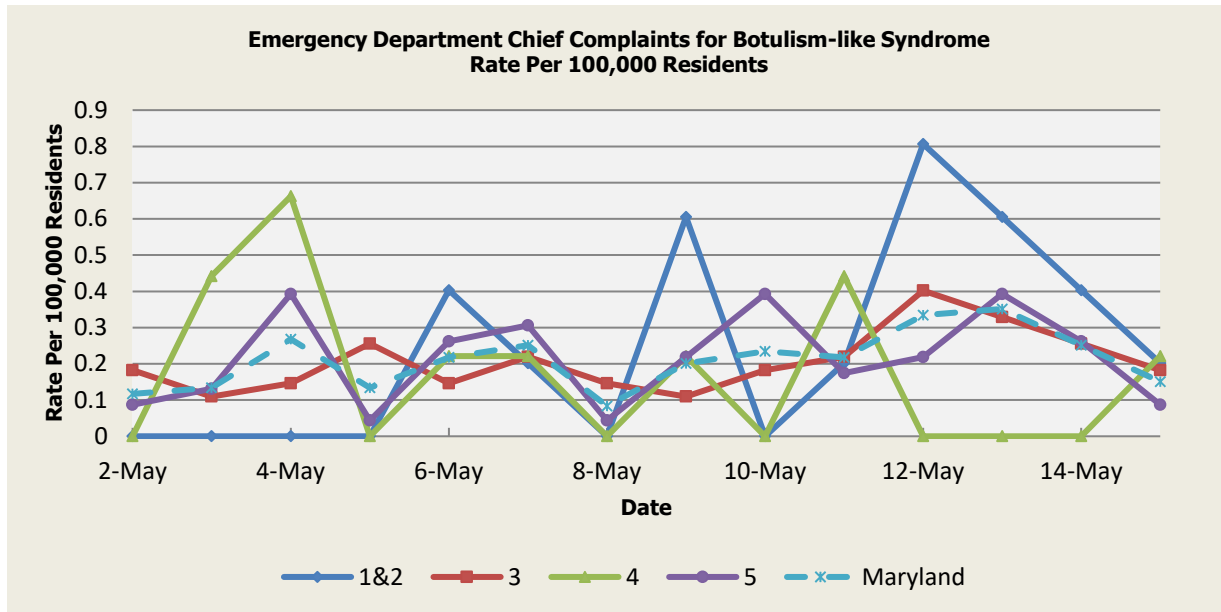
Severe Illness or Death Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.66	0.87	0.85	0.55	0.73
Median Rate*	0.60	0.84	0.88	0.52	0.70

* Per 100,000 Residents

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SYNDROMES RELATED TO CATEGORY A AGENTS

Botulism-like Syndrome



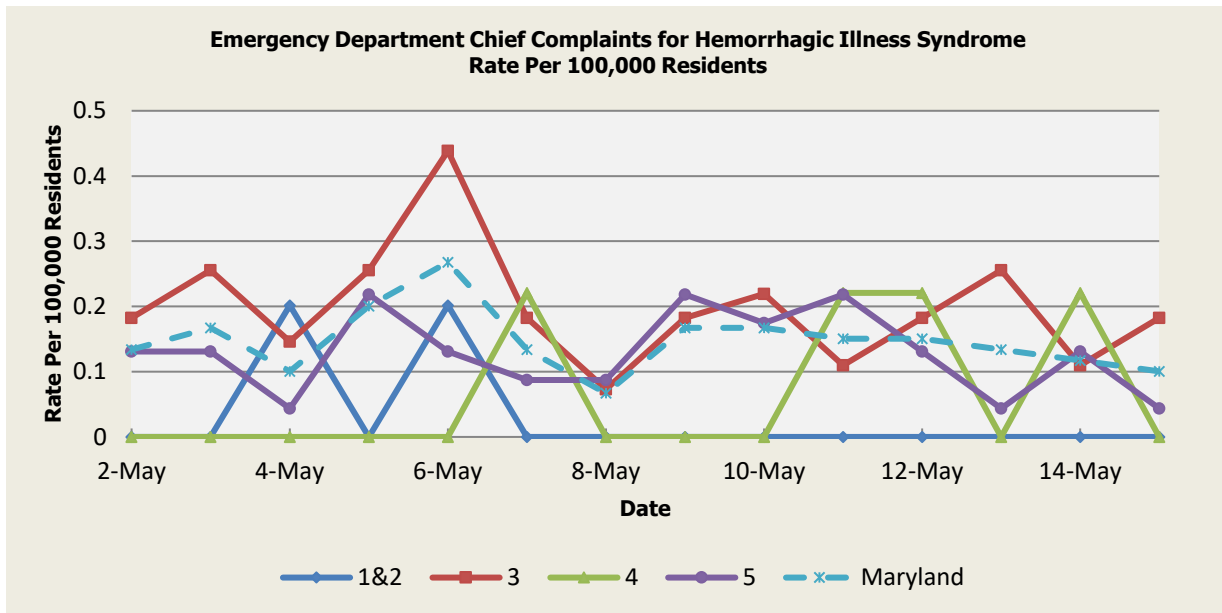
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Botulism-like Syndrome on 5/3 (Region 4), 5/4 (Regions 4,5), 5/6 (Regions 1&2,4,5), 5/7 (Regions 1&2,4,5), 5/9 (Regions 1&2,4,5), 5/10 (Region 5), 5/11 (Regions 1&2,4,5), 5/12 (Regions 1&2,3,5), 5/13 (Regions 1&2,3,5), 5/14 (Regions 1&2,5), 5/15 (Regions 1&2,4). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Botulism-like Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.08	0.14	0.07	0.09	0.11
Median Rate*	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.09	0.10

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome



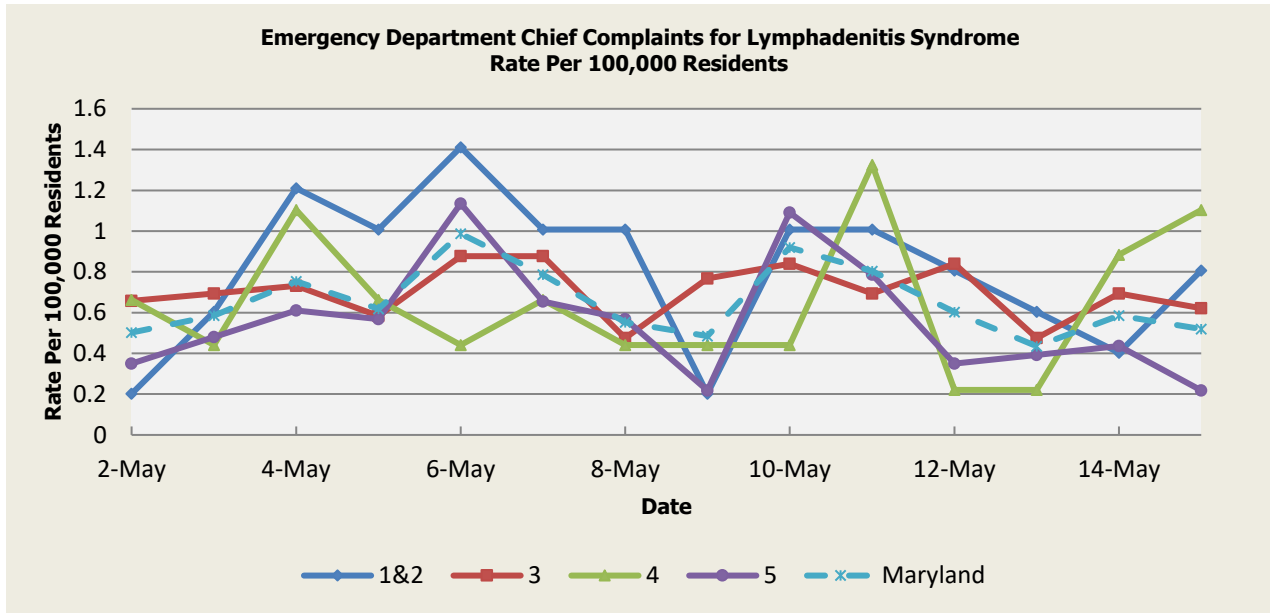
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome on 5/4 (Regions 1&2), 5/6 (Regions 1&2,3), 5/7 (Region 4), 5/11 (Region 4), 5/12 (Region 4), 5/14 (Region 4). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.05	0.17	0.04	0.15	0.14
Median Rate*	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.09	0.12

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Lymphadenitis Syndrome



There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Lymphadenitis Syndrome on 5/4 (Regions 1&2,4), 5/5 (Regions 1&2), 5/6 (Regions 1&2,5), 5/7 (Regions 1&2), 5/8 (Regions 1&2), 5/10 (Regions 1&2,5), 5/11 (Regions 1&2,4), 5/12 (Regions 1&2), 5/14 (Region 4), 5/15 (Regions 1&2,4). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.41	0.61	0.41	0.40	0.50
Median Rate*	0.40	0.55	0.44	0.35	0.47

* Per 100,000 Residents

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MARYLAND REPORTABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Summary

On March 5th, 2020, the Maryland Department of Health announced the first cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (abbreviated COVID-19) in the State of Maryland.

Confirmed COVID-19 Case Counts in Maryland by County (As of May 21st, 2021)

County	Number of Confirmed Cases
Allegany	6,963
Anne Arundel	43,590
Baltimore City	65,225
Baltimore County	52,512
Calvert	4,199
Caroline	2,326
Carroll	9,415
Cecil	6,259
Charles	10,757
Dorchester	2,810
Frederick	19,704
Garrett	2,024
Harford	16,479
Howard	19,147
Kent	1,344
Montgomery	70,645
Prince George's	84,689
Queen Anne's	2,976
Somerset	2,592
St. Mary's	5,996
Talbot	2,147
Washington	14,500
Wicomico	7,612
Worcester	3,616
Total	457,527

The most up-to-date information may be found on the Maryland Department of Health website at <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov>.

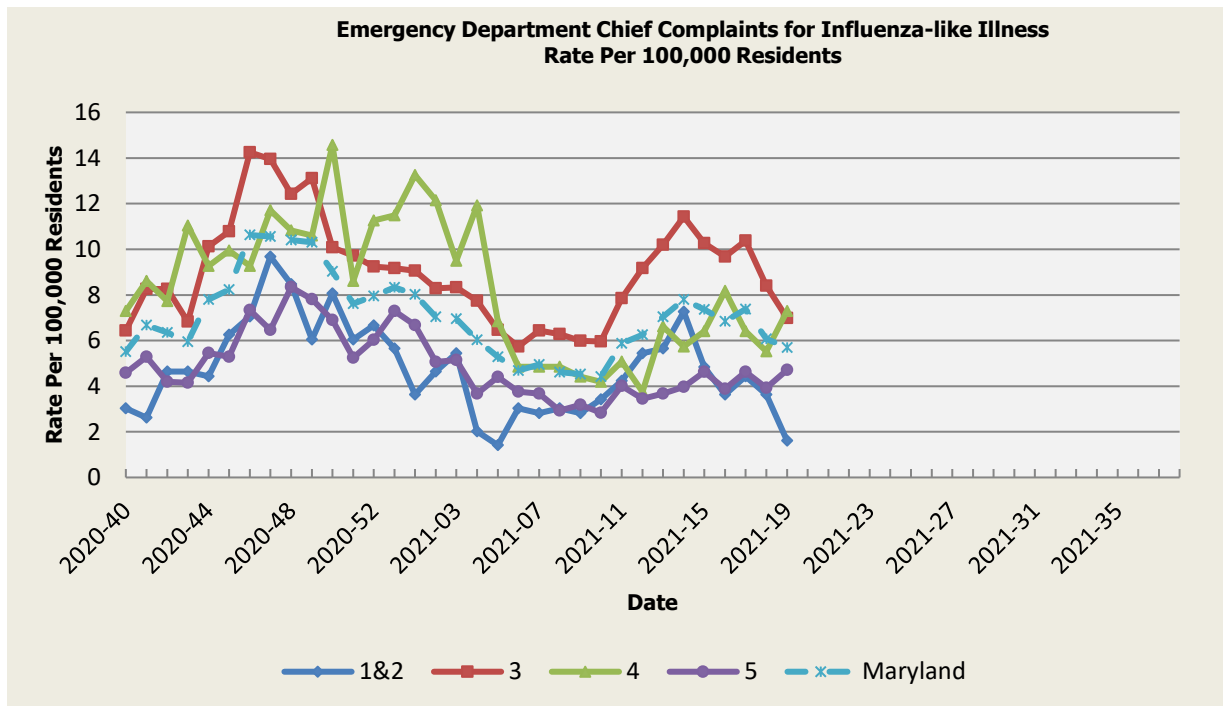
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SYNDROMIC INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

Seasonal Influenza reporting occurs from MMWR Week 40 through MMWR Week 20 (October 2020 through May 2021). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, influenza reporting will be extended to the beginning of the 2021-2022 reporting season (MMWR Week 40/Week Ending October 9, 2021).

Seasonal Influenza activity for Week 19 was: Minimal

Influenza-like Illness

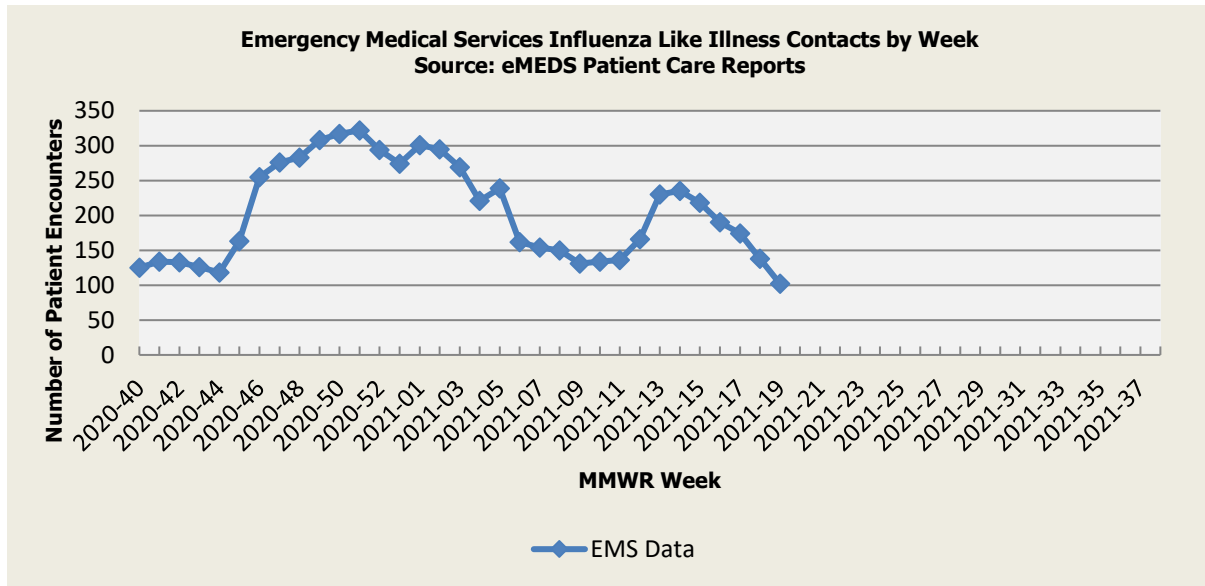


Influenza-like Illness Baseline Data Week 1 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	10.01	13.86	13.16	11.55	12.60
Median Rate*	7.26	10.19	9.27	8.43	9.15

* Per 100,000 Residents

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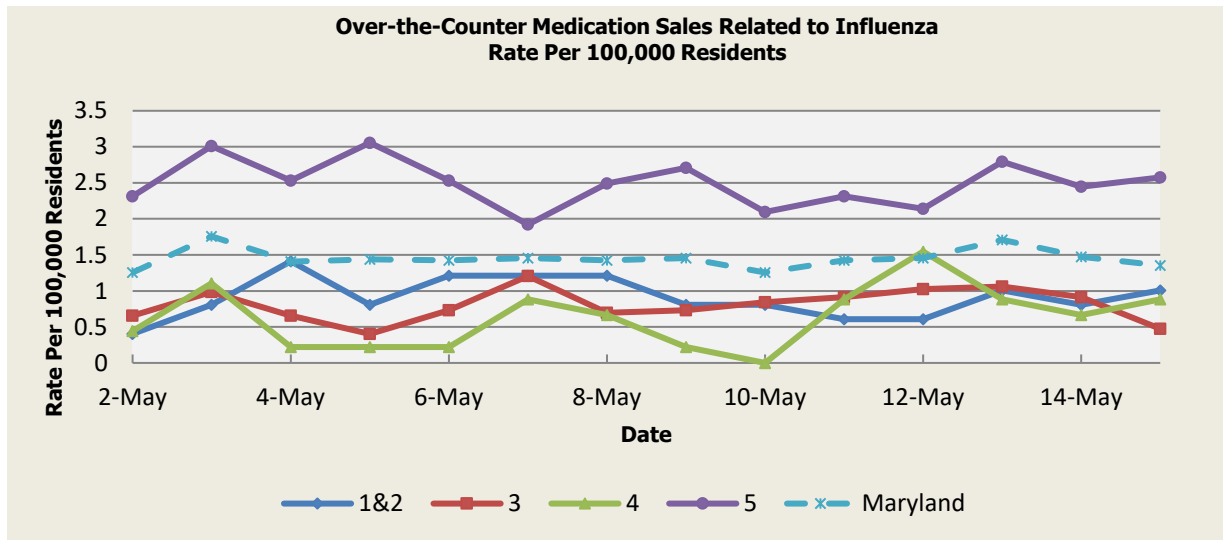
Influenza-like Illness Contacts by Week



Disclaimer on eMEDS flu related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has selected “flu like illness” 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 influenza the actual numbers may be low. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

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Over-the-Counter Influenza-Related Medication Sales



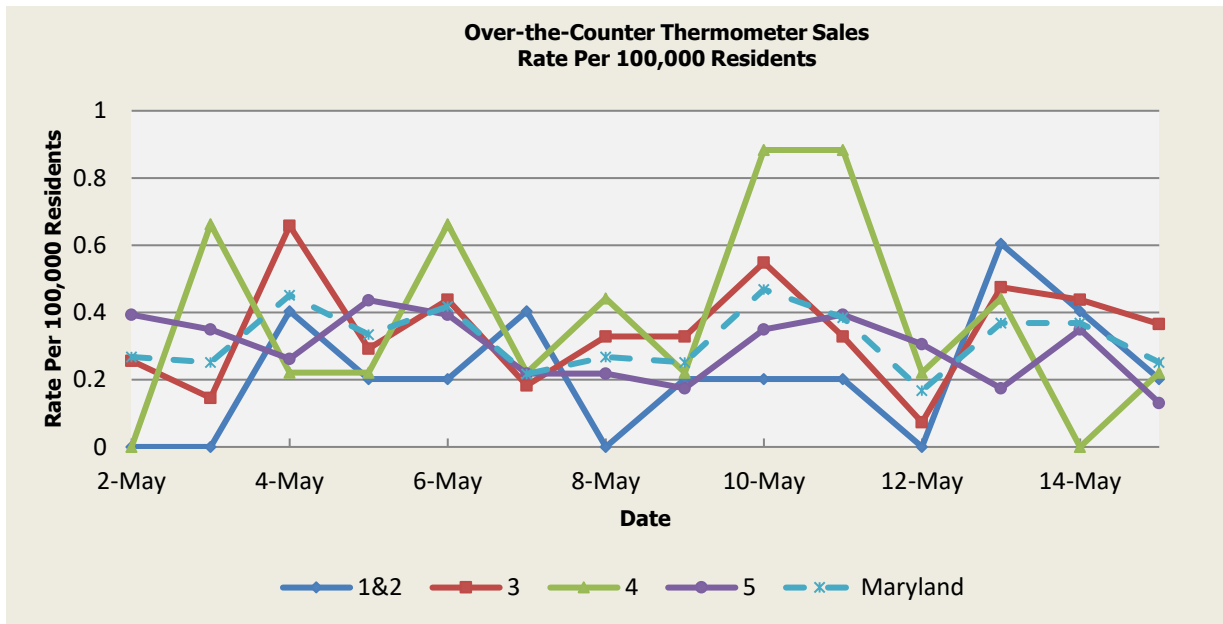
There was no appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC Medication Sales during this reporting period.

OTC Medication Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.17	4.03	2.47	7.31	5.10
Median Rate*	2.42	3.03	2.21	6.33	4.22

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Over-the-Counter Thermometer Sales



There was no appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC Thermometer Sales during this reporting period.

Thermometer Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	2.64	2.50	2.04	3.30	2.78
Median Rate*	2.42	2.45	1.99	3.32	2.81

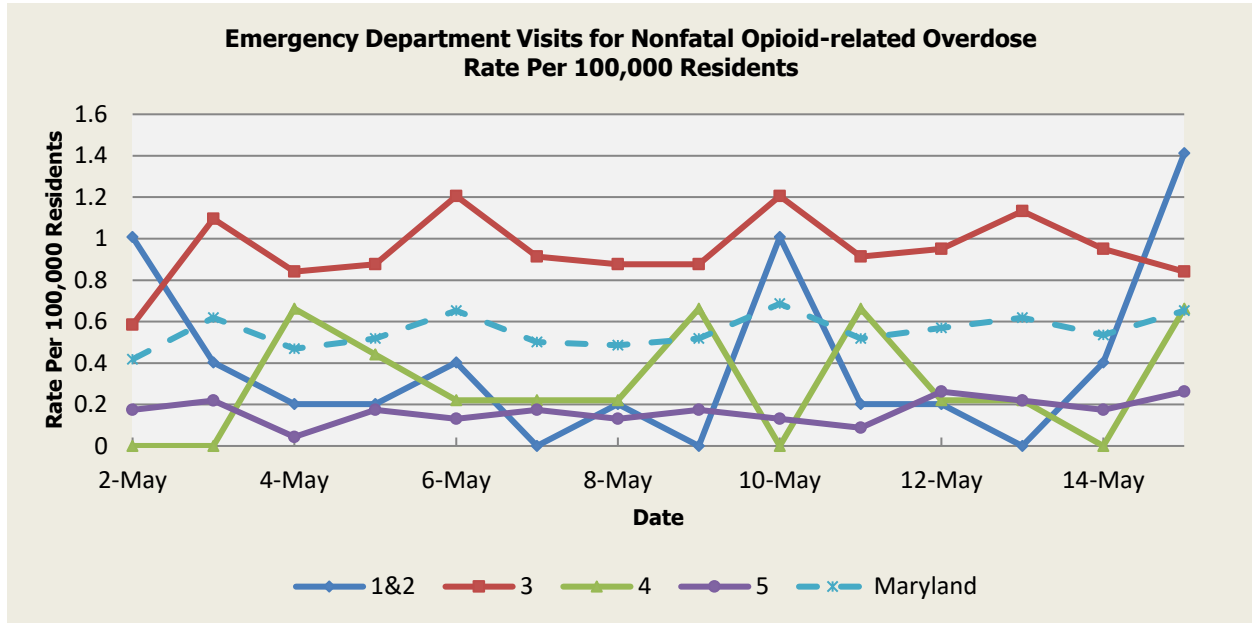
* Per 100,000 Residents

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SYNDROMIC OVERDOSE SURVEILLANCE

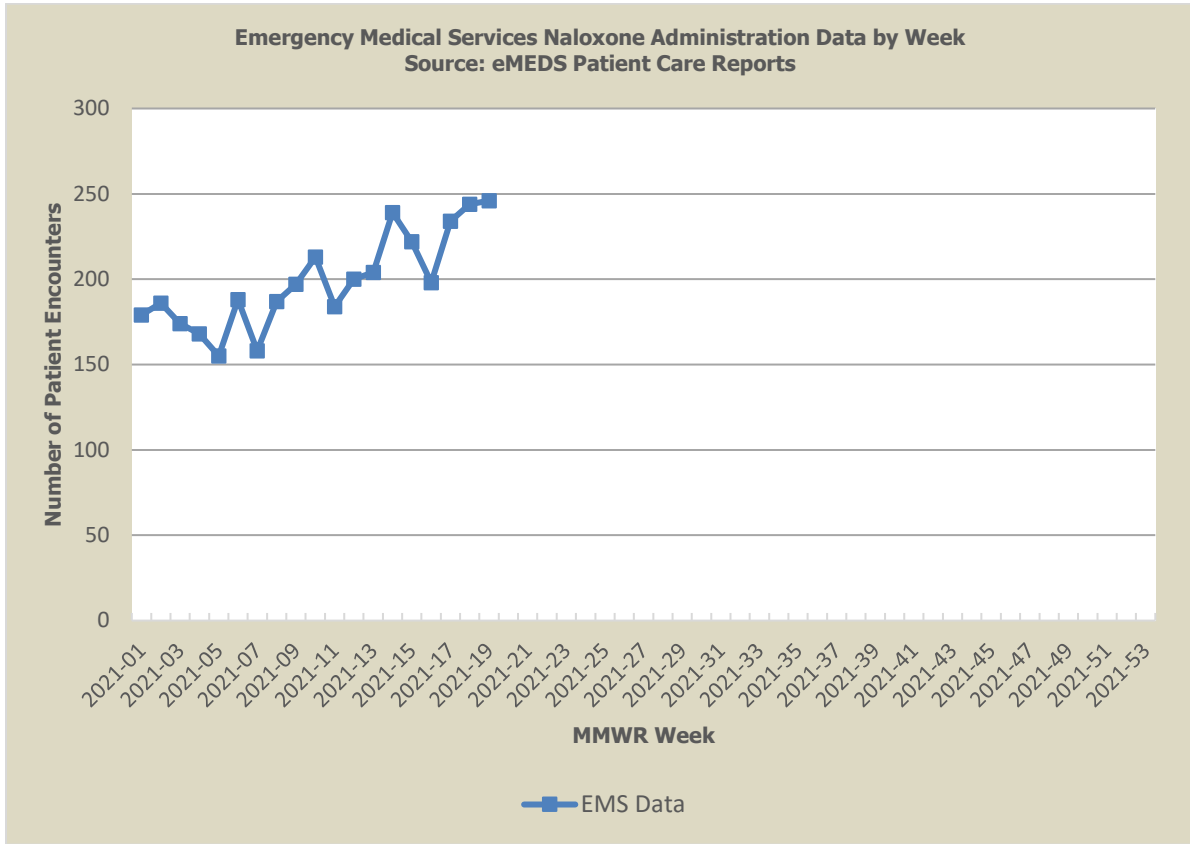
The purpose of this section is to characterize nonfatal overdose trends among Maryland residents captured by ESSENCE data, including emergency department (ED) chief complaint and discharge diagnosis as well as emergency medical services (EMS) patient care reports. Maryland uses ESSENCE data to track trends in nonfatal drug overdoses as a critical strategy for surveillance and tailoring prevention resources to populations most affected in the state.

Nonfatal Opioid-related Overdose



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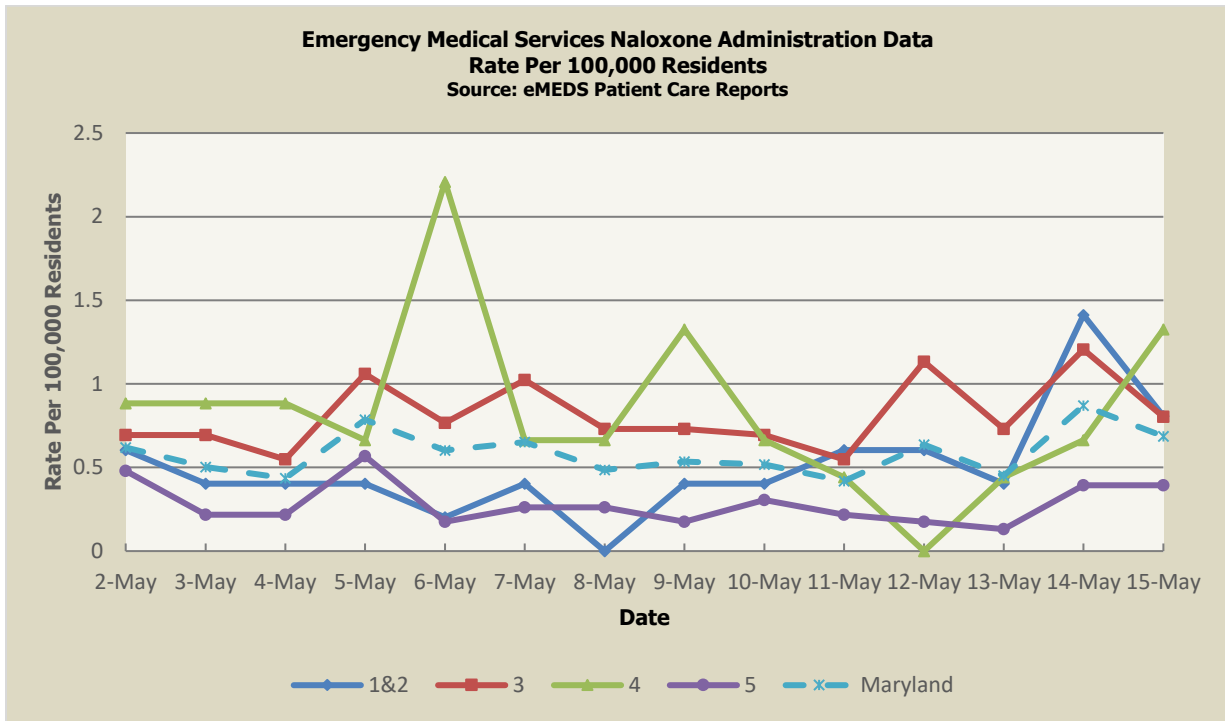
Naloxone Administration Data by Week



Disclaimer on eMEDS naloxone administration related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has documented that they administered naloxone. The administration of naloxone is based on the patient’s signs and symptoms and not on any diagnostic tests. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

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Naloxone Administration Data



Disclaimer on eMEDS Naloxone administration related data: These data are based on EMS Pre-hospital care reports where the EMS provider has documented that they administered naloxone. The administration of naloxone is based on the patient's signs and symptoms and not on any diagnostic tests. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

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PANDEMIC INFLUENZA UPDATE / AVIAN INFLUENZA-RELATED REPORTS

WHO update: The current WHO phase of pandemic alert for avian influenza is ALERT. Currently, the avian influenza H5N1 virus continues to circulate in poultry in some countries, especially in Asia and northeast Africa. This virus continues to cause sporadic human infections with some instances of limited human-to-human transmission among very close contacts. There has been no sustained human-to-human or community-level transmission identified thus far.

Influenza A (H7N9) is one of a subgroup of influenza viruses that normally circulate among birds. Until recently, this virus had not been seen in people. However, human infections have now been detected. Presently, there is limited information about the scope of the disease the virus causes and about the source of exposure. The disease is of concern because most patients have been severely ill. There is no indication thus far that it can be transmitted between people, but both animal-to-human and human-to-human routes of transmission are being actively investigated.

Alert phase: This is the phase when influenza caused by a new subtype has been identified in humans. Increased vigilance and careful risk assessment, at local, national, and global levels are characteristic of this phase. If the risk assessments indicate that the new virus is not developing into a pandemic strain, a de-escalation of activities towards those in the interpandemic phase may occur. As of May 21st, 2021, the WHO-confirmed global total (2003-2020) of human cases of H5N1 avian influenza virus infection stands at 862, of which 455 have been fatal. Thus, the case fatality rate for human H5N1 is approximately 53%.

AVIAN INFLUENZA

AVIAN INFLUENZA (GERMANY, DENMARK), 14 May 2021, Epidemiological comments: All poultry have been culled and safely disposed of. Restriction zones have been established. Epidemiological investigation is ongoing. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8362183>

HUMAN AVIAN INFLUENZA

There were no relevant human avian influenza reports this week

NATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

E. COLI EHEC (WASHINGTON, ARIZONA), 20 May 2021, Food Safety News reported that more patients are being identified by investigators working on an *E. coli* O157 outbreak that has been limited to Washington State. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8371977>

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RABIES (USA), 17 May 2021, One person was exposed to a rabid bat found in Richland County, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) said Monday [17 May 2021]. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8370609>

INTERNATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (GLOBAL), 20 May 2021, The postinfectious COVID-19-related multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS) first characterized in children has a different presentation in adults that may lead to under recognition. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8372539>

EMERGING ZOOSES (GLOBAL), 20 May 2021, International organizations have come together to launch a new One Health High-Level Expert Panel to improve understanding of how diseases with the potential to trigger pandemics emerge and spread. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8372742>

DIPHThERIA (PAHO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HAITI), 20 May 2021, In a follow-up on the diphtheria situation on the island of Hispaniola, the 2 countries of Haiti and the Dominican Republic have now seen 23 total confirmed cases to date. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8371333>

RABIES (AMERICAS), 19 May 2021, In the Yucatan Peninsula, the 1st 7 cases of animal rabies are registered, affecting cattle. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8371020>

ACUTE BLOODY DIARRHEA (PHILIPPINES), 19 May 2021, The Department of Health (DOH) on Tuesday [18 May 2021] reported an uptick in recorded cases of acute bloody diarrhea in various provinces of the region. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8370800>

ANTHRAX (UGANDA), 18 May 2021, Kween district is under surveillance after cases of anthrax, which started last month. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8369028>

SALMONELLOSIS, SEROTYPE BRAENDERUP (SWEDEN, DENMARK), 18 May 2021, Danish authorities are investigating _Salmonella [enterica_ serotype] Braenderup infections that are related to an outbreak in Sweden. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8367890>

SYPHILIS (AUSTRALIA), 18 May 2021, Doctors at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital are also reporting a 20-fold increase in people presenting with syphilis-related eye infections. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8367315>

OTHER RESOURCES AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

More information concerning Public Health and Emergency Preparedness can be found at the Office of Preparedness and Response website: <http://preparedness.health.maryland.gov/> or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MarylandOPR.

More data and information on influenza can be found on the MDH website: <http://phpa.health.maryland.gov/influenza/fluwatch/Pages/Home.aspx>

Please participate in the Maryland Resident Influenza Tracking System (MRITS): <http://flusurvey.health.maryland.gov>

NOTE: This weekly review is a compilation of data from various surveillance systems, interpreted with a focus on a potential BT event. It is not meant to be inclusive of all epidemiology data available, nor is it meant to imply that every activity reported is a definitive BT event. International reports of outbreaks due to organisms on the CDC Critical Biological Agent list will also be reported. While not "secure", please handle this information in a professional manner. Please feel free to distribute within your organization, as you feel appropriate, to other professional staff involved in emergency preparedness and infection control.

For questions about the content of this review or if you have received this and do not wish to receive these weekly notices, please e-mail us. If you have information that is pertinent to this notification process, please send it to us to be included in the routine report.

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Appendix 1: ESSENCE Syndrome Definitions and Associated Category A Conditions

Syndrome	ESSENCE Definition	Category A Conditions
Botulism-like	(Botulism or (DifficultyFocusing and DifficultySpeaking) or (DifficultySpeaking and DifficultySwallowing) or (DifficultySwallowing and DifficultyFocusing) or DoubleVision or FacialParalysis or GuillainBarre or Ptosis) and not GeneralExclusions	Botulism
Fever	(Chills or (FeverPlus and (Drowsiness or Seizure)) or FeverOnly or SepsisGroup or ViralSyndrome) and not GeneralExclusions	N/A
Gastrointestinal	(AbdominalCramps or AbdominalPainGroup or Diarrhea or FoodPoisoning or Gastroenteritis or GIBleeding or Peritonitis or Vomiting) and not (GeneralExclusions or Gynecological or Obstetric or Reproductive or UrinaryTract)	Anthrax (gastrointestinal)
Hemorrhagic Illness	(FeverOrChills and (AcuteBloodAbnormalitiesGroup or BleedingFromMouth or BleedingGums or GIBleeding or Hematemesis or Hemoptysis or Nosebleed or Petechiae or Purpura)) and not GeneralExclusions	Viral Hemorrhagic Fever
Localized Lesion	(Boils or Bump or Carbuncle or DepressedUlcer or Eschar or Furuncle or InsectBite or SkinAbscess or (SkinSores and not AllOverBody) or SkinUlcer or SpiderBite) and not (GeneralExclusions or Decubitus or Diabetes or StasisUlcer)	Anthrax (cutaneous) Tularemia
Lymphadenitis	(BloodPoisoning or Bubo or CatScratchDisease or SwollenGlands) and not GeneralExclusions	Plague (bubonic)
Neurological	((([Age<75] and AlteredMentalStatus) or (FeverPlus and (Confusion or Drowsiness or Petechiae or StiffNeck)) or Delirium or Encephalitis or Meningitis or UnconsciousGroup) and not GeneralExclusions	N/A
Rash	(ChickenPox or Measles or RashGeneral or Roseola or (Rubella and not Pregnancy) or Shingles or (SkinSores and AllOverBody) or Smallpox) and not GeneralExclusions	Smallpox
Respiratory	(Anthrax or Bronchitis or (ChestPain and [Age<50]) or Cough or Croup or DifficultyBreathing or Hemothorax or Hypoxia or Influenza or Legionnaires or LowerRespiratoryInfection or Pleurisy or Pneumonia or RespiratoryDistress or RespiratoryFailure or RespiratorySyncytialVirus or RibPain or ShortnessOfBreath or Wheezing) and not (GeneralExclusions or Cardiac or (ChestPain and Musculoskeletal) or Hyperventilation or Pneumothorax)	Anthrax (inhalational) Tularemia Plague (pneumonic)
Severe Illness or Death	CardiacArrest or CodeGroup or DeathGroup or (Hypotension and FeverPlus) or RespiratoryArrest or SepsisGroup or Shock	N/A

Appendix 2: Maryland Health and Medical Region Definitions

Health and Medical Region	Counties Reporting to ESSENCE
Regions 1 & 2	Allegany County Frederick County Garrett County Washington County
Region 3	Anne Arundel County Baltimore City Baltimore County Carroll County Harford County Howard County
Region 4	Caroline County Cecil County Dorchester County Kent County Queen Anne's County Somerset County Talbot County Wicomico County Worcester County
Region 5	Calvert County Charles County Montgomery County Prince George's County St. Mary's County

