



MARYLAND
Department of Health

Public Health Preparedness and Situational Awareness Report: #2021:29

Reporting for the week ending 07/24/21 (MMWR Week #29)

July 30th, 2021

CURRENT HOMELAND SECURITY THREAT LEVELS

National: No Active Alerts

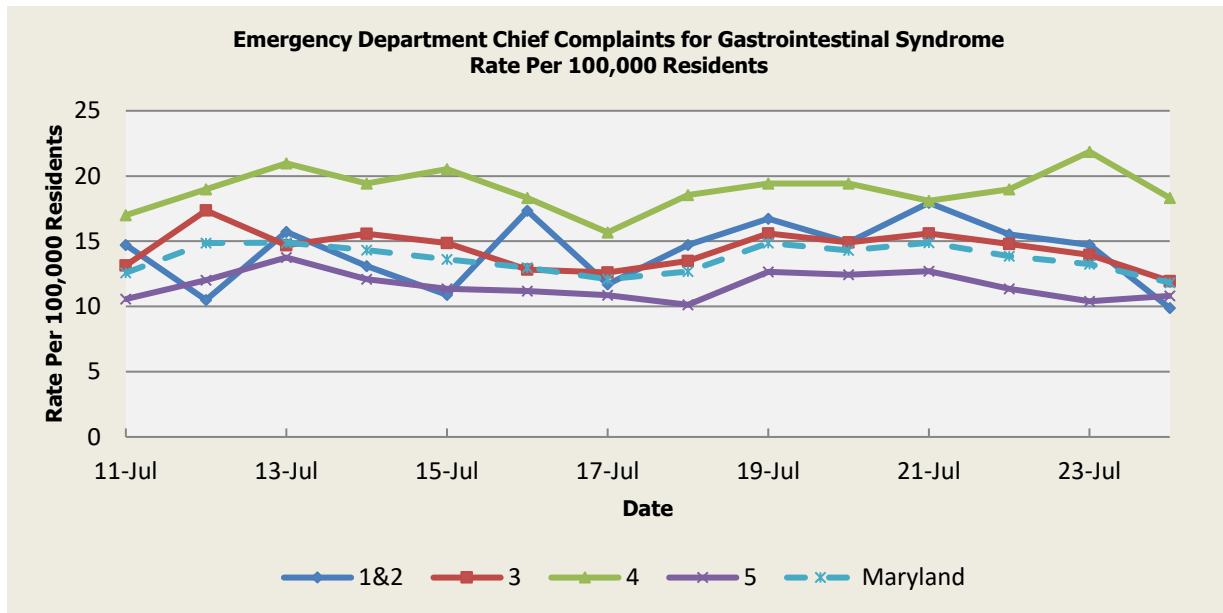
Maryland: **ENHANCED** (MEMA status)

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



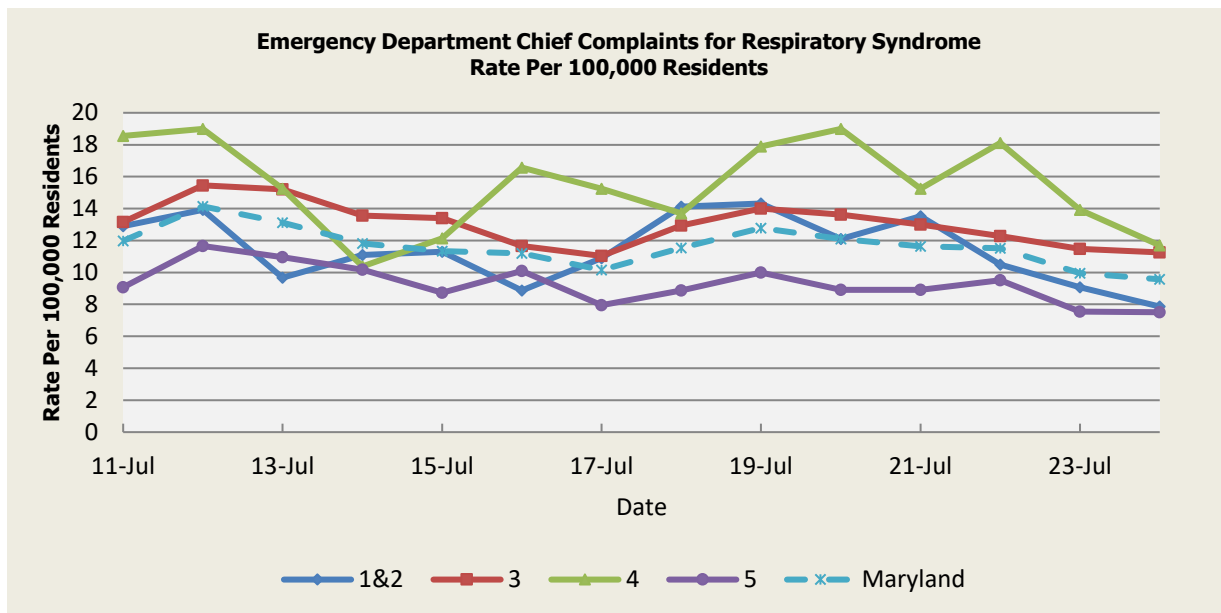
There were two (2) outbreaks of Gastroenteritis reported this week: one (1) outbreak of Gastroenteritis in a Daycare facility (Regions 1&2), one (1) outbreak of Gastroenteritis/Foodborne in a workplace (Region 5).

Gastrointestinal Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	13.14	14.71	15.86	10.06	12.89
Median Rate*	13.11	14.61	15.46	10.00	12.83

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Respiratory Syndrome



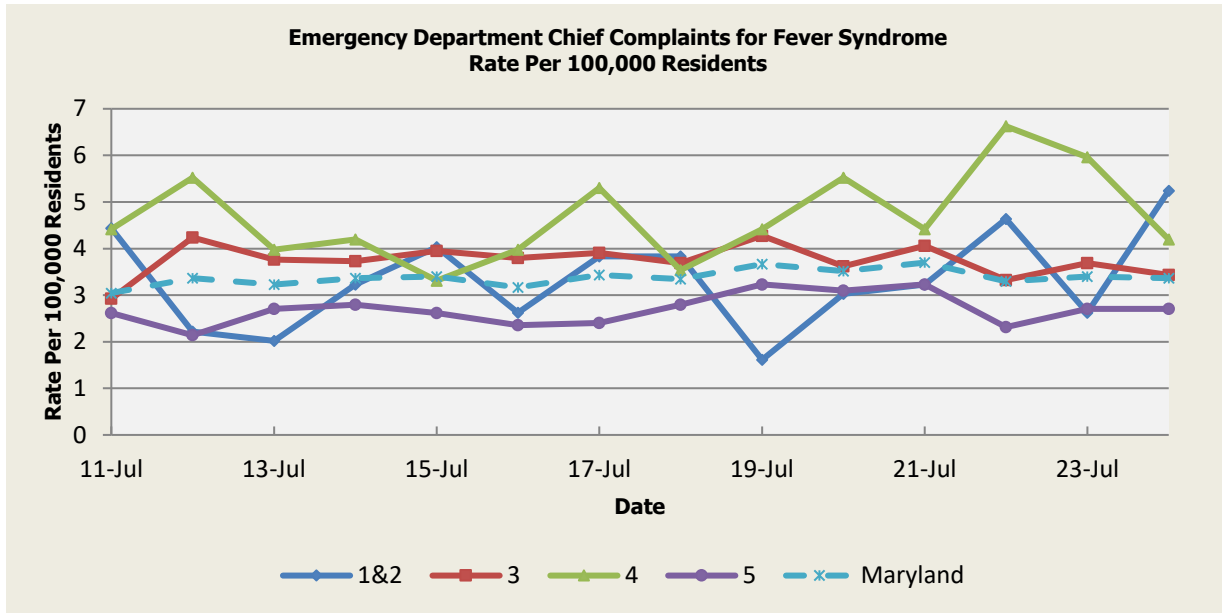
There were forty-five (45) Respiratory Syndrome outbreaks reported this week: Three (3) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Assisted Living Facilities (Regions 3,5), four (4) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Youth Caps (Regions 3,5), six (6) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Correctional Facilities (4 Baltimore Metropolitan Area, National Capital Region, Eastern), five (5) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Daycare Facilities (Regions 3,4,5), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a Group Home (Region 5), two (2) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Hospitals (Regions 3,5), ten (10) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes (Regions 1&2,3,4,5), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in a residential program for children (Region 3), two (2) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Residential Treatment Facilities for Children (Region 3), four (4) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Schools (Regions 1&2,3,4,5), two (2) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Sober Living Facilities (Regions 3,5), three (3) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Substance Use Treatment Programs Regions 3,4,5), two (2) outbreaks of ILI/RSV in Daycare Facilities (Regions 3,5).

Respiratory Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	12.42	14.65	15.20	9.87	12.68
Median Rate*	12.10	13.99	14.35	9.43	12.11

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Fever Syndrome



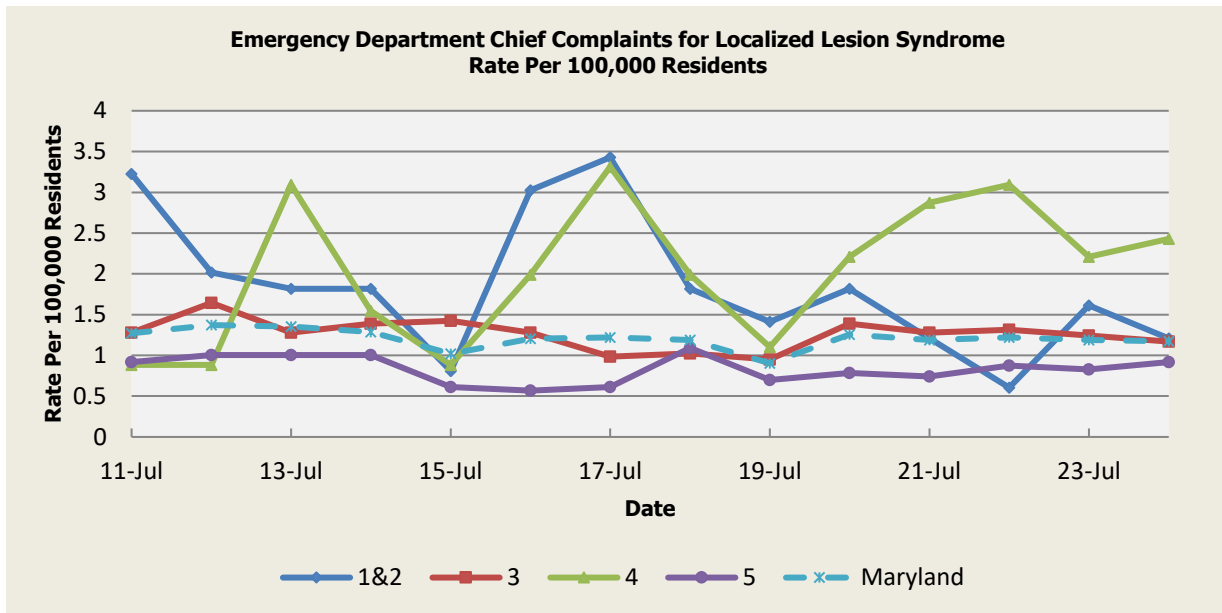
There were no Fever Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Fever Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.03	3.86	4.10	2.98	3.47
Median Rate*	2.82	3.73	3.97	2.88	3.35

*Per 100,000 Residents

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Localized Lesion Syndrome



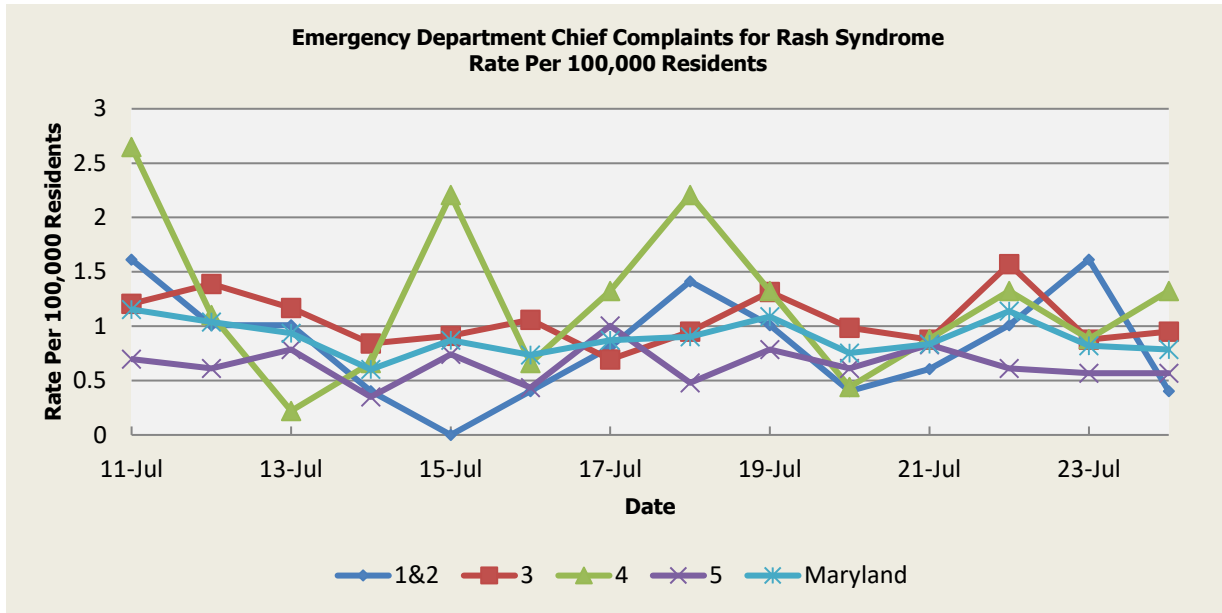
There were no Localized Lesion Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Localized Lesion Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.16	1.66	1.95	0.85	1.33
Median Rate*	1.01	1.61	1.77	0.83	1.29

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Rash Syndrome



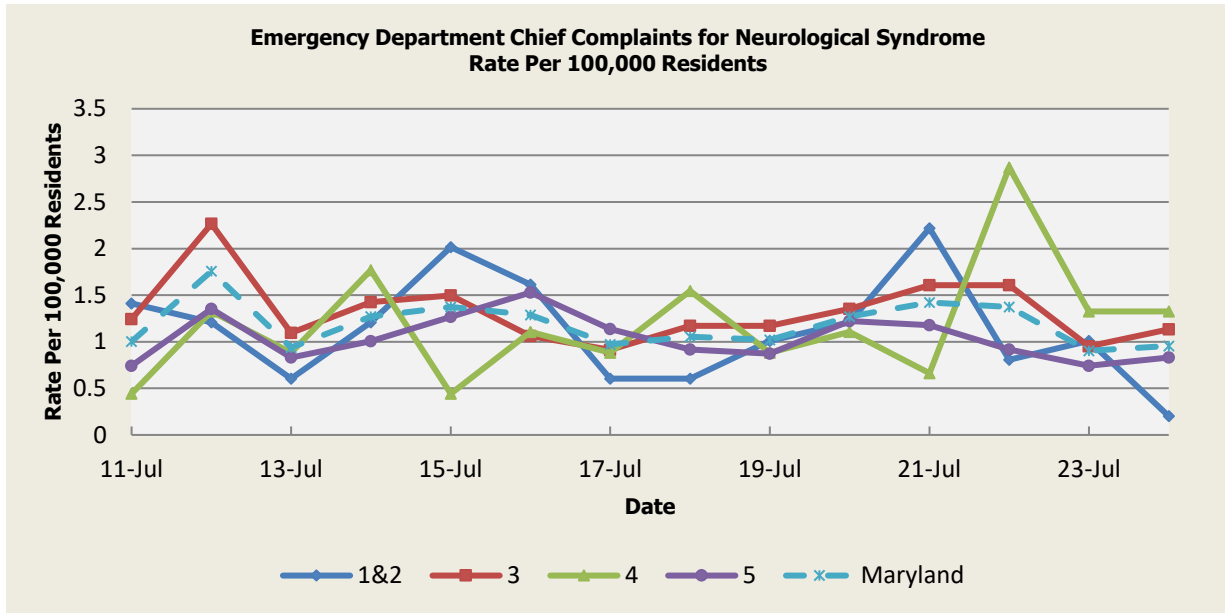
There was one (1) Rash illness outbreak reported this week: one (1) outbreak of Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease in a Daycare facility (Region 3).

Rash Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.17	1.55	1.64	0.90	1.27
Median Rate*	1.01	1.50	1.55	0.87	1.25

* Per 100,000 Residents

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Neurological Syndrome



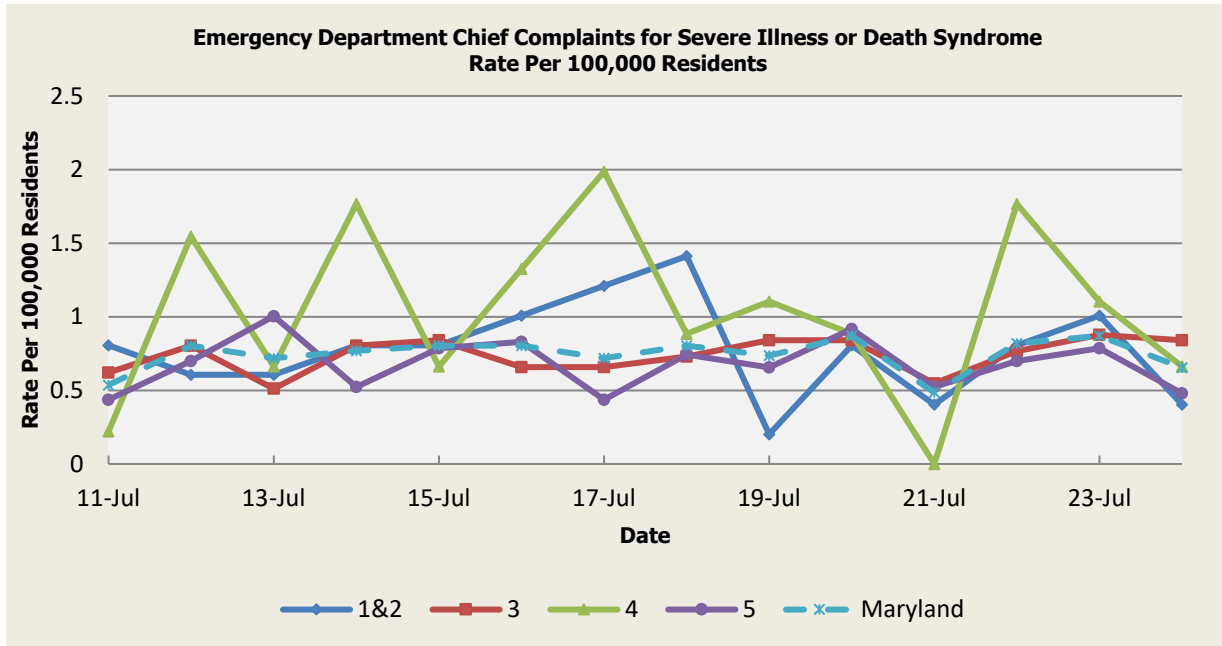
There were no Neurological Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Neurological Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.83	1.03	0.96	0.67	0.87
Median Rate*	0.81	0.99	0.88	0.61	0.85

* 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.

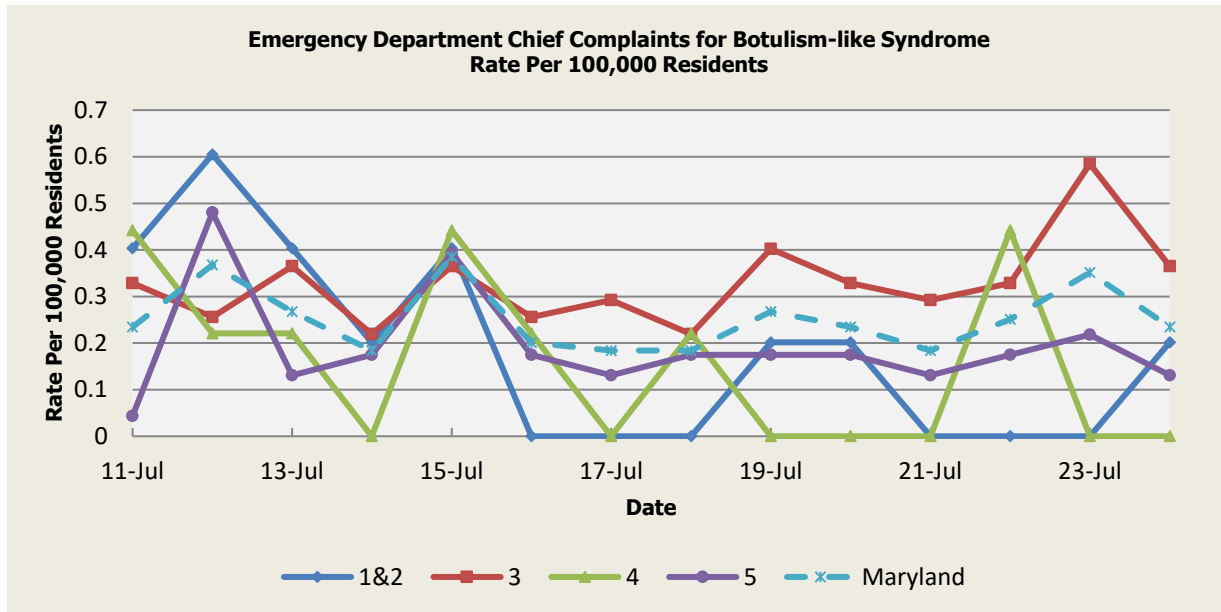
Severe Illness or Death Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.66	0.87	0.85	0.55	0.73
Median Rate*	0.60	0.84	0.88	0.52	0.70

* Per 100,000 Residents

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SYNDROMES RELATED TO CATEGORY A AGENTS

Botulism-like Syndrome



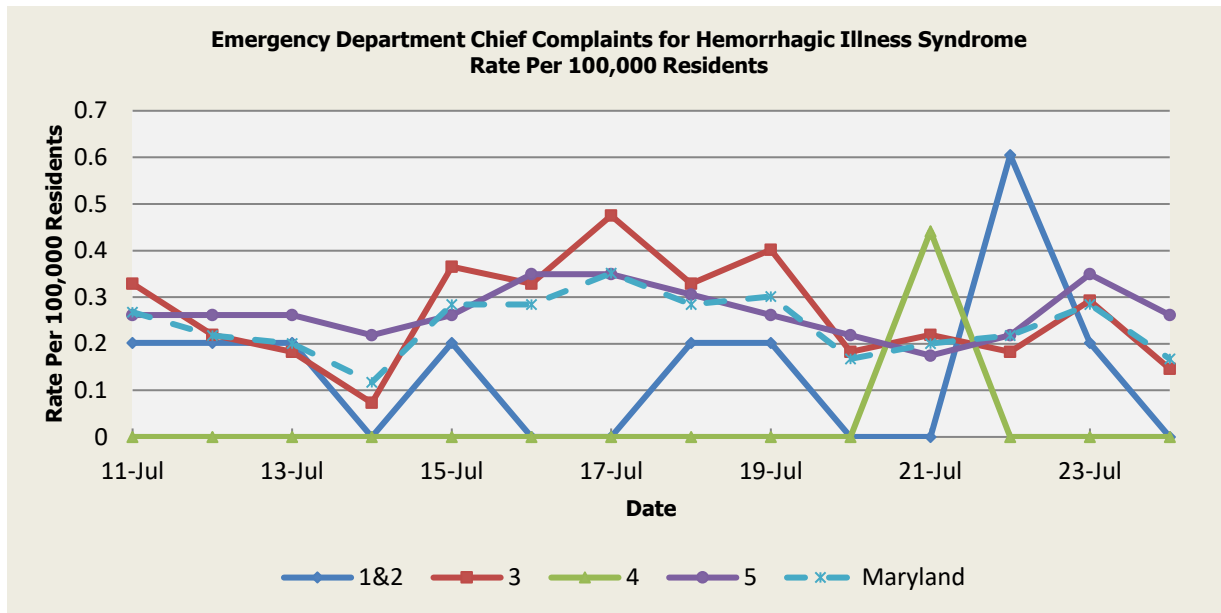
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Botulism-like Syndrome on 7/11 (Regions 1&2,3,4), 7/12 (Regions 1&2,4,5), 7/13 (Regions 1&2,3,4), 7/14 (Regions 1&2), 7/15 (Regions 1&2,3,4,5), 7/16 (Region 4), 7/17 (Region 3). These increases are not known to be associated 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



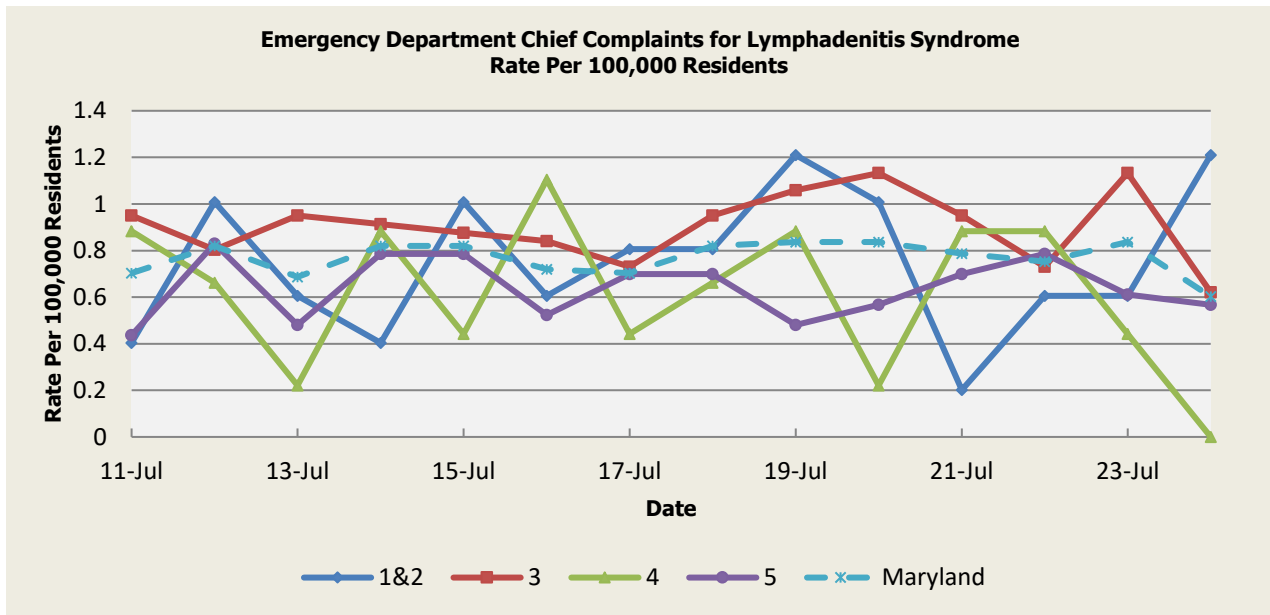
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome on 7/11 (Regions 1&2), 7/12 (Regions 1&2), 7/13 (Regions 1&2), 7/15 (Regions 1&2,3), 7/16 (Region 5), 7/17 (Regions 3,5.), 7/18 (Regions 1&2,5), 7/19 (Regions 1&2,3), 7/21 (Region 4), 7/22 (Regions 1&2), 7/23 (Regions 1&2,5). 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 7/11 (Region 4), 7/12 (Regions 1&2,5), 7/14 (Region 4), 7/15 (Regions 1&2), 7/16 (Region 4), 7/19 (Regions 1&2,4), 7/20 (Regions 1&2), 7/21 (Region 4), 7/22 (Region 4), 7/24 (Regions 1&2). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

Lymphadenitis Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.41	0.61	0.41	0.40	0.50
Median Rate*	0.40	0.58	0.44	0.35	0.49

* 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 July 30th, 2021)

County	Number of Confirmed Cases
Allegany	7,098
Anne Arundel	44,575
Baltimore City	66,620
Baltimore County	53,643
Calvert	4,309
Caroline	2,376
Carroll	9,621
Cecil	6,495
Charles	11,161
Dorchester	2,882
Frederick	20,056
Garrett	2,071
Harford	16,878
Howard	19,592
Kent	1,367
Montgomery	72,088
Prince George's	86,656
Queen Anne's	3,039
St. Mary's	6,199
Somerset	2,637
Talbot	2,211
Washington	14,782
Wicomico	7,857
Worcester	3,748
Total	467,961

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

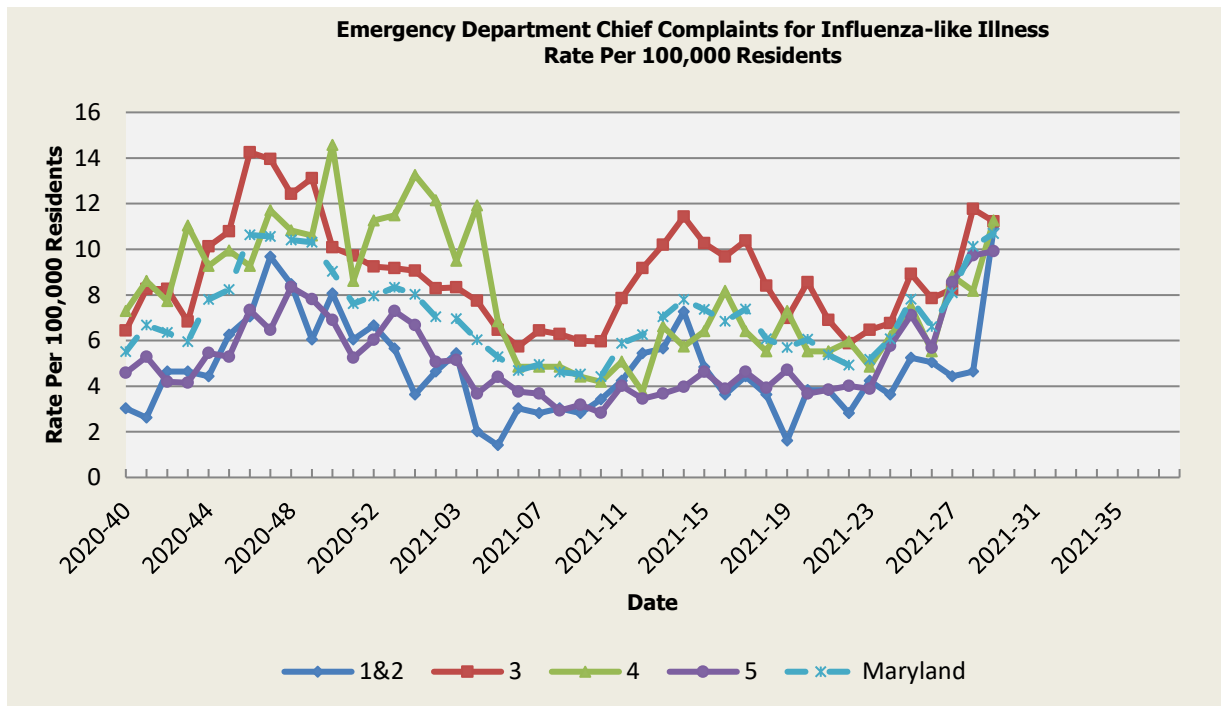
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SYNDROMIC INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

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 29:

Influenza-like Illness

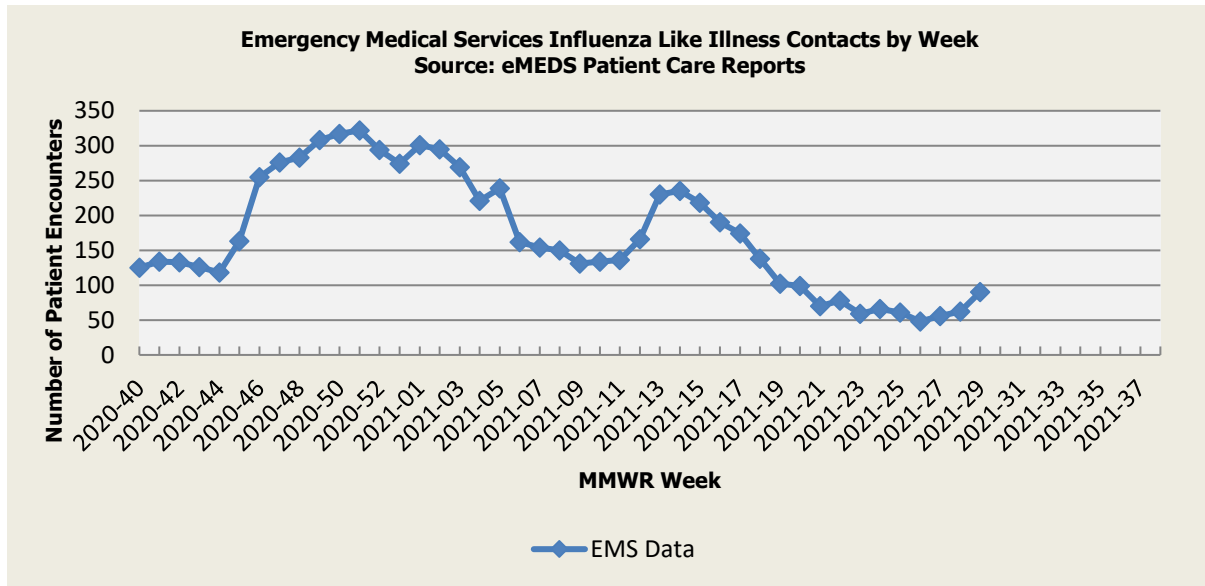


Influenza-like Illness Baseline Data Week 1 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	9.93	13.78	13.07	11.47	12.52
Median Rate*	7.26	10.16	9.27	8.34	9.07

* Per 100,000 Residents

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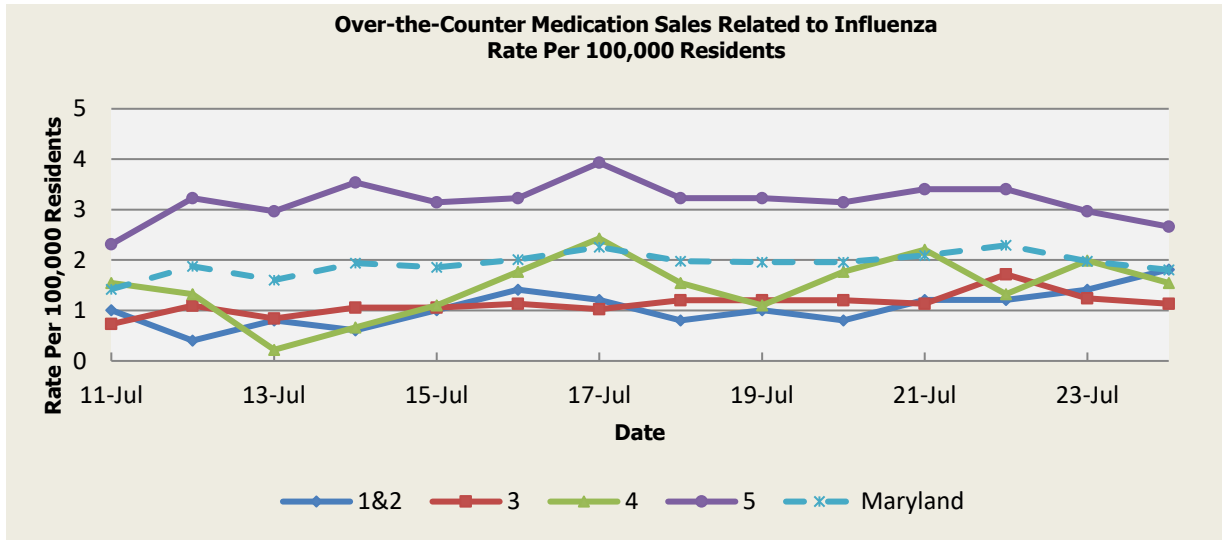
Influenza-like Illness Contacts by Week



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



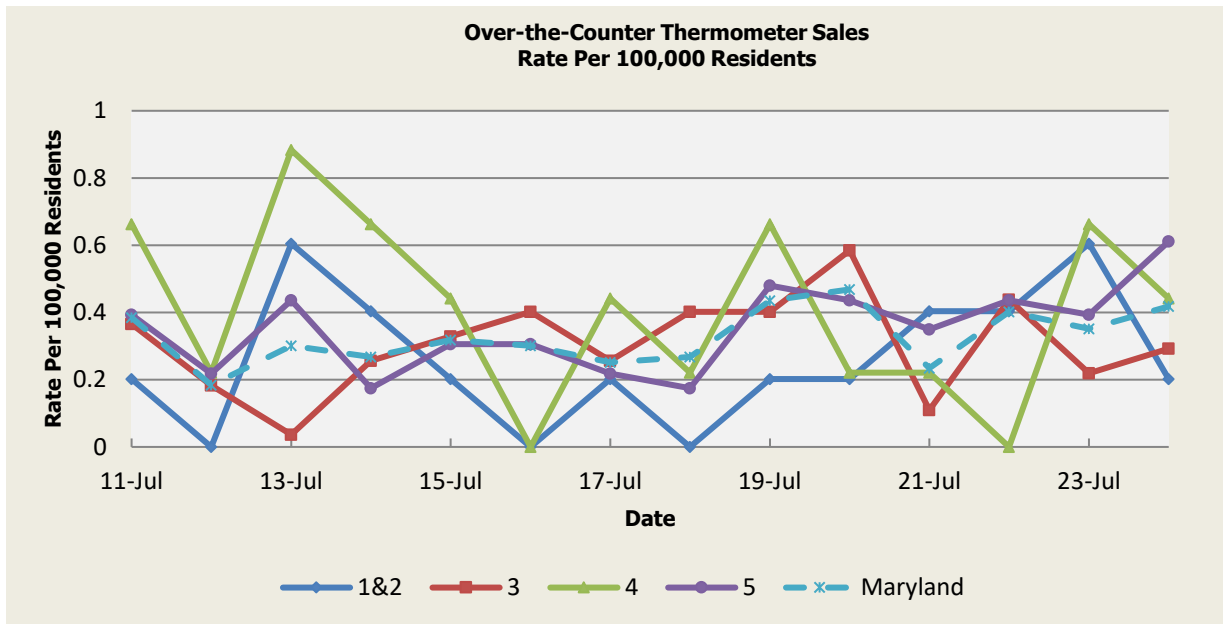
There was no appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC Medication Sales during this reporting period.

OTC Medication Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.13	3.98	2.45	7.23	5.04
Median Rate*	2.42	2.96	1.99	6.24	4.10

* 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*	2.60	2.46	2.02	3.25	2.74
Median Rate*	2.22	2.41	1.99	3.27	2.78

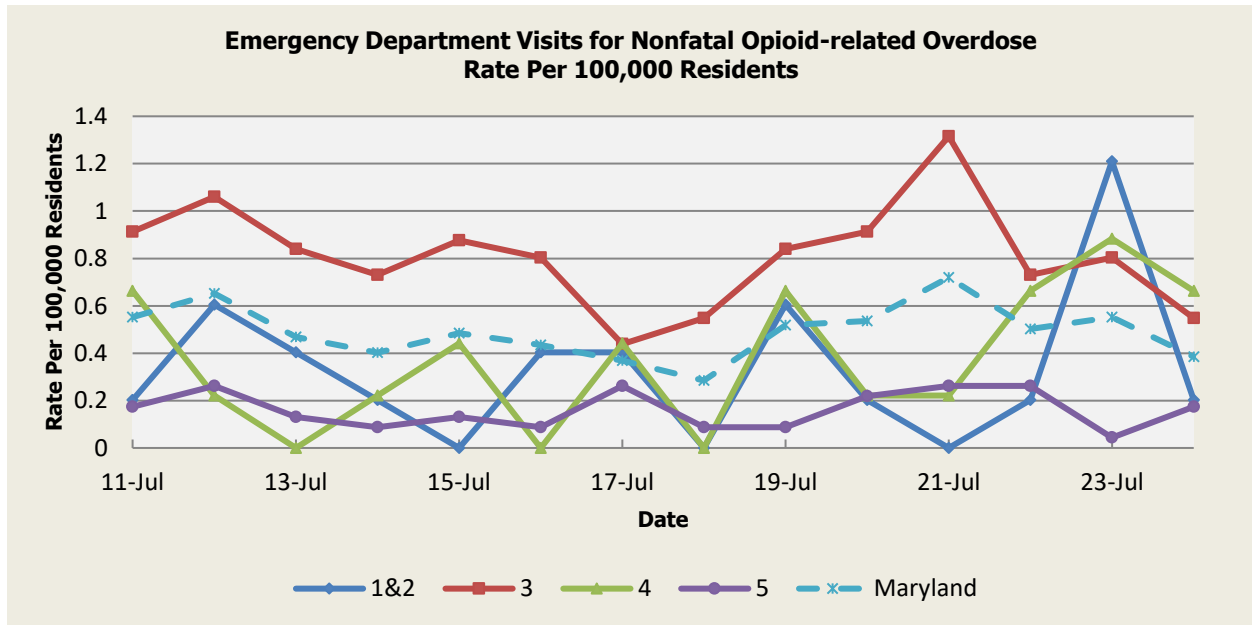
* Per 100,000 Residents

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SYNDROMIC OVERDOSE SURVEILLANCE

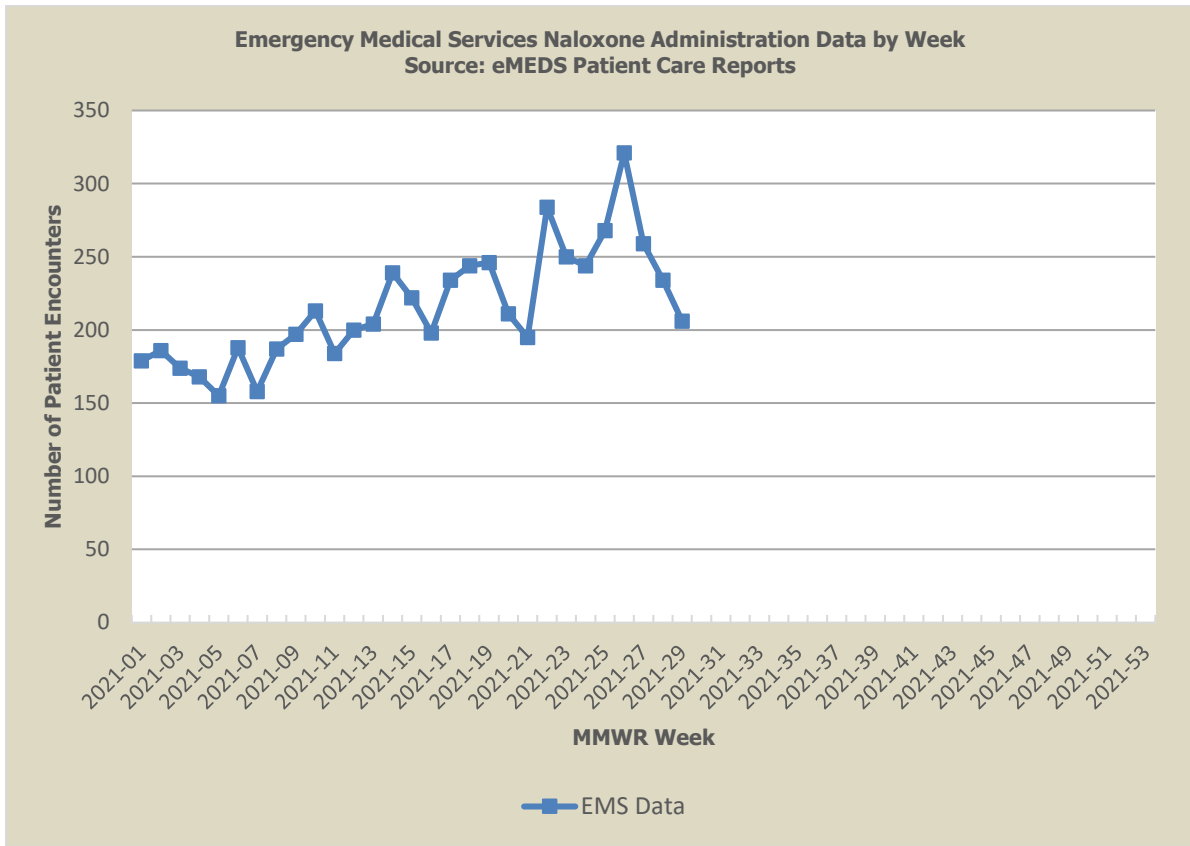
The purpose of this section is to characterize nonfatal overdose trends among Maryland residents captured by ESSENCE data, including emergency department (ED) chief complaint and discharge diagnosis as well as emergency medical services (EMS) patient care reports. Maryland uses ESSENCE data to track 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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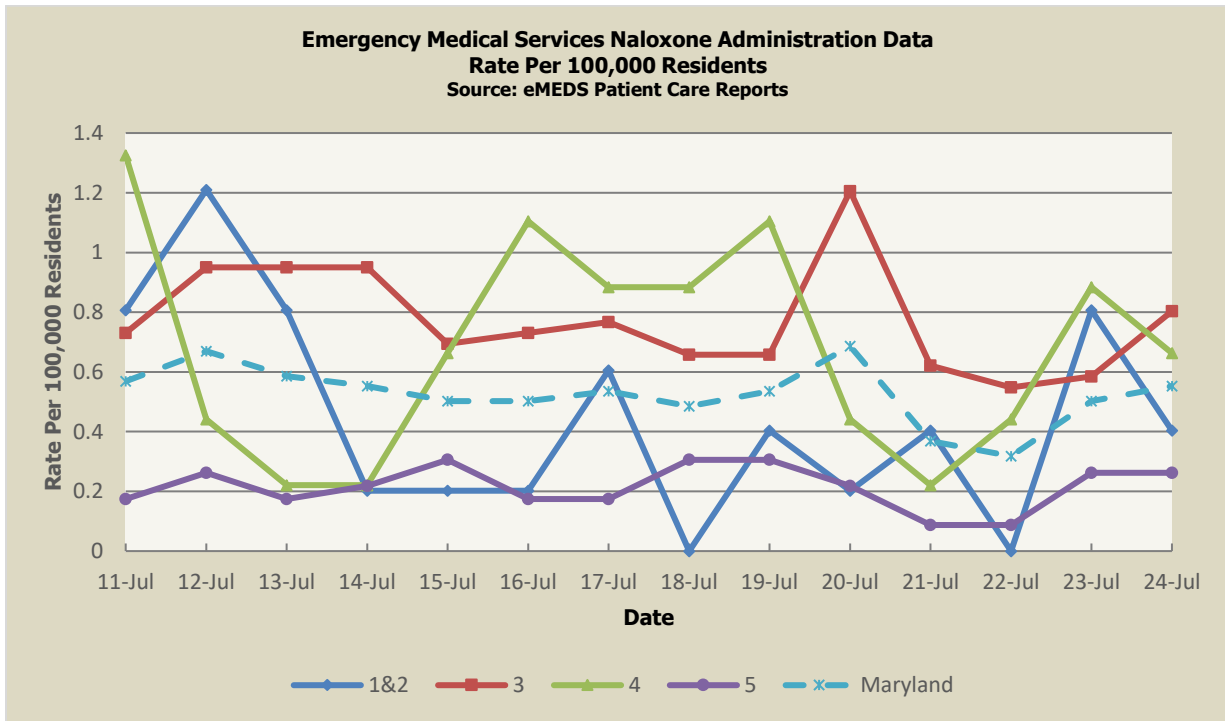
Naloxone Administration Data by Week



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 July 30th, 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 (GHANA), 23 July 2021, According to the press release published on 16 Jul 2021 by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture of the Republic of Ghana, HPAI has been confirmed in the Greater Accra, Central, and Volta Regions. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8540822>

HUMAN AVIAN INFLUENZA

AVIAN INFLUENZA (CHINA), 24 July 2021, The Center for Health Protection of the Department of Health today [23 Jul 2021] is closely monitoring 3 new cases of human infection with avian influenza (H5N6) in the mainland, and once again urged the public to keep [good personal, food,] and environmental hygiene. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8542205>

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NATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

E. COLI EHEC (USA), 29 July 2021, An ongoing E.coli outbreak affecting 16 people in 12 states has been linked to cake mix. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8555193>

ANAPLASMOSIS (PENNSYLVANIA), 28 July 2021, A local doctor is warning of a growing number of cases involving a relatively new bacterial infection in the area that is caused by ticks. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8550977>

HEPATITIS A (OHIO), 27 July 2021, A large number of new cases of hepatitis A cases have spread into Pickaway, and Ross county according to the Ohio Department of Health Website. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8548982>

SALMONELLOSIS (USA), 27 July 2021, Epidemiologic and laboratory data show that contact with backyard poultry is making people sick. Since the last update on [24 Jun 2021], 1 additional serotype (*Salmonella* Muenchen) and 198 more illnesses have been added to this outbreak investigation. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8548686>

CANDIDA AURIS (TEXAS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA), 26 July 2021, A deadly, hard-to-treat fungal infection that has been spreading through nursing homes and hospitals across the United States is becoming even more dangerous, according to researchers, who for the 1st time have identified several cases in which the fungus, *Candida auris*, was completely impervious to all existing medication. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8545669>

YERSINIOSIS (PENNSYLVANIA), 26 July 2021, More than 100 people were sickened during a *Yersinia* outbreak linked to pasteurized milk in 2019, according to a study. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8544469>

RABIES (USA), 26 July 2021, One person and 2 dogs have been exposed to a rabid fox in Huntersville, prompting public officials to send out an alert to some of the town's residents, police say. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8544435>

MONKEYPOX (TEXAS), 23 July 2021, More than 200 people in 27 US states are being tracked for possible rare monkeypox infections, health officials say. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8538949>

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INTERNATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (258) (GLOBAL), 28 July 2021, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended Tuesday [27 Jul 2021] that fully vaccinated people begin wearing masks indoors again in places with high COVID-19 transmission rates. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8551757>

FOODBORNE ILLNESS (CYPRUS), 28 July 2021, Defense ministry spokesman Christos Pieris on Monday [26 Jul 2021] confirmed that 30 new army recruits suffered food poisoning after a meal at the Larnaca camp where they had registered but called it an isolated incident. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8551573>

LEISHMANIASIS, VISCERAL (NEPAL), 28 July 2021, The Epidemiology and Disease Control Division said that infection of kala-azar and dengue have been found in Kalikot [Karnali], Okhaldhunga [Province One], and Myagdi [Gandaki] districts, which would not report these diseases in the past. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8551380>

TULAREMIA (UKRAINE), 27 July 2021, Health authorities in Volyn Oblast report a tularemia case in a woman from the village of Sadiv in Lutsk district. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8549238>

BOTULISM (UKRAINE), 27 July 2021, Ukraine health officials reported this week a fatal case of botulism in Chernihiv region. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8549096>

Q FEVER (CHILE), 26 July 2021, A young 28-year-old veterinarian was transferred in serious condition to Santiago, after arriving at the Osorno Base Hospital from the Puerto Octay Hospital with respiratory distress. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8544687>

CHOLERA, DIARRHEA & DYSENTERY UPDATE (NIGERIA), 24 July 2021, The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control [NCDC] has described the shortfall of cholera vaccines as one of its greatest challenges in the fight to control the recent surge in the number of disease cases. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8542204>

NOROVIRUS (ENGLAND), 24 July 2021, England has been hit by an outbreak of norovirus, also known as the winter vomiting bug, with cases tripling above their usual average for summer months. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8542276>

SALMONELLOSIS, SEROTYPE BRAENDERUP (EUROPE), 23 July 2021, Almost 350 confirmed and 50 more possible _Salmonella_ infections have been recorded across Europe and in the United Kingdom linked to melons. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8540649>

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.

Prepared By:

Office of Preparedness and Response, Maryland Department of Health
7462 Candlewood Rd, Hanover, MD 21076

Peter Fotang, MD, MPH
Epidemiologist, Biosurveillance Program
Office: 443-628-6555
Email: Peter.Fotang@maryland.gov

Jessica Acharya (Goodell), MPH
Career Epidemiology Field Officer, CDC
Office: 443-628-6583
Email: Jessica.Acharya@maryland.gov

Lindsey Hall, MPH
Epidemiologist, Biosurveillance Program
Office: 443-628-6550
Email: Lindsey.hall@maryland.gov

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

