



MARYLAND  
Department of Health

**Public Health Preparedness and Situational Awareness Report: #2021:36**

Reporting for the week ending 09/11/21 (MMWR Week #36)

September 17, 2021

**CURRENT HOMELAND SECURITY THREAT LEVELS**

**National:** No Active Alerts

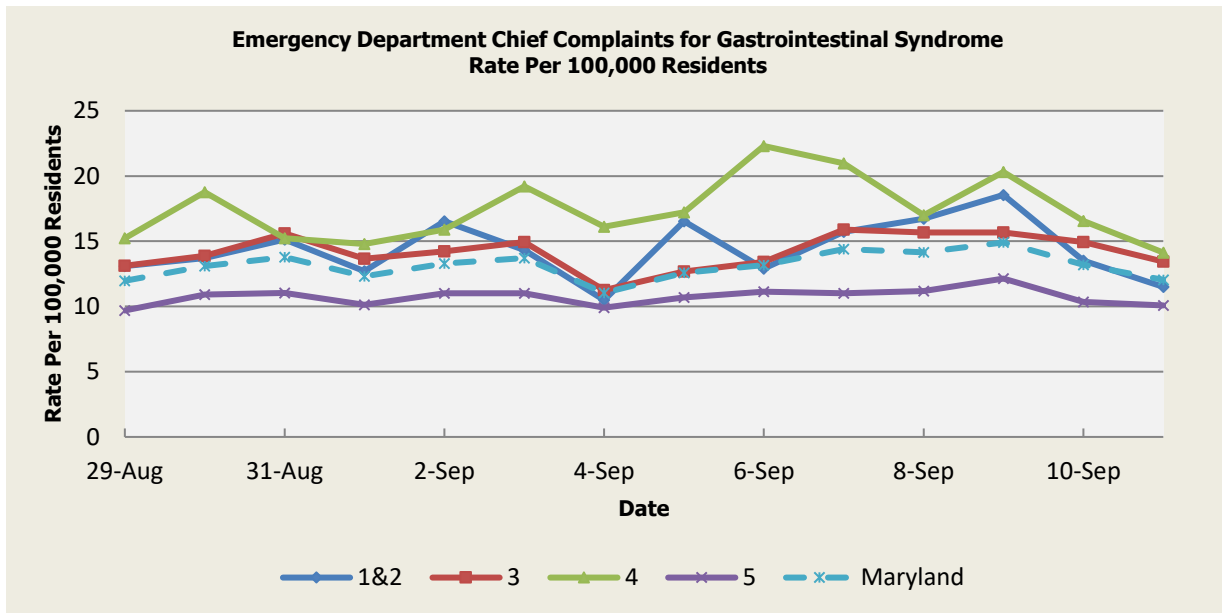
**Maryland:** **ENHANCED** (MEMA status)

**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



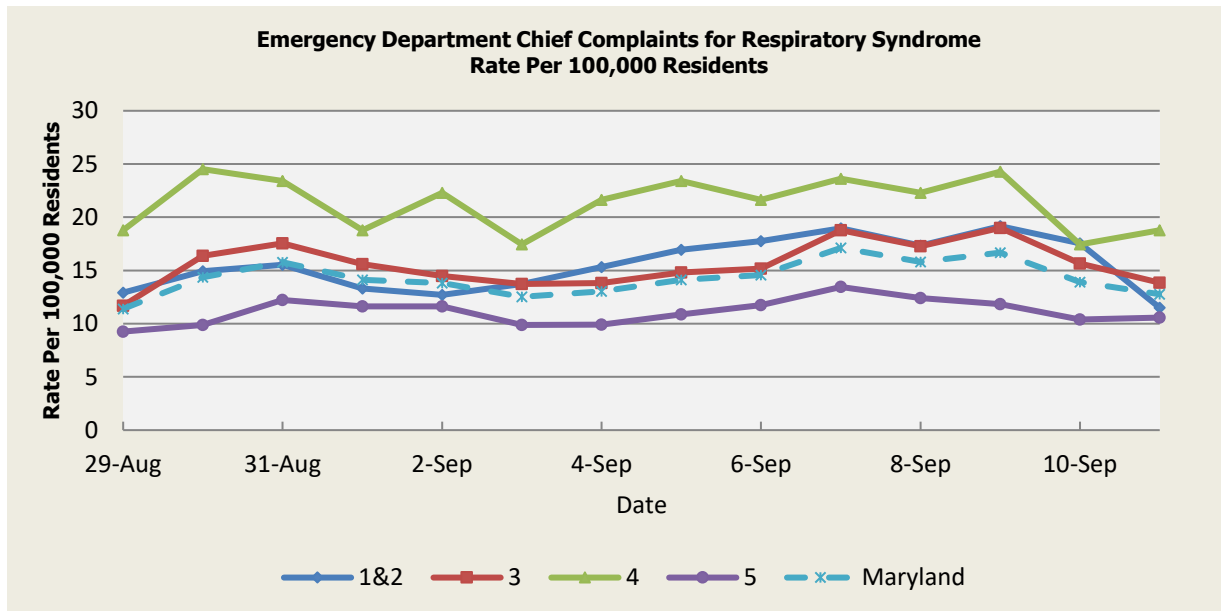
There were no Gastrointestinal Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Gastrointestinal Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	13.15	14.71	15.88	10.07	12.89
Median Rate*	13.11	14.58	15.46	10.00	12.85

\* Per 100,000 Residents

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## Respiratory Syndrome



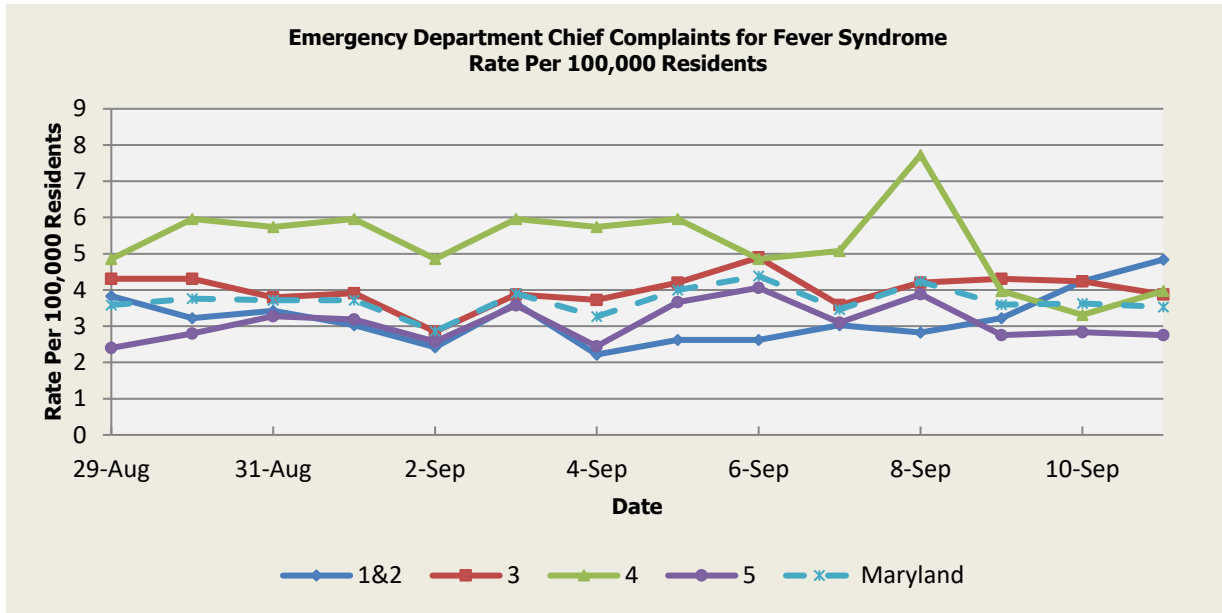
There were one hundred and seventeen (117) Respiratory Syndrome outbreaks reported this week: one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in an After-School Program (Regions 1&2), seventeen (17) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Assisted Living Facilities (Regions 1&2, 3, 4, 5), three (3) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Correctional Facilities (Regions 1&2, 4), twelve (12) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Daycare Facilities (Regions 1&2, 3, 4, 5), thirteen (13) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Group Homes (Regions 1&2, 3, 4, 5), ten (10) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Hospitals (Regions 1&2, 3, 4, 5), twelve (12) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes (Regions 1&2, 3, 5), forty five (45) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Schools (Regions 1&2, 3, 4, 5), two (2) outbreaks of COVID-19 in Shelters (Regions 3, 4), four (4) outbreaks of COVID-19 in a Substance Use Treatment Programs (Regions 1&2, 3, 4, 5), one (1) outbreak of COVID-19 in an Institute of Higher Education (Region 5) and two (2) outbreaks of 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*	12.44	14.65	15.25	9.88	12.69
Median Rate*	12.10	13.99	14.57	9.47	12.13

\* Per 100,000 Residents

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# Fever Syndrome



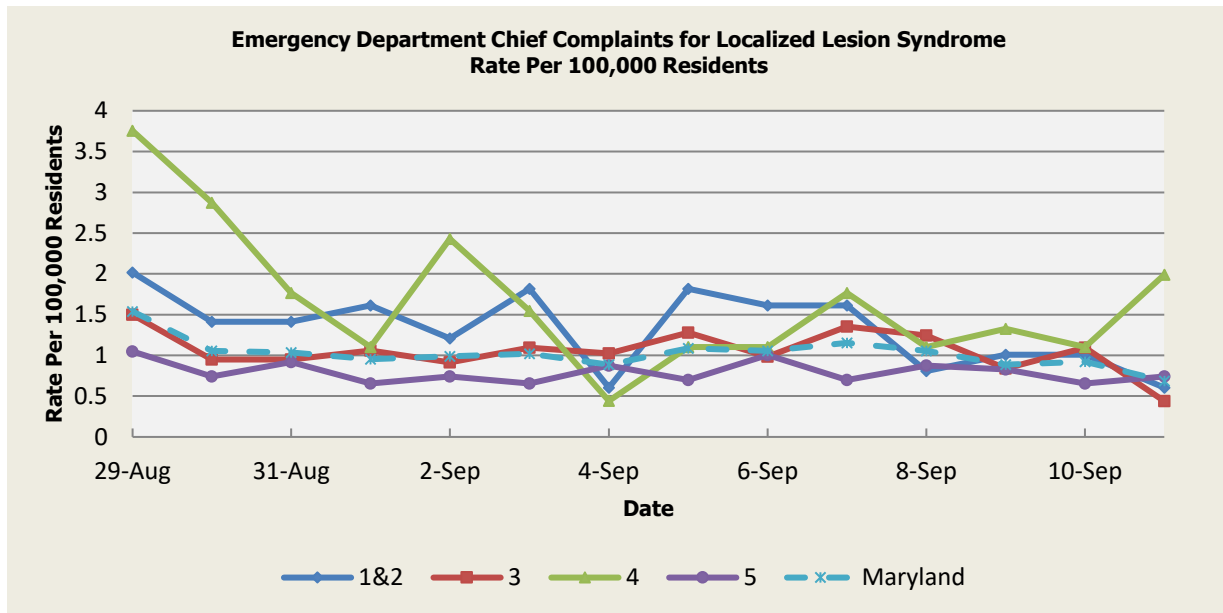
There were no Fever Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Fever Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.04	3.87	4.11	2.98	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



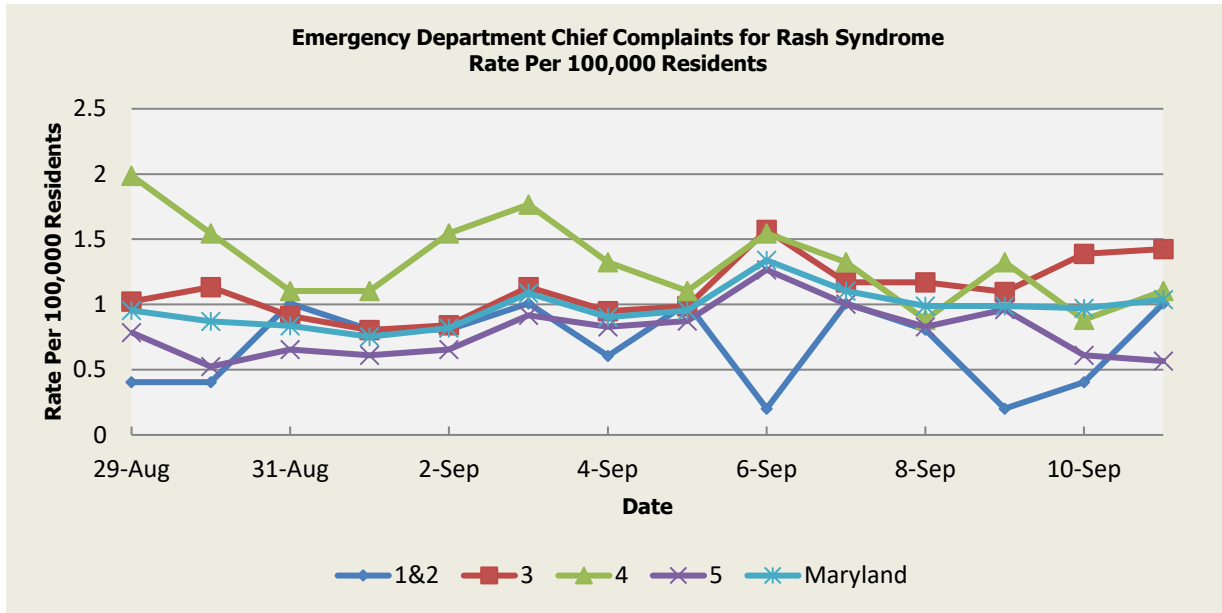
There were no Localized Lesion Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Localized Lesion Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.17	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



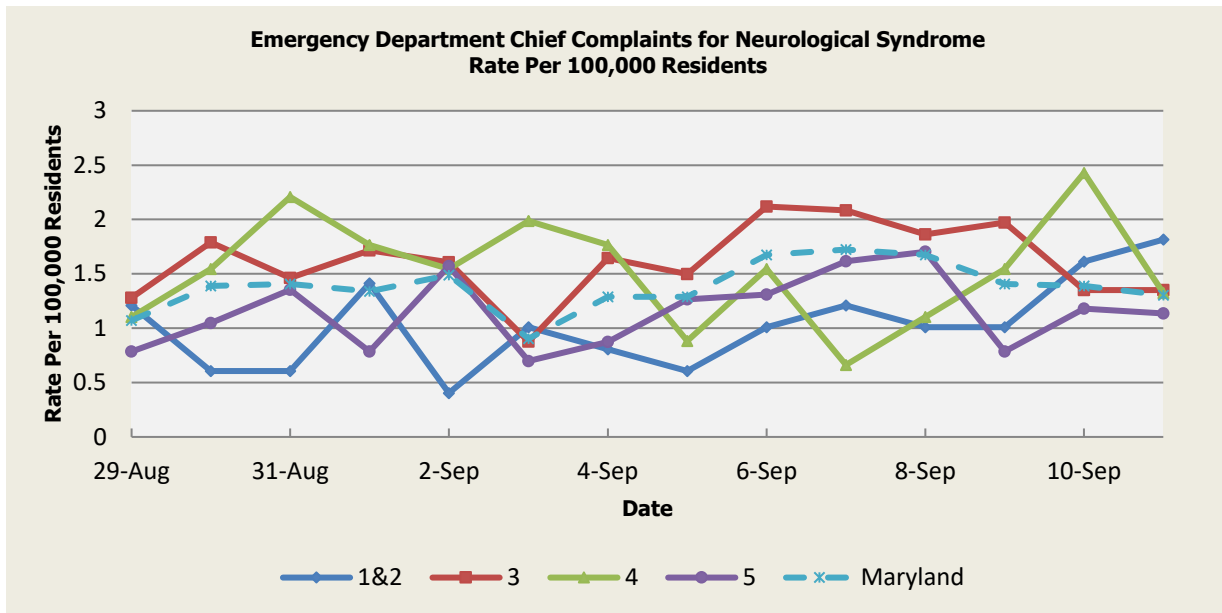
There were three (3) Rash illness outbreaks reported this week: three (3) outbreaks of Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease in Daycare Facilities (Region 3).

Rash Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	1.16	1.54	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



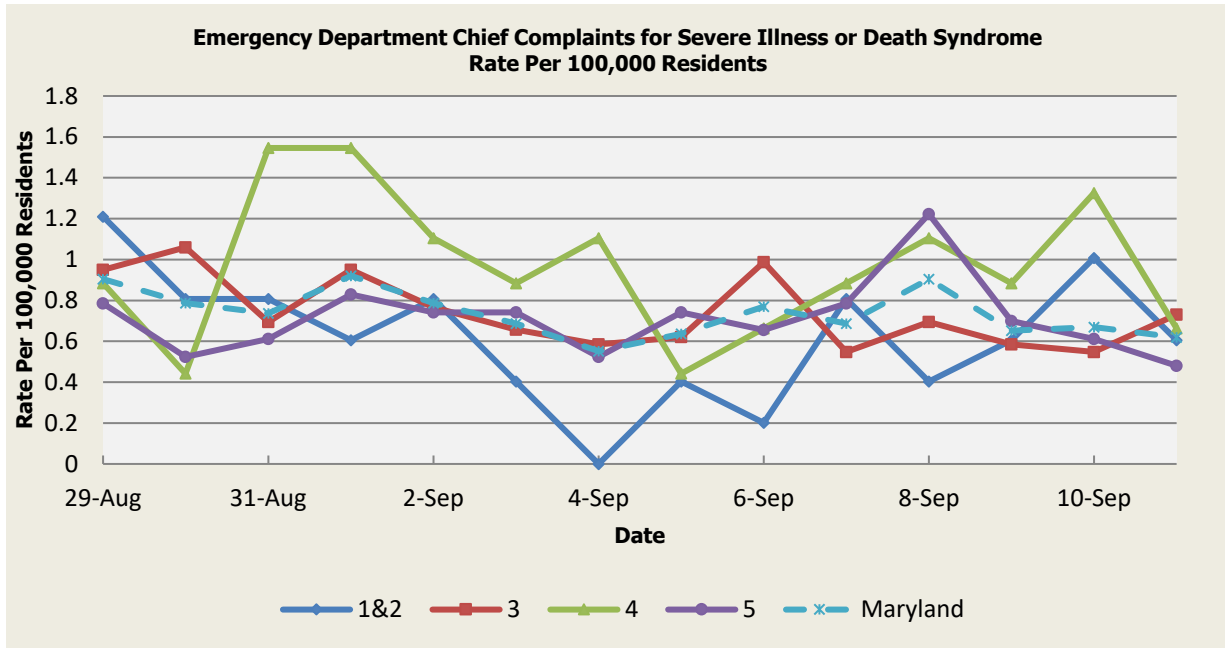
There were no Neurological Syndrome outbreaks reported this week.

Neurological Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.84	1.04	0.97	0.67	0.88
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*	0.67	0.87	0.85	0.55	0.73
Median Rate*	0.60	0.84	0.88	0.52	0.70

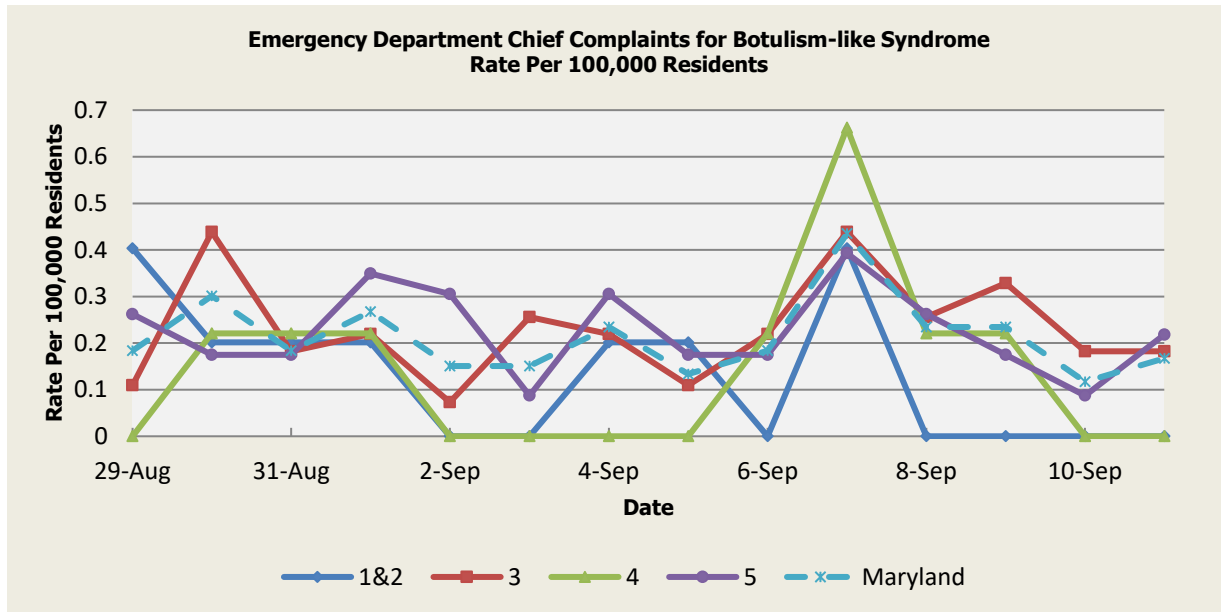
\* Per 100,000 Residents

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## SYNDROMES RELATED TO CATEGORY A AGENTS

### Botulism-like Syndrome



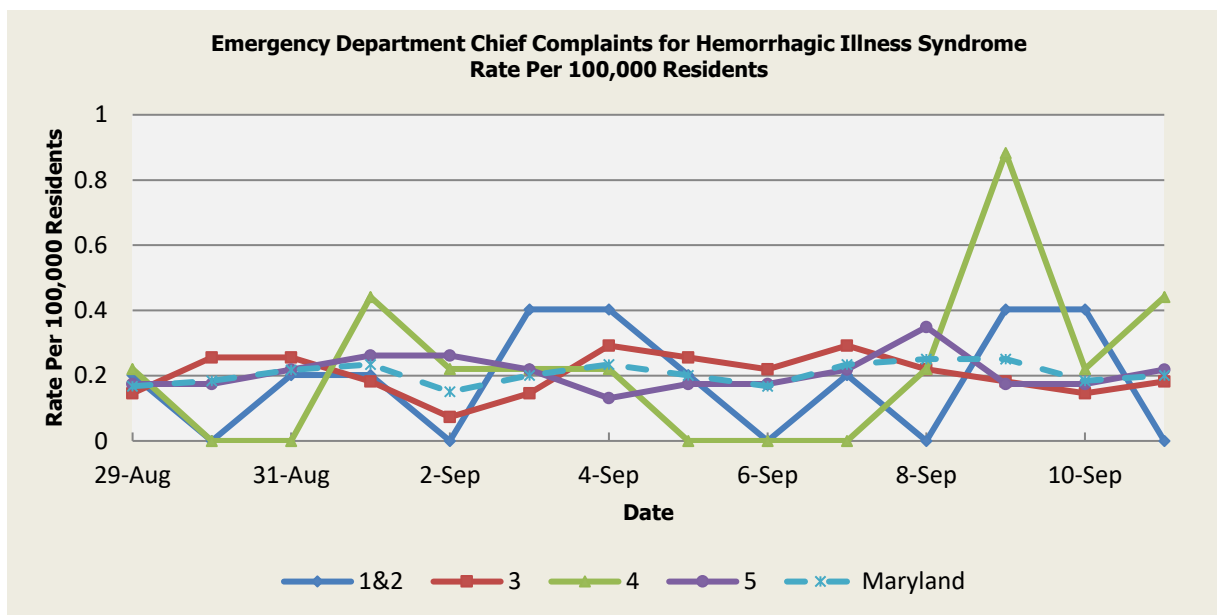
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Botulism-like Syndrome on 8/29 (Regions 1&2,5), 8/30 (Regions 1&2,3,4), 8/31 (Regions 1&2,4), 9/1 (Regions 1&2,4,5), 9/2 (Region 5), 9/4 (Regions 1&2,5), 9/5 (Regions 1&2), 9/6 (Region 4), 9/7 (Regions 1&2,3,4,5), 9/8 (Regions 4,5), 9/9 (Regions 3,4), 9/11 (Region 5). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

<b>Botulism-like Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present</b>					
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



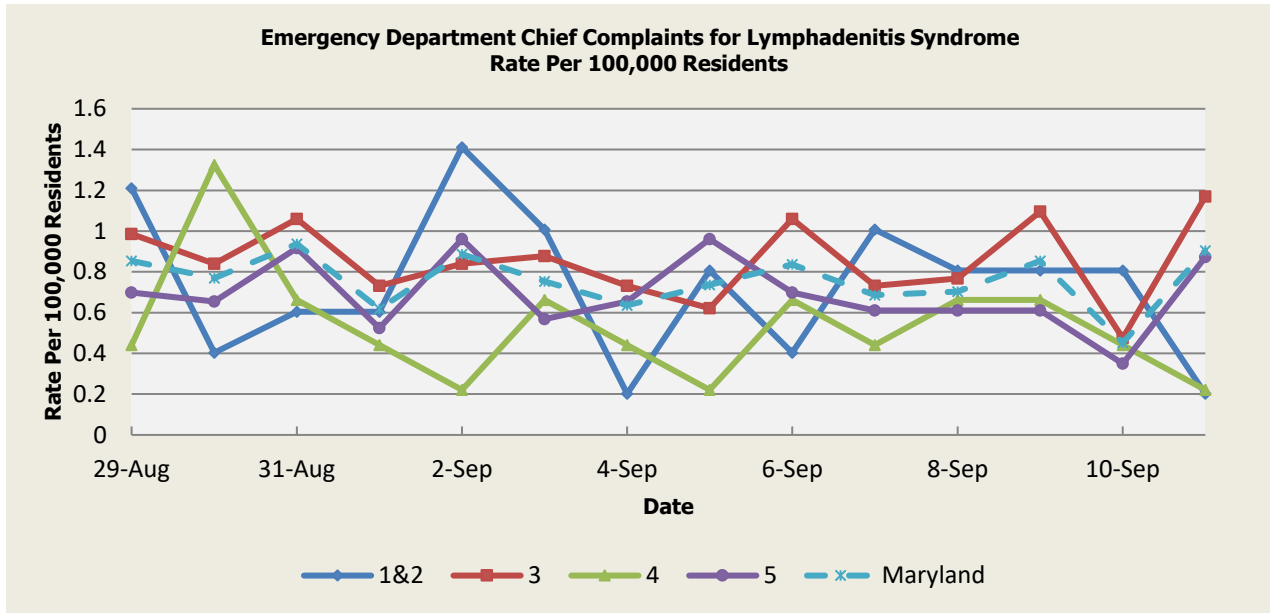
There was an appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of ED visits for Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome on 8/29 (Regions 1&2,4), 8/31 (Regions 1&2), 9/1 (Regions 1&2,4), 9/2 (Region 4), 9/3 (Regions 1&2,4), 9/4 (Regions 1&2,4), 9/5 (Regions 1&2), 9/7 (Regions 1&2), 9/8 (Regions 4,5), 9/9 (Regions 1&2,4), 9/10 (Regions 1&2,4), 9/11 (Region 4). These increases are not known to be associated with any outbreaks.

<b>Hemorrhagic Illness Syndrome Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present</b>					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	0.05	0.17	0.04	0.15	0.14
Median Rate*	0.00	0.15	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 8/29 (Regions 1&2), 8/30 (Region 4), 8/31 (Region 5), 9/2 (Regions 1&2,5), 9/3 (Regions 1&2), 9/5 (Region 5), 9/7 (Regions 1&2), 9/11 (Region 5). 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 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021)**

<b>County</b>	<b>Number of Confirmed Cases</b>
Allegany	8,382
Anne Arundel	49,087
Baltimore City	71,911
Baltimore County	57,570
Calvert	4,905
Caroline	2,704
Carroll	10,596
Cecil	7,535
Charles	13,241
Dorchester	3,619
Frederick	22,432
Garrett	2,469
Harford	18,759
Howard	21,366
Kent	1,521
Montgomery	78,288
Prince George's	94,706
Queen Anne's	3,432
St. Mary's	7,863
Somerset	2,987
Talbot	2,468
Washington	16,836
Wicomico	9,628
Worcester	4,479
<b>Total</b>	<b>516,784</b>

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

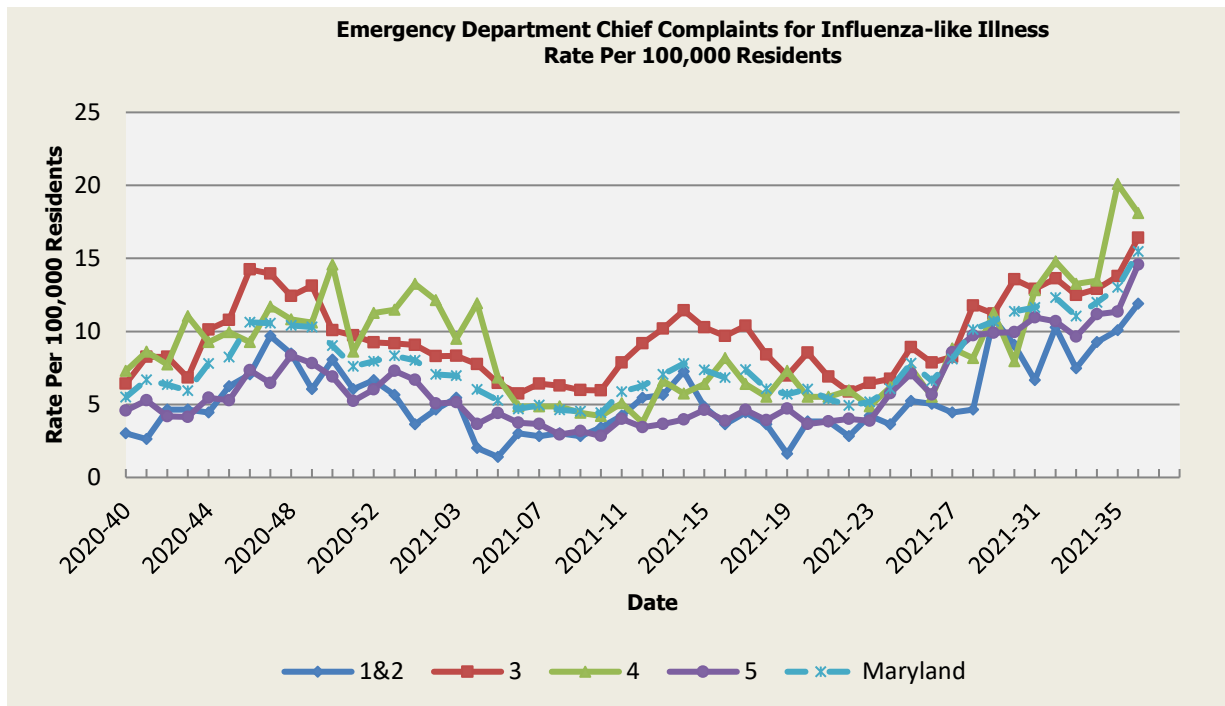
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## SYNDROMIC INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

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 36:

### Influenza-like Illness

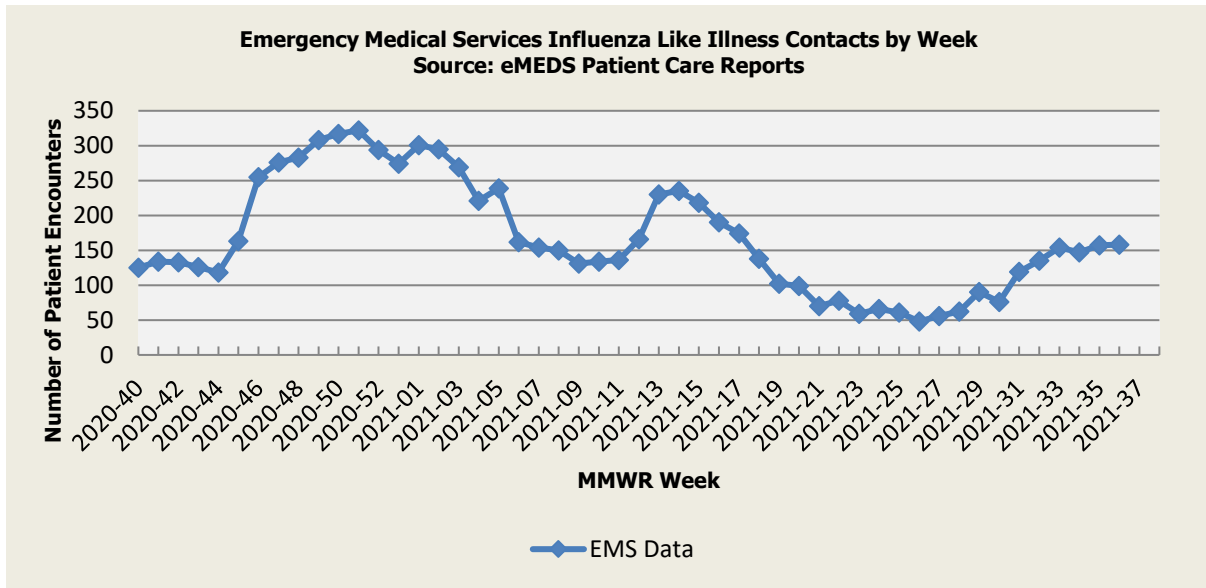


<b>Influenza-like Illness Baseline Data Week 1 2010 - Present</b>					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	9.92	13.77	13.08	11.46	12.51
Median Rate*	7.26	10.19	9.27	8.43	9.14

\* Per 100,000 Residents

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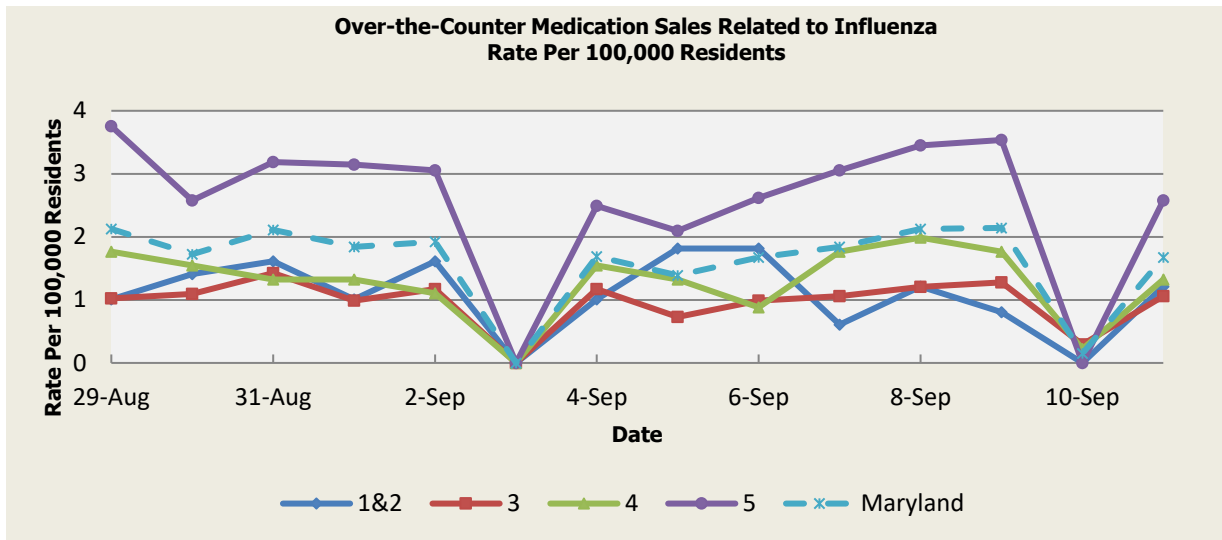
## Influenza-like Illness Contacts by Week



**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



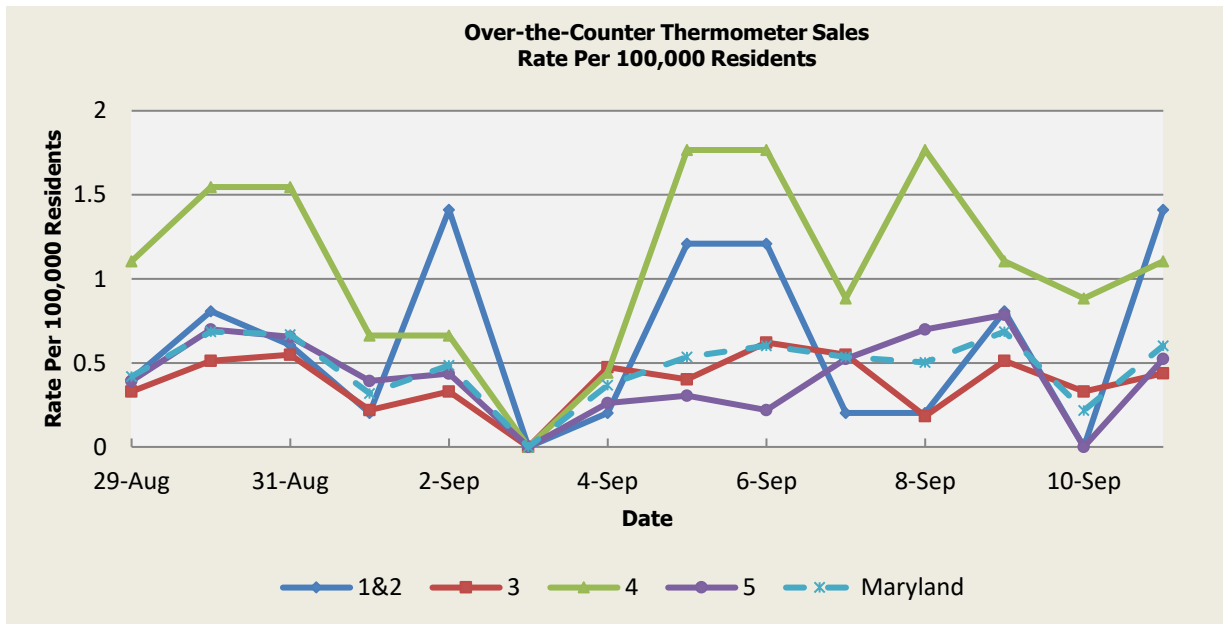
There was no appreciable increase above baseline in the rate of OTC Medication Sales during this reporting period.

OTC Medication Sales Baseline Data January 1, 2010 - Present					
Health Region	1&2	3	4	5	Maryland
Mean Rate*	3.11	3.94	2.43	7.18	5.00
Median Rate*	2.32	2.92	1.99	6.16	4.03

\* 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*	2.57	2.43	2.00	3.22	2.71
Median Rate*	2.22	2.41	1.77	3.27	2.76

\* Per 100,000 Residents

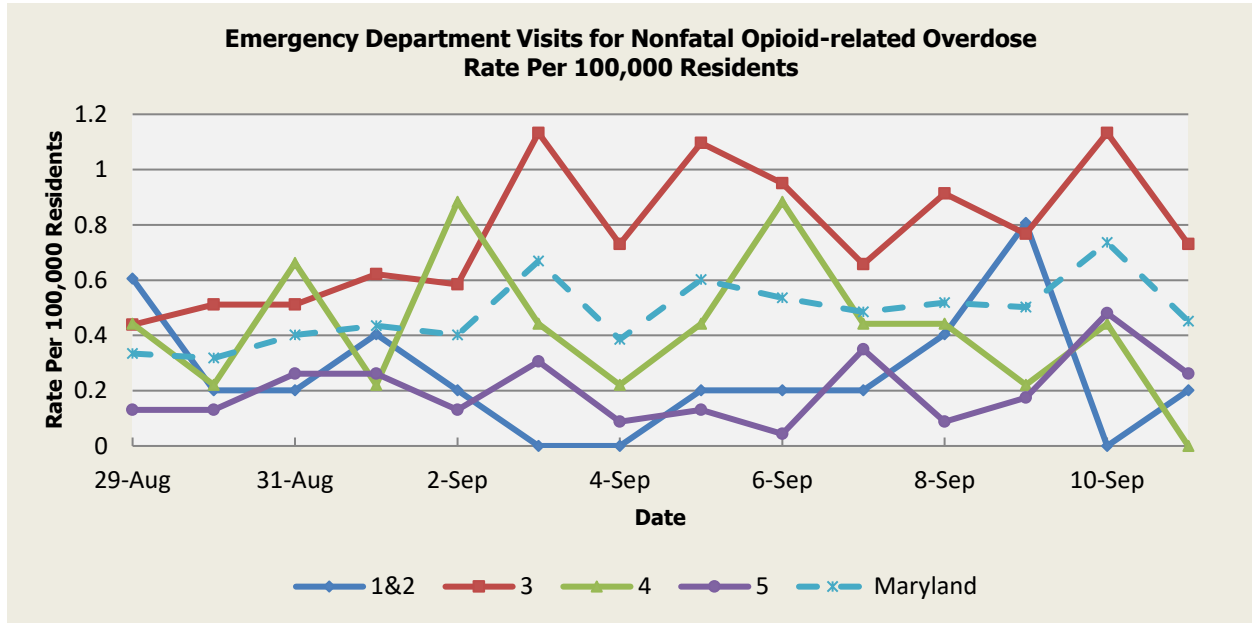
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## **SYNDROMIC OVERDOSE SURVEILLANCE**

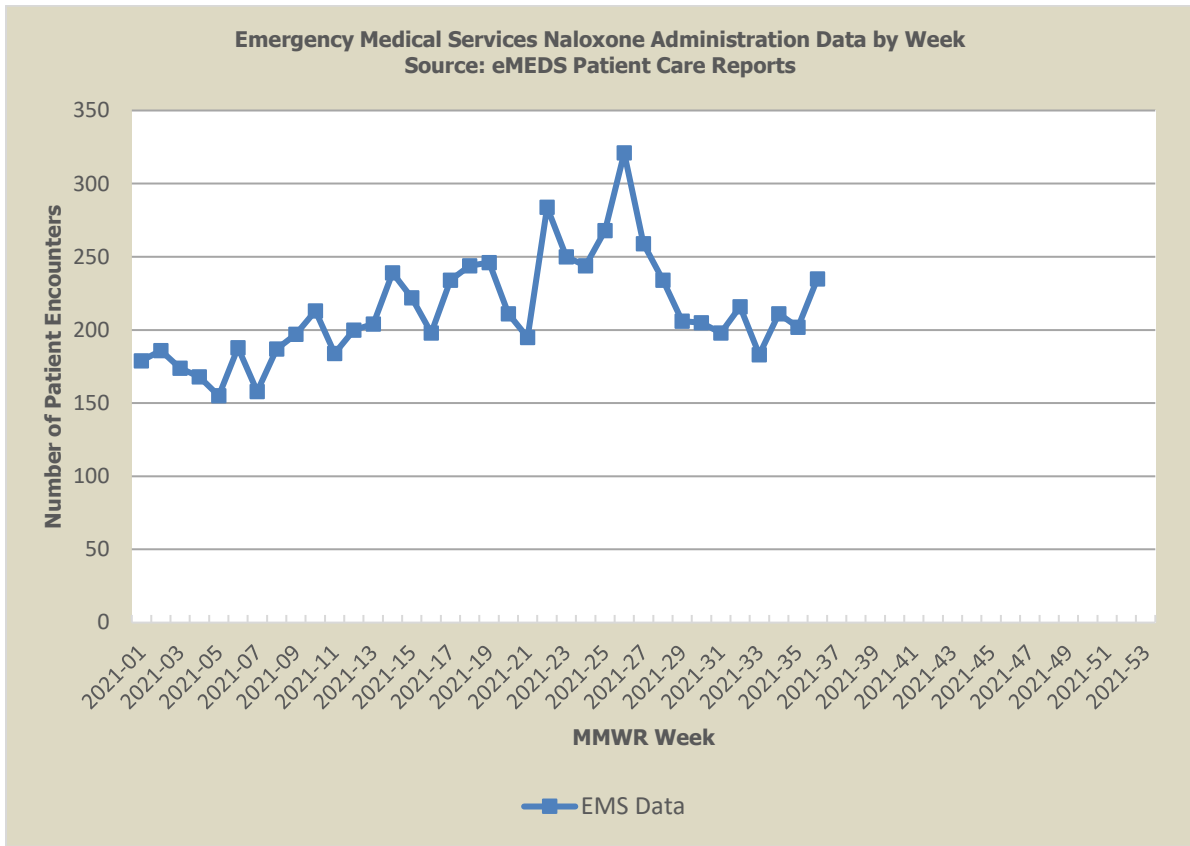
The purpose of this section is to characterize nonfatal overdose trends among Maryland residents captured by ESSENCE data, including emergency department (ED) chief complaint and discharge diagnosis as well as emergency medical services (EMS) patient care reports. Maryland uses ESSENCE data to track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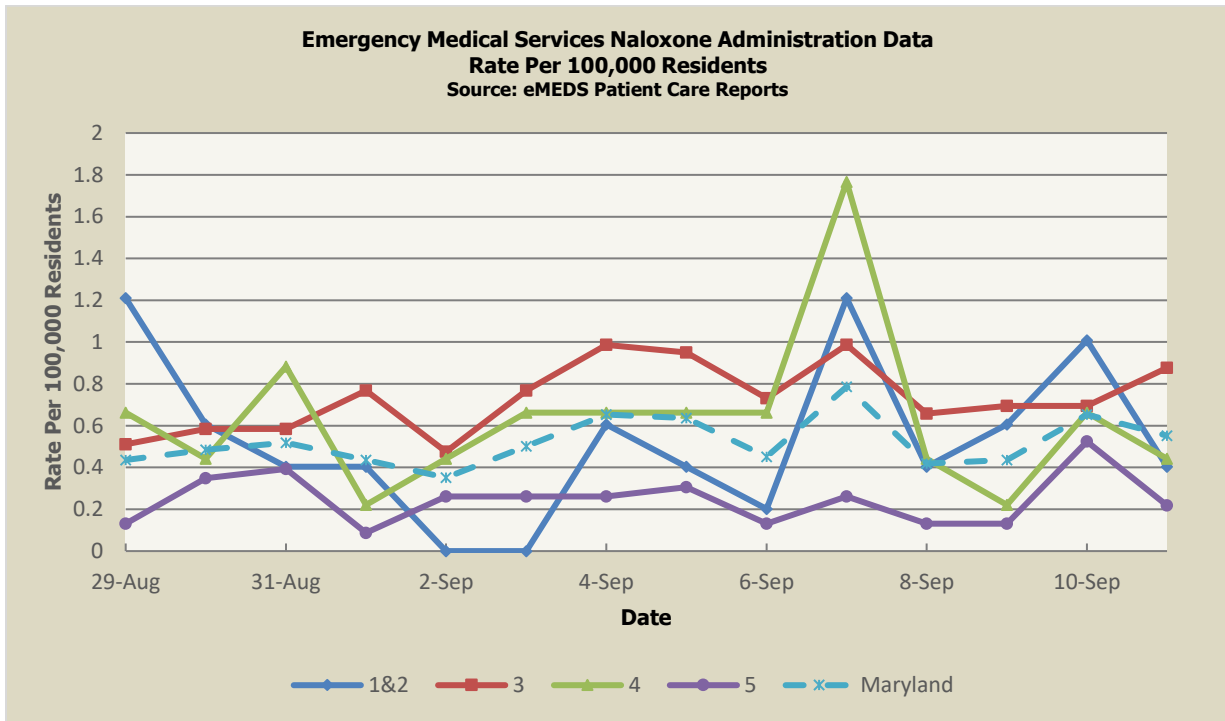
# Naloxone Administration Data by Week



**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 September 17th, 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 (FRANCE)**, 15 September 2021, Source of the outbreak(s) or origin of infection: unknown or inconclusive, contact with wild species. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8670328>

**AVIAN INFLUENZA (INDIA)**, 14 September 2021, Gujarat: event started 21 Jan 2021. A total of 3 outbreaks (submitted) reported to date [14 Sep 2021]. The event is continuing. HPAI subtype H5N1 was identified. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8669123>

**AVIAN INFLUENZA (PAKISTAN)**, 12 September 2021, Affected population: A commercial farm with poultry of Rhode Island Red (RIR) breed was hit by highly pathogenic avian influenza; all 3000 birds died. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8663587>

**AVIAN INFLUENZA (TAIWAN)**, 10 September 2021, Epidemiological comments: The dead duck was picked up on the roadside in Yunlin County. The sample was confirmed by Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI). Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8660213>

### **HUMAN AVIAN INFLUENZA**

**AVIAN INFLUENZA, HUMAN (CHINA)**, 11 September 2021, Hong Kong's Centre for Health Protection (CHP) reports monitoring a human case of avian influenza A(H5N6) in

mainland China, the 18th case reported in the past year. Read More:  
<https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8657500>

## **NATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS**

**MEASLES UPDATE (VIRGINIA, WISCONSIN)**, 16 September 2021, Six people who recently traveled to the United States after fleeing the Taliban in Afghanistan have been diagnosed with measles, officials said Tuesday [14 Sep 2021]. Read More:  
<https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8671265>

**SALMONELLOSIS (USA)**, 16 September 2021, The FDA [Food and Drug Administration] is investigating 2 new Salmonella outbreaks that have sickened more than 200 people. Officials have not identified a source yet. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8673931>

**PLAGUE (WYOMING)**, 16 September 2021, The Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) announced today, [Wed 15 Sep 2021], the detection of a rare but serious case of pneumonic plague in a northern Fremont County resident. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8671581>

**CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (317)**, 15 September 2021, The American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP's) latest numbers on US pediatric COVID-19 cases once again show a significant rise in confirmed cases in patients under 18. Read More:  
<https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8670656>

**CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS (RHODE ISLAND)**, 15 September 2021, A Potters Pond \_Campylobacter\_ outbreak has closed the area, which is used for shellfish harvesting, in Rhode Island after 7 people got sick with the bacterial infection, according to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH). Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8670827>

**LISTERIOSIS (NEW YORK CITY)**, 14 September 2021, A NetCost Market listeriosis outbreak in Brooklyn, New York has sickened at least 3 people, according to a health alert [see below] from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Read More:  
<https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8668543>

**RABIES (USA)**, 12 September 2021, The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) says a fox found in Ridgeway tested positive for rabies. Officials say no people reported being exposed, but one dog was exposed to the fox. Read More:  
<https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8663860>

## **INTERNATIONAL DISEASE REPORTS**

**ANTHRAX (KYRGYZSTAN)**, This formal report to Paris confirms the pathogen as *Bacillus anthracis*. Subsequent to the events in the 1st report the veterinary service visited the suspect farm and sampled the bloody soil around where the animal was butchered. Read More:

<https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8674488>

**TUBERCULOSIS (INDIA)**, 15 September 2021, Close to 1390 persons lost their lives to tuberculosis [TB] between 2015-2018 in the hill state [Uttarakhand], revealed data from the Uttarakhand health department. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8668828>

**CHOLERA, DIARRHEA & DYSENTERY UPDATE (NIGERIA, MALI)**, 14 September 2021, The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has announced that Nigeria has recorded a total of 2323 deaths in 69 925 suspected cases of cholera as of 5 Sep [2021]. Read More:

<https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8668955>

**ANTHRAX (IRAQ)**, 14 September 2021, A medical team in Nineveh Governorate, northern Iraq, deposited the stone after performing a surgical operation on a citizen, who later found out that he had anthrax. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8668916>

**MUCORMYCOSIS (INDIA)**, 13 September 2021, Mucormycosis (black fungus) cases increased by 36 to 4925 in Andhra Pradesh [a state in the southeastern coastal region of India]. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8666265>

**SALMONELLOSIS, SEROTYPE ENTERITIDIS (FRANCE)**, 13 September 2021, French authorities are investigating 50 *Salmonella* infections to see if they are related while they try to find a common source. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8665959>

**PLAGUE (MADAGASCAR)**, 12 September 2021, According to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) report issued on 10 Sep 2021, 30 cases of pneumonic plague have been reported in the Republic of Madagascar. Read More:

<https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8663585>

**MANYCH VIRUS (RUSSIA)**, 11 September 2021, Russian specialists have discovered a new virus that causes fever symptoms. According to Izvestia, the new pathogen was named Manych after the Manych River in southern Russia. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8661849>

**YELLOW FEVER (CAMEROON)**, 11 September 2021, UN health officials report in Cameroon a total of 9 presumptive cases of yellow fever, including 3 deaths (case fatality rate 33%), tested positive by plaque reduction neutralization test (PRNT) at the Centre Pasteur in Cameroun (CPC) through 9 Aug this year [2021]. Read More: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post/?id=8661076>

## **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](http://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>

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**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:**

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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

