



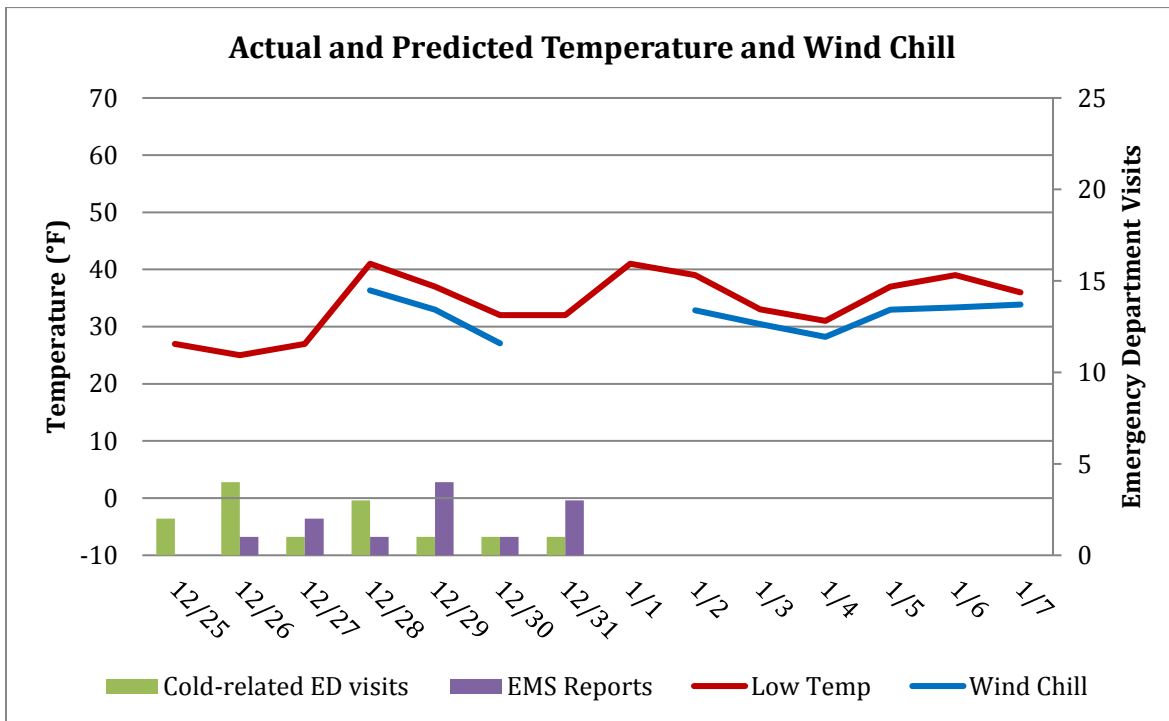
MARYLAND Department of Health

Weekly Cold-related Illness Surveillance Report

January 3, 2019

Reporting for December 25, 2018 to December 31, 2018

National Weather Service Forecast: No current advisories.
Wind Chill Advisories Declared During the Previous Week: 0
Total Wind Chill Advisories Declared This Winter: 0

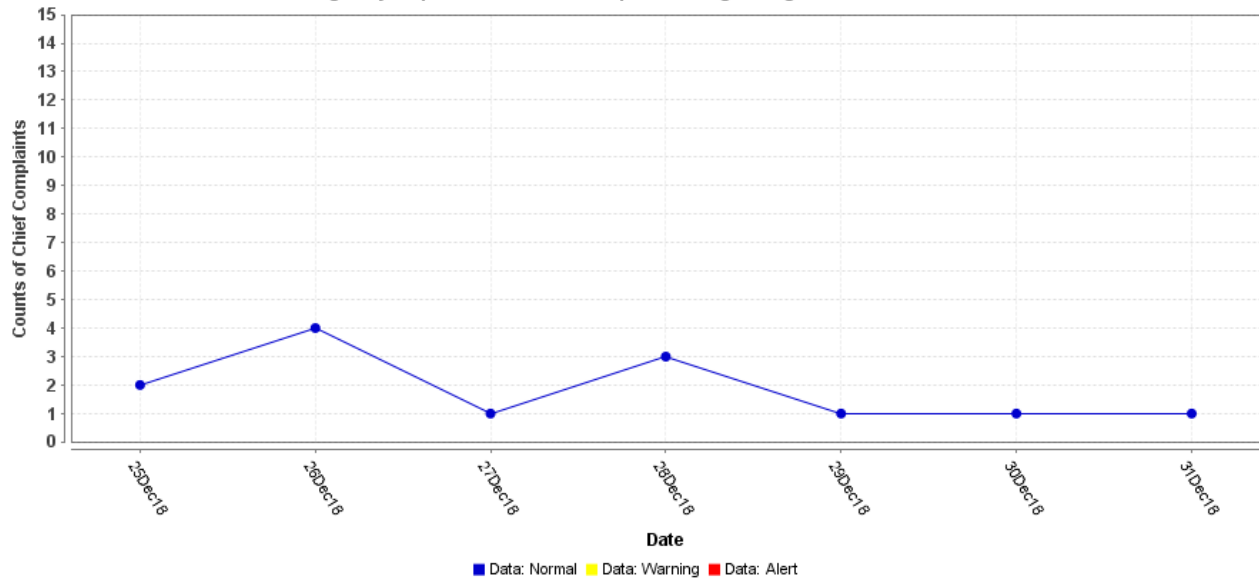


Wind Chill is only calculated for temperatures below 50°F and wind speeds above 3 mph

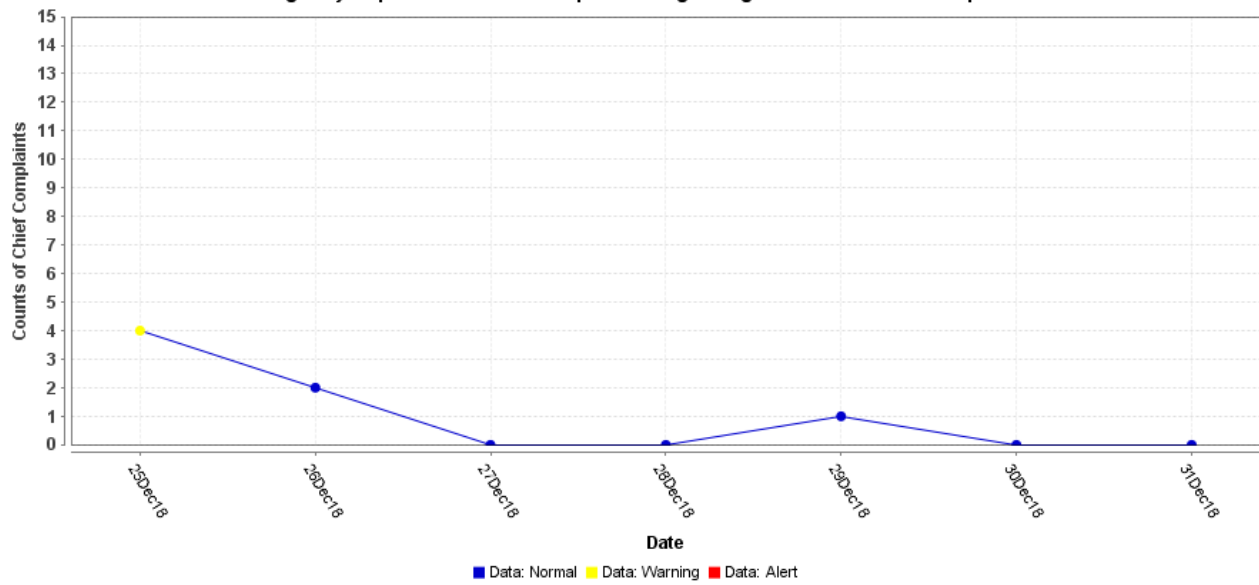
Note on Emergency Department Data: The results from the query used in ESSENCE, an electronic biosurveillance system, to track cold-related illnesses may be an overestimation of the actual burden of illness related to the cold weather. This overestimation is due to the nature of the query, which includes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

Note on EMS 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 exposure, the actual numbers may be low. These data are reported for trending purposes only.

**Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illness**



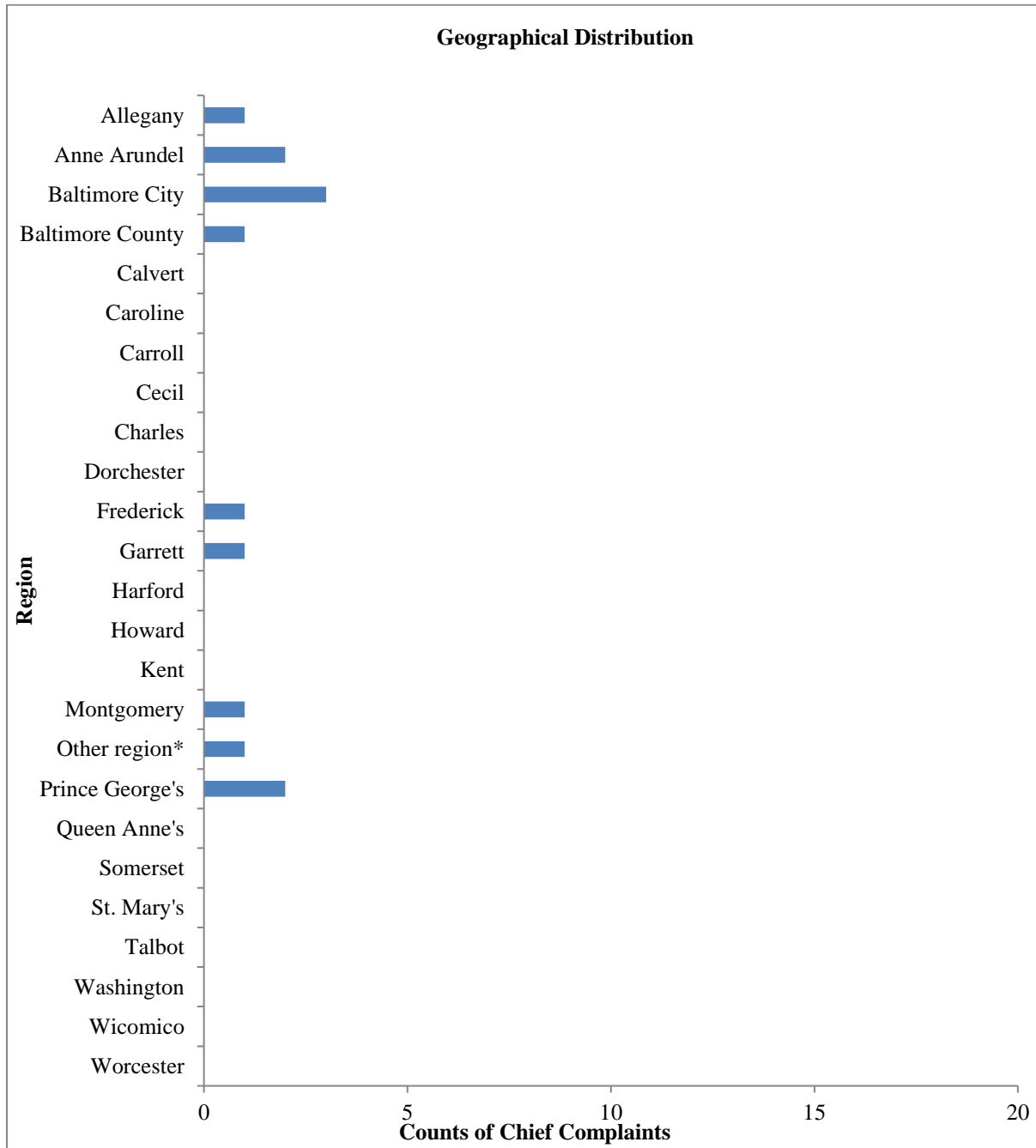
**Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure**



Date	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illness	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure
December 25	2	4
December 26	4	2
December 27	1	0
December 28	3	0
December 29	1	1
December 30	1	0
December 31	1	0

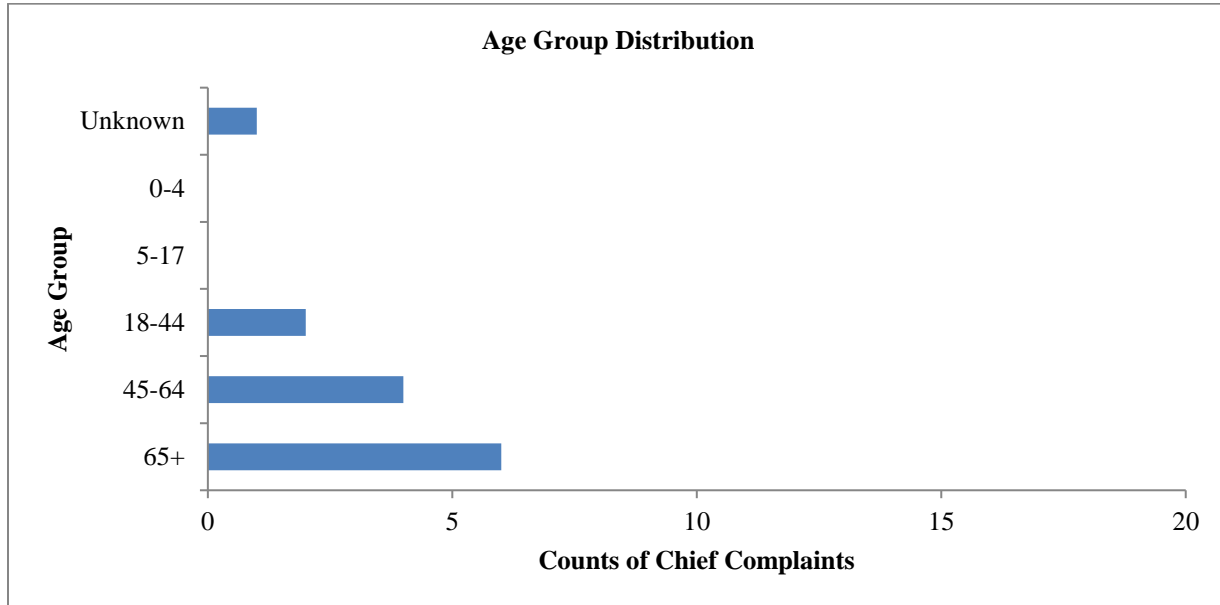
*\*Note: ESSENCE chief complaint query for cold-related illness contains the following terms: frostbite, frostnip, hypothermia, chilblain, and trench foot*

## Geographical Distribution of Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for December 25, 2018 through December 31, 2018



*\*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.*

## Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for December 25, 2018 through December 31, 2018



*Report continued on next page...*

Total Number of Cold-related Deaths	Jurisdiction*	Age Group	Gender
8	Anne Arundel	18 – 44 Years Old	Female
	Washington**	45 – 64 Years Old	Male
	Baltimore City	45 – 64 Years Old	Male
	Baltimore City	45 - 64 Years Old	Male
	Baltimore City	45 - 64 Years Old	Male
	Anne Arundel	65+ Years Old	Female
	Baltimore County	65+ Years Old	Male
	Garrett	65+ Years Old	Male

*\*Refers to the jurisdiction where the death occurred. \*\*Refers to a newly listed death ^Refers to updated information from OCME*

There was one cold-related death reported this week, this individual is suspected or presumed homeless.

There have been eight cold-related deaths during this reporting period. One individual is suspected or presumed homeless.

**Wind Chill Advisory/Warning Criteria:** The National Weather Service issues a Wind Chill Advisory for projected wind chill factors of -5°F to -25°F, and a Wind Chill Warning when the projected wind chill is for -25° or less.

**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.

For more information about extreme cold and emergency preparedness, follow the Office of Preparedness and Response on Twitter and Facebook.

For media inquiries, please contact the Office of Communications: 410-767-6490

**Prepared by:**

Office of Preparedness and Response  
Maryland Department of Health  
300 W. Preston Street, Suite 202  
Baltimore, MD 21201

<http://preparedness.health.maryland.gov>

Kristin A. McMenamin, MS  
Special Projects Coordinator  
Office: 410-767-6201  
Email: [Kristin.McMenamin@maryland.gov](mailto:Kristin.McMenamin@maryland.gov)

Adejare Atanda, BDS, MPH, CPH  
Epidemiologist, Biosurveillance Program  
Office: 410-767-5668  
Email: [Adejare.Atanda@maryland.gov](mailto:Adejare.Atanda@maryland.gov)

Jessica Goodell, MPH  
Career Epidemiology Field Officer  
Office: 410-767-6745  
Email: [Jessica.Goodell@maryland.gov](mailto:Jessica.Goodell@maryland.gov)

Sara Barra, MS  
Emergency Operations Manager  
Office: 410-767-6434  
Email: [Sara.Barra@maryland.gov](mailto:Sara.Barra@maryland.gov)

Carin Morrell, MA  
Public Information Officer  
Office: 410-767-0590  
Email: [Carin.Morrell@maryland.gov](mailto:Carin.Morrell@maryland.gov)

Jennifer Stanley, MPH  
Epidemiologist, Biosurveillance Program  
Office: 410-767-2074  
Email: [Jennifer.Stanley@maryland.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Stanley@maryland.gov)