

TIMELY INFORMATION

Agriculture & Natural Resources

Bed Bug Impact Survey Released by NPMA

Xing Ping Hu, January 11, 2011

National Pest Management Association released, today, the result of Bed Bug Impact Survey conducted in 2010.

According to the survey, one out of five Americans has had a bed bug infestation in their home, or knows someone who has encountered bed bugs at home or a hotel. At the same time, people are taking the bed bug resurgence seriously and making simple adjustments to daily routines to avoid infestations.

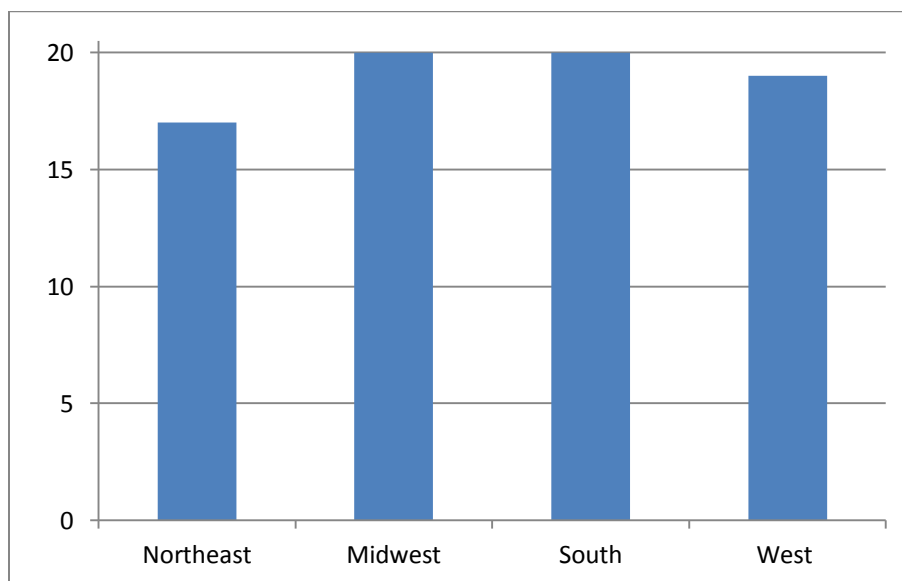
The survey shows that “Americans who have encountered bed bugs tend to be younger, live in urban areas and rent their homes. The incidence of bed bugs is three times higher in urban areas than in rural areas because of factors such as larger population size, apartment living and increased travel and mobility, which are conducive to the rapid spread and breeding of bed bugs”.

Bed bugs have been found in all 50 states.

The following charts explain some core findings, which may not apply to Alabama.

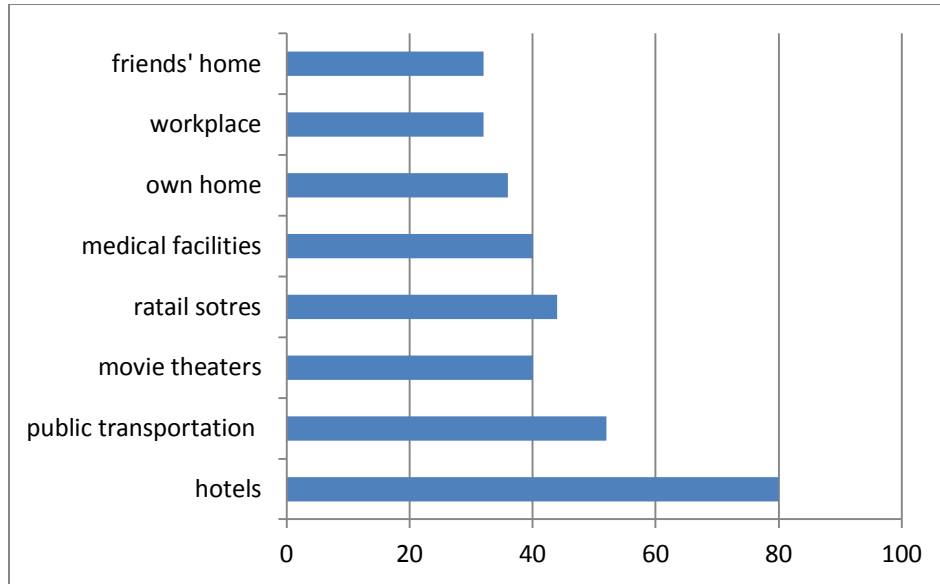
1. Bed bugs have been found in all 50 states.

Table 1. Percent of Respondents Encountered Bed Bugs



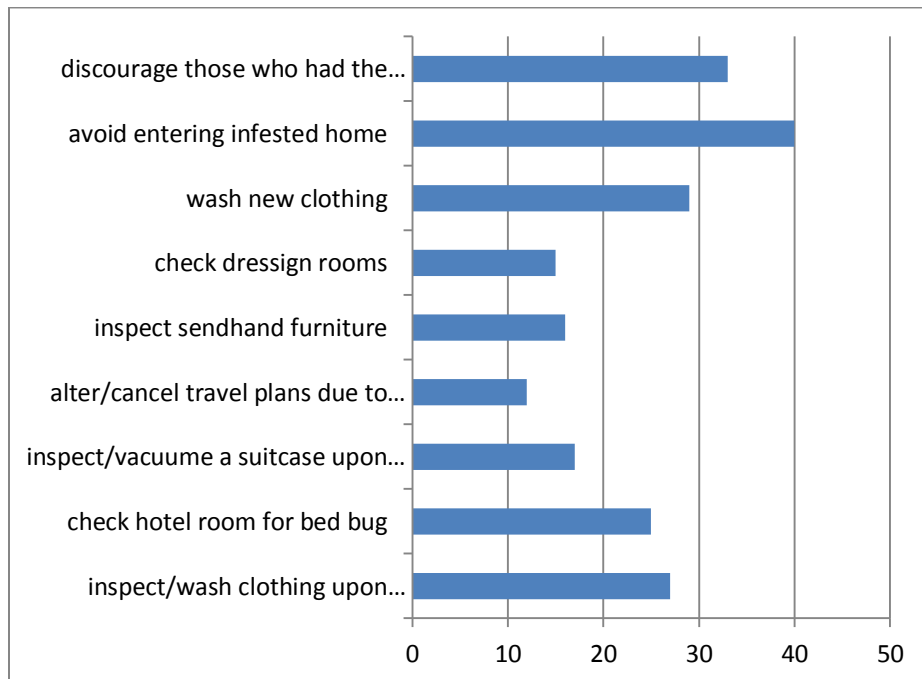
1. Most Americans are concerned about bed bugs, and believe that bed bug infestations in the United States are increasing.

Table 2. Percent of locations respondents concerned about encountering bed bugs



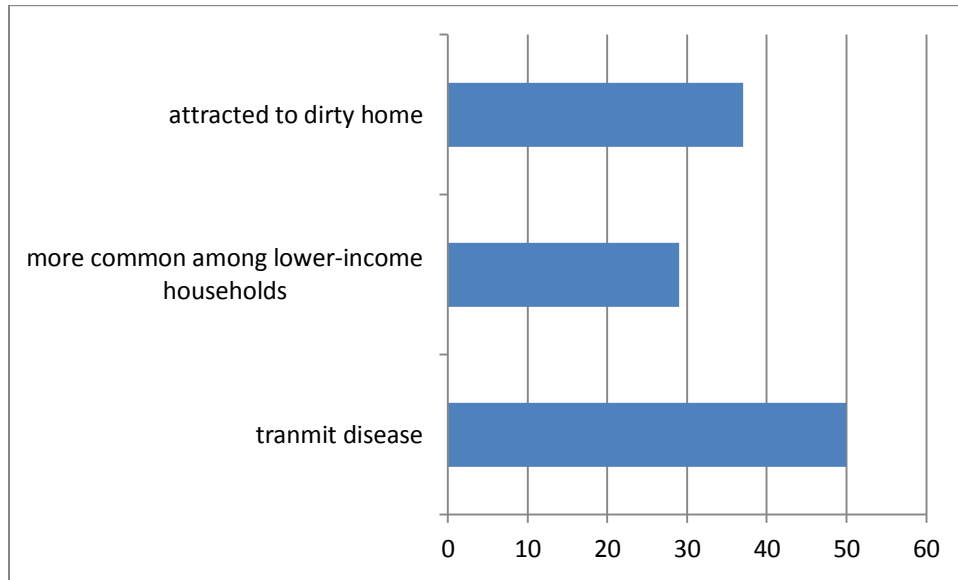
2. As the public's awareness of the bed bug resurgence grows, many Americans are modifying their behaviors to minimize infestations.

Table 3. Percent of respondents modifying their behaviors to minimize infestations



3. Despite widespread exposure to information, most Americans know little about bed bugs.

Table 4. Percentage of respondents misunderstanding bed bugs



While it appears bed bugs are here to stay, it is important that the public, the government and the pest control industry work together to minimize infestations through education, building awareness and assistance.