

Table 4 Relationship between household characteristics and mean levels of endotoxin in dust samples

Household characteristic	No. of samples	Endotoxin levels EU/mg		P-value
		Geometric mean	95% CI	
House type				
Arabic	60	29.2	21.9–38.8	0.1 ^a
Apartment	366	23.7	21.6–25.9	
House age (years)				
< 10	54	21.2	16.9–26.5	0.3 ^b
10–20	114	23.3	19.1–28.4	
> 20	262	25.6	23.0–28.4	
Mattress type				
Wool/cotton	174	32.9	28.4–38.2	< 0.001 ^a
Rubber	254	19.9	18.0–22.0	
Mattress age (years)				
< 1	72	33.8	27.2–42.1	0.005 ^b
1–3	126	23.9	20.1–28.7	
3–5	45	25.7	19.0–34.6	
> 5	187	21.4	19.1–24.2	
Pillow type				
Wool/cotton	302	25.4	23.0–28.0	0.3 ^a
Synthetic fibre	120	23.0	20.0–26.0	
Bedroom floor				
With rug	313	24.9	22.4–28.0	0.4 ^a
Without rug	117	22.9	19.5–27.0	
Visible mould				
Yes	155	25.6	21.8–29.9	0.4 ^a
No	275	23.7	21.4–26.3	
Heating				
Gas stove	271	25.0	22.0–28.0	0.1 ^b
Radiator	104	21.2	18.0–25.0	
Electricity	54	28.4	22.0–37.0	
Air conditioning				
Yes	356	24.0	22.0–27.0	0.5 ^a
No	74	26.2	21.3–32.0	
Household size				
≤ 6	362	24.3	22.1–26.7	0.8 ^a
> 6	68	24.9	19.8–31.4	
No. of bedrooms				
≤ 2	337	24.6	22.4–27.1	0.6 ^a
> 2	93	23.4	19.0–28.7	
No. of people sharing same bedroom				
0	64	22.9	17.8–29.4	0.3 ^b
1	150	23.3	20.1–27.0	
2	108	23.3	19.5–27.8	
> 2	108	28.1	23.7–33.2	
Pet ownership				
With cat	18	19.0	12.3–29.5	0.2 ^a
Without cat	412	24.7	22.6–26.9	

^aStudent t-test; ^b1-way analysis of variance.

EU = endotoxin unit; CI = confidence interval.