

# **Majority of Americans Use Recycled Boxes When Moving and Take About Two Months to Unpack**

*Seven in Ten Make Sure to Pack an “Open First” Box*

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## **Majority of Americans Use Recycled Boxes When Moving and Take About Two Months to Unpack**

### ***Seven in Ten Make Sure to Pack an “Open First” Box***

**Washington, DC** – According to a recent online survey of U.S. adults conducted by Ipsos on behalf of Cramer-Krasselt, it took Americans an average of 49 days (about two months) to fully unpack all of their belongings when moving to a new home. This includes just over a quarter who say they had everything fully unpacked within a week or less (28%), and another two in five who say it took them up to a month (36%) to unpack. For one in five, unpacking took between one and six months (18%), while 10% say that it took them even longer.

- Women (55 days), those over the age of 55 (59 days), the more affluent (56 days, earning more than \$50,000 annually), and those who are married (58 days) are significantly more likely to take longer to unpack, on average, compared to their demographic counterparts.

Among those who have packed or moved, seven in ten (69%) say they packed an essentials/“open first” box containing items they wanted to use immediately after the move. Women (72% vs. 66% men), the more affluent (72% vs. 64% earning less), those with children living at home (81% vs. 64% no kids), those with a college degree (71% vs. 66%), and respondents who are married (74% vs. 62% other) are among those especially likely to say they packed an essentials/“open first” box.

### *Attitudes about Moving*

Roughly three in ten Americans who have packed or moved say they enjoy the process of packing and unpacking (26% and 34%, respectively). More than two thirds felt the process of finding a new place/selling their home was stressful (68%), and six in ten agree that having to legally change all of their contact information was yet another big hassle (61%) associated with moving.

- Among those most likely to be stressed by such factors are those earning more than \$50,000, those with children living at home and those with a college education.

The proportion of Americans who say they got most of their moving boxes from friends, recycling bins or work (64%), or that saved and reused many of their old moving boxes (61%), is significantly greater than those who say they purchased most of their moving boxes (27%).

- Younger respondents and those with children living at home are significantly more likely to use recycled boxes – from friends, recycling bins, their workplace, or boxes saved from their last move.
- Men (37%), middle aged adults (31%, 35-54), higher income earners (35%), those with children at home (45%), a college degree (37%), and respondents who are married (34%) are among those most likely to say they purchased most of their moving boxes from a moving company.

Just about half of those who have moved or packed recently admit they tend to have a hard time remembering what items they packed into what box (48%), and a majority agree they could have done a better job at organizing the contents of

their moving boxes (59%). A similar proportion wish they had cut down on clutter by donating/selling items they don't need (64%).

- Millennials and those with children living at home are significantly more likely to agree with these statements compared to older respondents and those with no kids at home, respectively. Higher income earners also stand out as being particularly likely to have a hard time remembering what items are in what box (51%), and say they wish they cut down on clutter by donating/selling items they no longer need (67%).

When it comes to sharing a new address with family and friends in a creative way, three in ten say they did (30%). Men, those earning more than \$50,000 annually, who have children living at home, a college education, and are married are more likely to say they shared their new address in a creative way.

*These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted April 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, on behalf of Cramer-Krasselt. For the survey, a sample of 1,005 US adults age 18 and over was interviewed online in English, including 929 adults who have previously moved or unpacked before.*

*The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing sample. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2014 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics.*



*Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents, and plus or minus 3.7 percentage points for those who have previously packed or moved (see link below for more info on Ipsos online polling “Credibility Intervals”). Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=1,005, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=5.0) and (n=929, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=5.2).*

*For more information about Ipsos online polling methodology, please go here*

*<http://goo.gl/yJBkuf>*

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