



**DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLD
GIVING BY
TYPE OF RECIPIENT
ORGANIZATION IN 2002**

FROM THE

**CENTER ON PHILANTHROPY PANEL
STUDY (COPPS)
2003 WAVE**

**DATA COLLECTION FUNDED BY:
ATLANTIC PHILANTHROPIES INC.**
as part of the
University of Michigan's
Panel Study of Income Dynamics

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Every culture depends on philanthropy and nonprofit organizations to provide essential elements of a civil society. Effective philanthropy and nonprofit management are instrumental in creating and maintaining public confidence in the philanthropic traditions--voluntary association, voluntary giving, and voluntary action. The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University increases the understanding of philanthropy and improves its practice through programs in research, teaching, public service, and public affairs.

The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University is a part of the IU School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. The Center has academic and research programs on the IUPUI and the IU-Bloomington campuses.

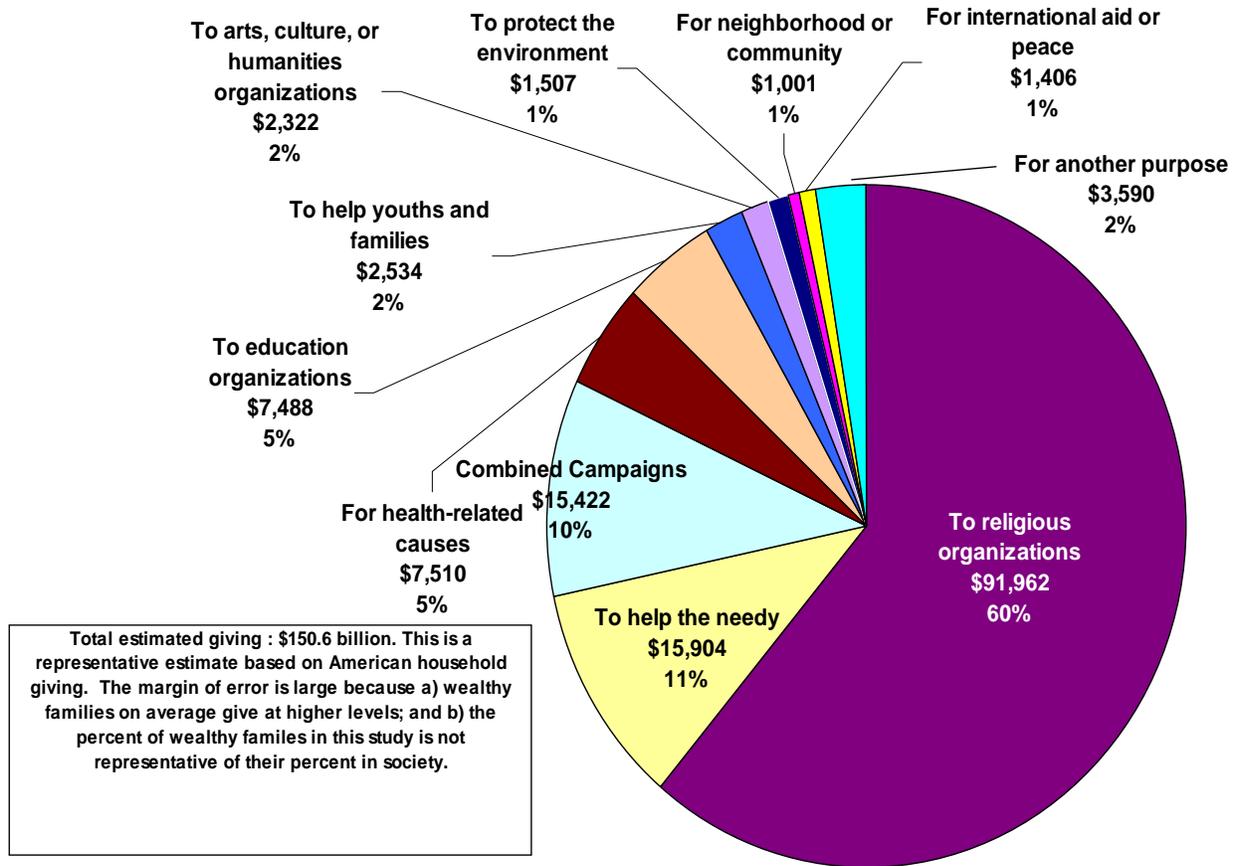
The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University
550 W. North St., Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3272
317-274-4200
www.philanthropy.iupui.edu

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Distribution of Household Giving, 2002 (In Millions)



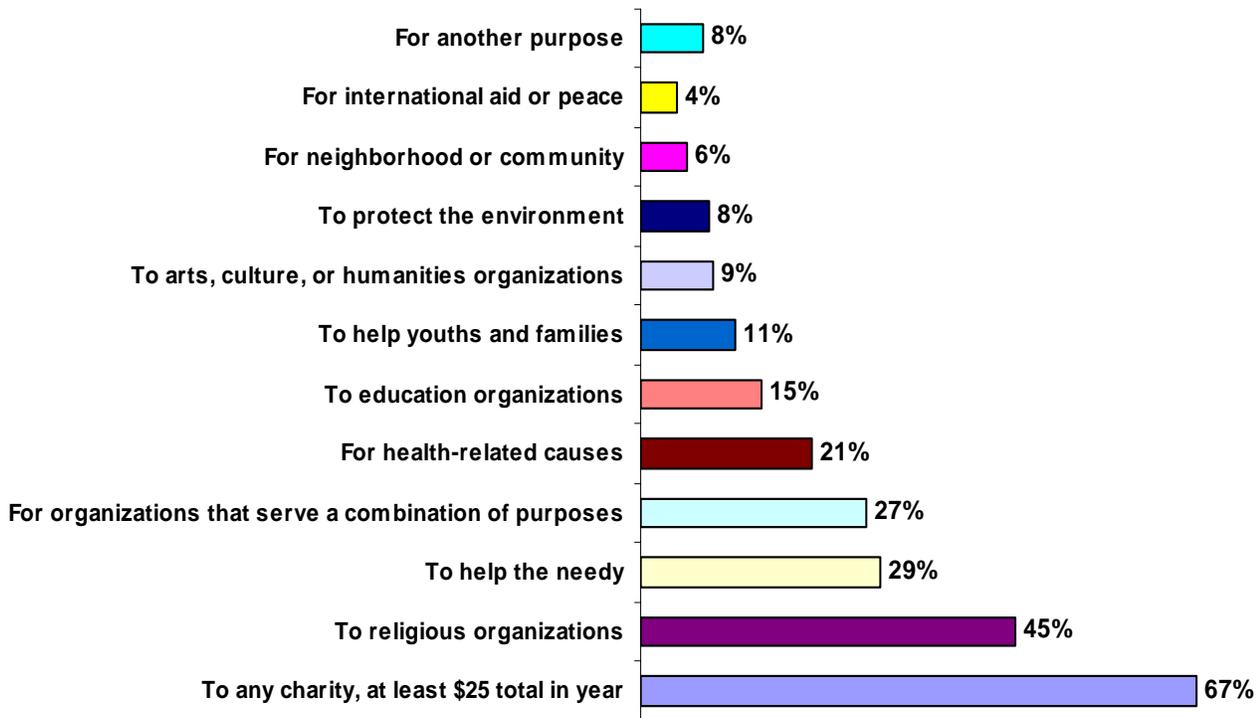
Data Source: Center on Philanthropy Panel Study (COPPS) 2003 Wave. n=6,378 Weights applied.

- Religious organizations/causes received approximately 60 percent of donations, nearly six times more than any other type of recipient.
- Households gave the second highest amount, nearly \$16 billion (\$15,904 million), to help people meet their basic needs (food, shelter, clothing, heat, and so on).
- Combined campaigns, which includes organizations that serve a combination of purposes, were the third-highest type of recipient for household donations, with approximately 10 percent.



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2002 Giving Rate for All Households by Gift Recipient Type



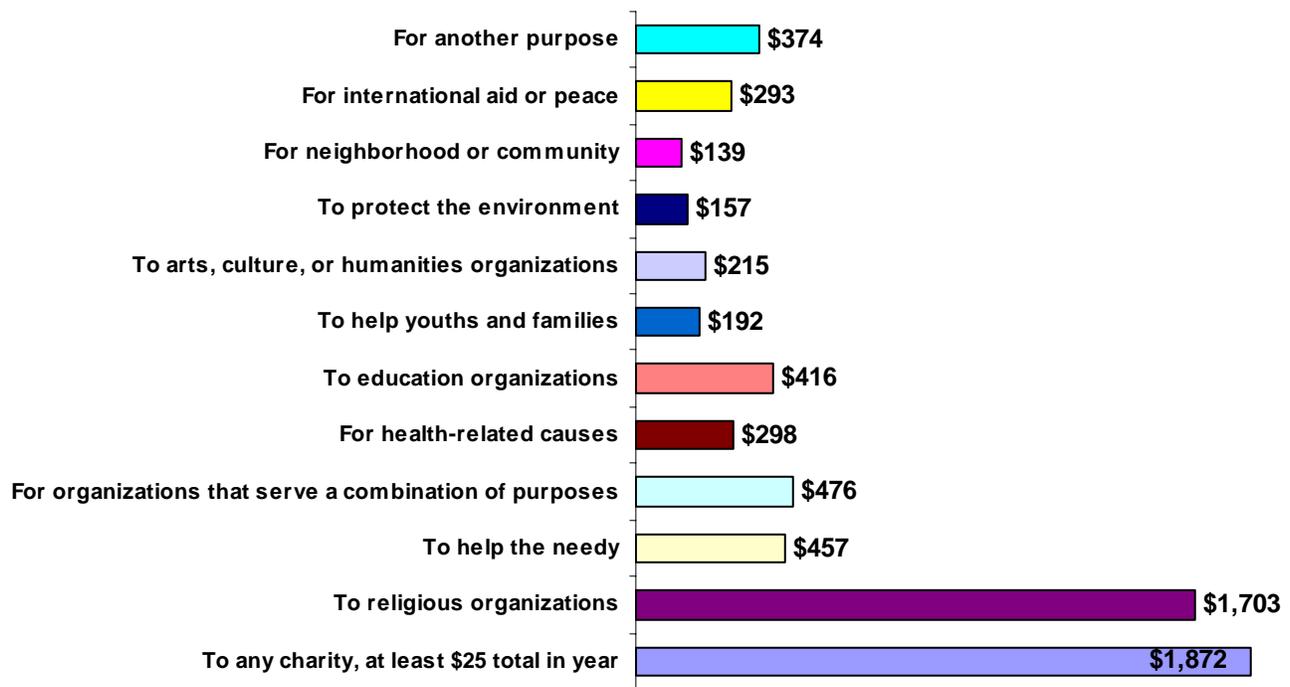
Data Source: Center on Philanthropy Panel Study (COPPS) 2003 Wave

- The highest percentage of households gave for religious causes, to congregations, for ministries, or for central offices of a faith (diocese, synod, etc.)
- 29 percent of households contributed to help people meet basic needs and 27 percent gave to organizations that served a combination of purposes.
- About one-fifth (21 percent) of households gave for health-related causes, about one-sixth (15 percent) of households gave for educational organizations, and about one-tenth (11 percent) gave for programs helping families or youths.
- Less than 10 percent gave for each of the other subsectors: arts, environment, community development, and international aid or peace.



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2002 Average Gift from Donor Households Contributing to Recipient Type



Data Source: Center on Philanthropy Panel Study (COPPS) 2003 Wave

- Religious organizations received the highest total contribution amount from households that gave to them, averaging \$1,703 in 2002.
- Three types of charities received an average between \$415 and \$480 from households that gave to them: combined fundraising (\$476); to help the needy (\$457); and education (\$416).
- Households contributing for health-related causes gave, on average, \$298 to that type of organization and those giving for international aid or peace averaged donations of \$293 to that type of recipient. Arts donor households averaged gifts of \$215 for arts organizations.
- Households contributing to help youths or families gave an average of \$192 for that purposes; those giving to protect the environment donated \$157 on average for that; and donors giving for neighborhood or community averaged gifts of \$139 for those charities.

Center on Philanthropy Panel Study Background

The Center on Philanthropy Panel Study (COPPS) is part of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), an extensive survey conducted every year or every other year since 1968 by the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research. The PSID now tracks nearly 8,000 U.S. single and family households, surveying up to three generations in some families. Partially supported by the National Science Foundation, PSID is the only social science project on the agency's list of 50 NSF-funded projects that have transformed the way Americans live, think and work.

The COPPS giving and volunteering questions were added to the PSID in 2001 by the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. COPPS was established with the encouragement and financial support from the Atlantic Philanthropies. In addition to being the nation's first and only long-term study of philanthropy over time, each COPPS survey also provides the nation's largest snapshot study of U.S. philanthropy in a given year. It tracks giving and volunteering and the factors that influence those practices throughout lifetimes and across generations as personal, social, and economic circumstances change.

The analyses in this pamphlet are based on 6,378 respondents. These respondents consist of the PSID households for which population weights are available. Weighted survey responses are thus representative of the national population. However, total donations to each type of charity are strongly affected by the gifts of a few super-wealthy, none of which are queried by the PSID. Thus figures reported here are best interpreted as excluding those donors.

The PSID's very large sample size and the household and individual characteristics about which it asks give COPPS distinct advantages over other cross-sectional studies of giving or volunteering conducted by other researchers. COPPS is more accurate than most other philanthropy studies. COPPS permits analysis to examine how differences in race, gender, religious affiliation, age, education, health, parenting styles, values, marital status, and many other factors influence or are influenced by giving and volunteering. COPPS also can examine differences in giving based on different sources of both income and wealth (most studies focus on giving from income; few look at giving from wealth.) For instance, COPPS can examine differences in giving between those who give from inherited wealth and those who give from earned wealth, or differences in giving between those who give from entrepreneurial income and those who give from wages or salaries. Other than COPPS, no other study combines quality data on all three variables: giving, income, and wealth.

Wilhelm (2006) found that the COPPS data "offers a useful tool for empirical research in the economics of giving," given its scarcity of missing data and its ability to produce "a giving distribution similar to tax data" (p. 6). This speaks to the quality of data collected in this study and its ability to effectively demonstrate giving characteristics in a representative manner.

Scholars interested in the COPPS data set should contact Patrick M. Rooney, director of research at the Center on Philanthropy (rooney@iupui.edu). The data are available through the PSID website. The Center has prepared datasets that have been cleaned and recoded. These data can be made available.