

INSIGHTS ON FAITH & GIVING

[Lake Institute Home](#) | [About Lake Institute](#) | [Programs](#) | [Offerings](#) | [Events](#) | [Contact](#)

Mission

The Lake Institute on Faith & Giving exists to serve the public good by exploring the multiple connections between philanthropy and faith within the major religious traditions.

Join the discussion



Follow us on Twitter!

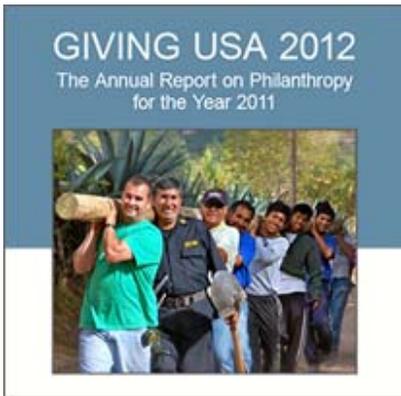


Like us on Facebook!

The longest running and most comprehensive report on the sources and uses of charitable giving in the United States.

Giving USA 2012 Report Fasten Your Seatbelts for a Bumpy Ride!

"For many that rely on philanthropy...this is not just a tough year. This is going to be a tough era." So counsels Patrick Rooney, Director of the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. In 2011 charitable giving rose by 4 percent; however when adjusted for inflation growth was a mere 0.9 percent. Across the subsectors of charitable giving growth was modest and when adjusted for inflation virtually flat; the two exceptions were bequest giving and giving to international organizations. While giving to religion remains the largest recipient of charitable dollars, the bar chart below reveals a sobering truth: giving to religion is the one subsector that has seen decline in the last two years.



[2012 Giving USA: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2011](#)

Purchase full report or order your free executive summary.

Giving USA Foundation
The Giving Institute
The Center on Philanthropy

Contact Us:

[Bill Enright](#)
Director

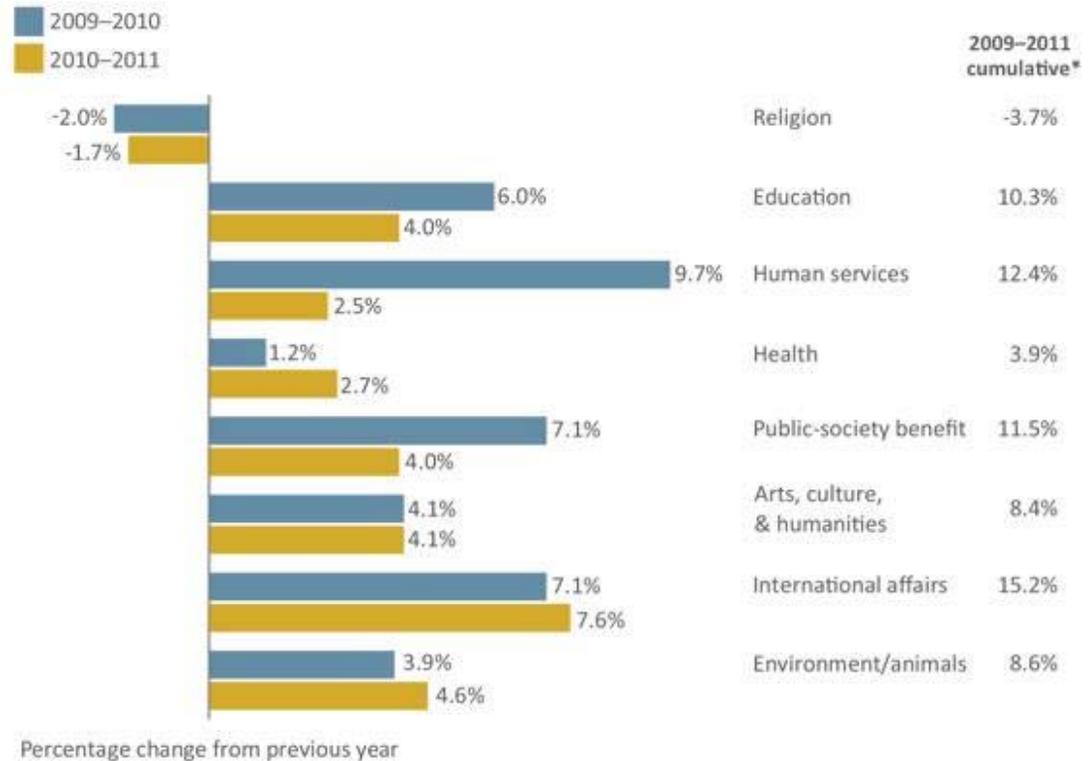
[Aimee Laramore](#)
Associate Director

[Karen DeGan](#)
Administrative Secretary

[Website Requests](#)

[Lake Institute on Faith & Giving](#)
550 West North Street
Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3272
Phone: 317.278.8955
lfi@iupui.edu

Changes in giving by type of recipient organization 2009–2010 and 2010–2011, and 2009–2011 cumulative (in current dollars)



*The two-year change is calculated separately and is not the sum of the changes in the two years.

Note: Giving to foundations is not included in this graph.

© 2012 Giving USA Foundation™

What sits behind this decline in religious giving? While for the moment there are no clear answers, there are storm clouds bearing a watchful eye as religious giving is a barometer of larger cultural issues.

- The decline in both church attendance and formal institutional membership.
- The generational shifts in religious practice, participation and styles of giving.
- The dominance of large congregations as the church of choice of attendees: the larger the congregation the greater the number of "free riders" - people who attend but do not give.
- The silence of religious leaders and congregations in talking and teaching about the faithful use of

- possessions apart from the annual obligatory stewardship or giving sermon.
- The failure to adapt best fundraising practices to congregational life, leaving congregations dependent on an outmoded, one-dimensional approach to giving.

-Insights of Dr. William Enright

[2012 Giving USA: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2011](#). Published by Giving USA Foundation. Researched, written, and produced by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.

Embrace new giving practices and principles
Creating Congregational Cultures of Generosity

Through presentation, small group and individual exercises, and a high degree of interaction, participants imagine and design their own plan for creating cultures of generosity in their congregations. Public programs are currently planned for DuPage County, Illinois and Montreat, North Carolina.

In this seminar you will discover how to:

- Analyze the giving culture of your congregation,
- Adapt the latest research findings on religious giving to your unique church setting,
- Expand the ministry of pastoral care to include care for donors,
- Transform the way you and your congregation talk about money and giving,
- Develop an effective, comprehensive and multi-dimensional plan for fundraising,
- Integrate best practices of fiscal transparency and internal accountability,
- Experience the dynamic joy of shared inquiry with fellow participants of faith,
- Create a congregational culture that inspires generosity.

» For more information, visit our [website](#).

» To inquire about contracting this seminar, [email](#) us.

» If you have a generosity story to tell, share it with us on [Facebook](#).

» If Insights On Faith & Giving resonates with you, [Tweet](#) us!

Indiana University Trustees approved plan to create first School of Philanthropy

As a part of the new school, the Center on Philanthropy would continue to offer its top-quality, innovative action research for nonprofit professionals and donors, as well as its groundbreaking research, training and service programs, including The Fund Raising School, the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving and the Women's Philanthropy Institute.

[Read full press release.](#)