DOES RELIGIOSITY INFLUENCE CHARITABLE GIVING?
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HYPOTHESIS
Those who are involved in religious practices are more generous to charity than those who are not involved in religious practices.

DEPENDENT VARIABLE: Respondent’s Charitable Giving (measured as frequency of giving and dollar amount given within the year)

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE: Religious practices (i.e. affiliation and strength of religious beliefs)

DATA: 2014 General Social Survey (GSS). Nationally representative sample of U.S. adults (n= 2,538)

CONCLUSIONS
About 27% of respondents who are not religious gave to charity only 2 to 3 times per year while about 20% of those who are religious gave at least once a week. So, although the non-religious gave to charity during the year, those who are religious tend to give more often to charity during the year.

The respondents who have no religion gave an average of $1,273.00 to charity in the year of 2014. The respondents with a strong religious affiliation gave an average of $3,052.00 in the year of 2014 to charity. In other words, those with a strong religious affiliation gave over 50% more money to charities than those who have no religious affiliation.

THE DATA SUPPORTS THE HYPOTHESIS