

***empty tomb®*, inc.**

The State of Church Giving through 2007

(Champaign, IL: empty tomb, inc., 2009)

In *The State of Church Giving through 2007*, Table 2 (page 15) and Table 3 (page 16) consider giving in the composite denominations, presented as per member giving in dollars for the years 1968 through 2007.

Table 2 presents the giving data in current dollars, that is, the value the dollars had in the year they were donated.

Table 3 presents the giving data in inflation-adjusted dollars. The dollars have been adjusted to the value the donation would have had in year 2000 dollars. Thus, the value of the donation can more easily be compared across years. The arrows indicate whether giving went up or down from one year to the next.

In both tables, U.S. Per Capita Disposable (after-tax) Personal Income is presented.

Also in both tables, per member giving to the subcategory of Benevolences (the larger mission outside the local congregation) is presented as a percent of income. Because income changes as well as the amount of donations, the best way to understand how much church members give is to consider what portion of income the dollars given represent (see Table 1 at <www.emptytomb.org/research.html>).

The composite set of Protestant denominations in the analysis includes over 100,000 of the estimated 350,000 religious congregations of any type in the U.S. See *The State of Church Giving through 2007* Appendixes for the list of denominations included in the composite group.

Table 2 is presented on page 2 of this PDF.

Table 3 is presented on page 3 of this PDF.

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Table 2: Per Member Giving to Total Contributions, Congregational Finances, and Benevolences, U.S. Per Capita Disposable Personal Income, Current Dollars, and Per Member Giving to Benevolences as a Percent of Income, 1968-2007

Year	Current Dollars				U.S. Per Capita Disposable Personal Income	Per Member Giving to Benevolences as % of Income
	Per Full or Confirmed Member Giving					
	Total Contrib.	Cong. Finances	Benevol.			
1968	\$96.79	\$76.35	\$20.44	\$3,114	0.66%	
1969	\$100.82	\$79.34	\$21.47	\$3,324	0.65%	
1970	\$104.36	\$82.87	\$21.49	\$3,587	0.60%	
1971	\$109.55	\$87.08	\$22.48	\$3,860	0.58%	
1972	\$116.97	\$93.16	\$23.81	\$4,140	0.58%	
1973	\$127.37	\$102.01	\$25.36	\$4,616	0.55%	
1974	\$138.87	\$110.79	\$28.08	\$5,010	0.56%	
1975	\$150.19	\$118.45	\$31.73	\$5,498	0.58%	
1976	\$162.87	\$129.15	\$33.72	\$5,972	0.56%	
1977	\$175.82	\$140.23	\$35.60	\$6,517	0.55%	
1978	\$193.05	\$154.74	\$38.31	\$7,224	0.53%	
1979	\$212.42	\$170.17	\$42.25	\$7,967	0.53%	
1980	\$233.57	\$186.90	\$46.67	\$8,822	0.53%	
1981	\$256.59	\$205.15	\$51.44	\$9,765	0.53%	
1982	\$276.72	\$223.93	\$52.79	\$10,426	0.51%	
1983	\$293.52	\$237.68	\$55.83	\$11,131	0.50%	
1984	\$316.25	\$257.63	\$58.62	\$12,319	0.48%	
1985	\$335.43	\$272.95	\$62.48	\$13,037	0.48%	
1986	\$354.20	\$288.73	\$65.47	\$13,649	0.48%	
1987	\$367.87	\$301.73	\$66.14	\$14,241	0.46%	
1988	\$382.54	\$313.15	\$69.40	\$15,297	0.45%	
1989	\$403.23	\$331.06	\$72.16	\$16,257	0.44%	
1990	\$419.65	\$346.48	\$73.17	\$17,131	0.43%	
1991	\$433.57	\$358.67	\$74.90	\$17,609	0.43%	
1992	\$445.00	\$368.28	\$76.72	\$18,494	0.41%	
1993	\$457.47	\$380.54	\$76.94	\$18,872	0.41%	
1994	\$488.83	\$409.35	\$79.48	\$19,555	0.41%	
1995	\$497.71	\$416.00	\$81.71	\$20,287	0.40%	
1996	\$538.39	\$453.34	\$85.05	\$21,091	0.40%	
1997	\$554.59	\$466.07	\$88.52	\$21,940	0.40%	
1998	\$587.90	\$495.56	\$92.34	\$23,161	0.40%	
1999	\$624.81	\$527.99	\$96.82	\$23,968	0.40%	
2000	\$664.25	\$563.52	\$100.72	\$25,473	0.40%	
2001	\$690.79	\$586.58	\$104.22	\$26,243	0.40%	
2002	\$714.79	\$609.46	\$105.33	\$27,183	0.39%	
2003	\$724.64	\$618.85	\$105.80	\$28,076	0.38%	
2004	\$754.08	\$643.18	\$110.90	\$29,592	0.37%	
2005	\$788.78	\$671.11	\$117.67	\$30,611	0.38%	
2006	\$825.11	\$704.99	\$120.12	\$32,263	0.37%	
2007	\$863.80	\$739.90	\$123.89	\$33,706	0.37%	

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Table 3: Per Member Giving to Total Contributions, Congregational Finances, and Benevolences, U.S. Per Capita Disposable Personal Income, Inflation-Adjusted 2000 Dollars, and Per Member Giving to Benevolences as a Percent of Income, 1968-2007

Year	Inflation-Adjusted 2000 Dollars						U.S. PerCapita Disposable Personal Income	Per Member Giving to Benevolences as % of Income
	Per Full or Confirmed Member Giving							
	Total Contrib.	↑↓	Cong. Finances	↑↓	Benevol.	↑↓		
1968	\$388.82	—	\$306.72	—	\$82.10	—	\$12,510	0.66%
1969	\$385.87	↓	\$303.68	↓	\$82.19	↑	\$12,722	0.65%
1970	\$379.34	↓	\$301.22	↓	\$78.11	↓	\$13,038	0.60%
1971	\$379.22	↓	\$301.41	↑	\$77.81	↓	\$13,361	0.58%
1972	\$388.03	↑	\$309.05	↑	\$78.98	↑	\$13,734	0.58%
1973	\$400.14	↑	\$320.47	↑	\$79.67	↑	\$14,502	0.55%
1974	\$400.20	↑	\$319.28	↓	\$80.92	↑	\$14,438	0.56%
1975	\$395.48	↓	\$311.91	↓	\$83.56	↑	\$14,478	0.58%
1976	\$405.40	↑	\$321.46	↑	\$83.94	↑	\$14,865	0.56%
1977	\$411.47	↑	\$328.16	↑	\$83.31	↓	\$15,251	0.55%
1978	\$422.08	↑	\$338.33	↑	\$83.75	↑	\$15,795	0.53%
1979	\$428.89	↑	\$343.58	↑	\$85.31	↑	\$16,086	0.53%
1980	\$432.41	↑	\$346.02	↑	\$86.39	↑	\$16,333	0.53%
1981	\$434.20	↑	\$347.16	↑	\$87.05	↑	\$16,524	0.53%
1982	\$441.34	↑	\$357.15	↑	\$84.19	↓	\$16,629	0.51%
1983	\$450.29	↑	\$364.63	↑	\$85.65	↑	\$17,076	0.50%
1984	\$467.61	↑	\$380.93	↑	\$86.68	↑	\$18,215	0.48%
1985	\$481.28	↑	\$391.63	↑	\$89.65	↑	\$18,706	0.48%
1986	\$497.28	↑	\$405.37	↑	\$91.91	↑	\$19,163	0.48%
1987	\$502.68	↑	\$412.31	↑	\$90.38	↓	\$19,460	0.46%
1988	\$505.48	↑	\$413.78	↑	\$91.70	↑	\$20,213	0.45%
1989	\$513.34	↑	\$421.48	↑	\$91.87	↑	\$20,697	0.44%
1990	\$514.34	↑	\$424.66	↑	\$89.68	↓	\$20,997	0.43%
1991	\$513.47	↓	\$424.76	↑	\$88.71	↓	\$20,854	0.43%
1992	\$515.19	↑	\$426.37	↑	\$88.82	↑	\$21,411	0.41%
1993	\$517.61	↑	\$430.56	↑	\$87.05	↓	\$21,353	0.41%
1994	\$541.57	↑	\$453.52	↑	\$88.05	↑	\$21,665	0.41%
1995	\$540.32	↓	\$451.61	↓	\$88.70	↑	\$22,024	0.40%
1996	\$573.59	↑	\$482.98	↑	\$90.61	↑	\$22,470	0.40%
1997	\$581.21	↑	\$488.44	↑	\$92.77	↑	\$22,993	0.40%
1998	\$609.38	↑	\$513.66	↑	\$95.72	↑	\$24,007	0.40%
1999	\$638.41	↑	\$539.48	↑	\$98.93	↑	\$24,490	0.40%
2000	\$664.25	↑	\$563.52	↑	\$100.72	↑	\$25,473	0.40%
2001	\$674.63	↑	\$572.85	↑	\$101.78	↑	\$25,629	0.40%
2002	\$686.11	↑	\$585.01	↑	\$101.10	↓	\$26,093	0.39%
2003	\$681.08	↓	\$581.64	↓	\$99.44	↓	\$26,388	0.38%
2004	\$688.94	↑	\$587.62	↑	\$101.32	↑	\$27,036	0.37%
2005	\$697.84	↑	\$593.74	↑	\$104.10	↑	\$27,082	0.38%
2006	\$707.20	↑	\$604.25	↑	\$102.96	↓	\$27,653	0.37%
2007	\$720.95	↑	\$617.55	↑	\$103.41	↑	\$28,132	0.37%