



**Giving  
USA™**

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# Highlights

An overview of giving in 2016\*

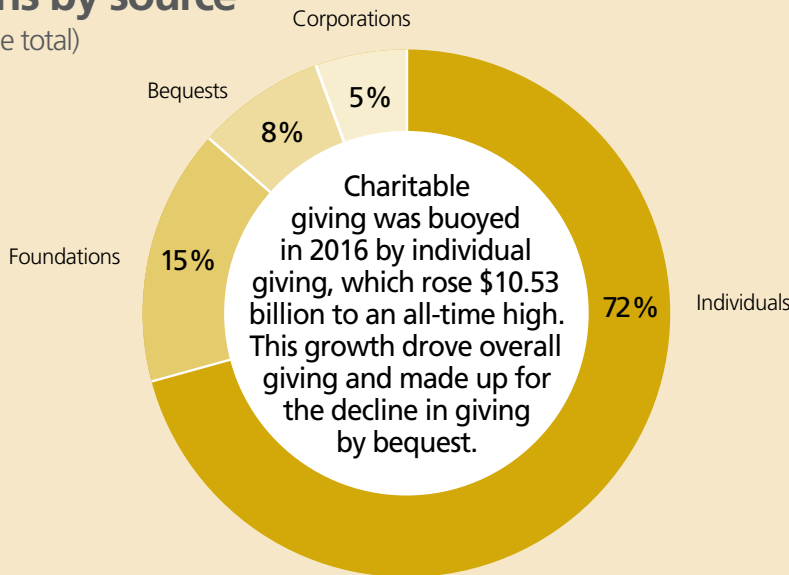
**Total 2016 contributions: \$390.05 billion**

**+2.7%**  
Total estimated U.S. charitable giving

increased by 2.7 percent, to \$390.05 billion, in 2016

## Contributions by source

(by percentage of the total)



**+3.9%**  
Giving by Individuals

is estimated to have increased by 3.9 percent.

**+3.5%**  
Giving by Foundations

is estimated to have increased by 3.5 percent.

**-9.0%**  
Giving by Bequest

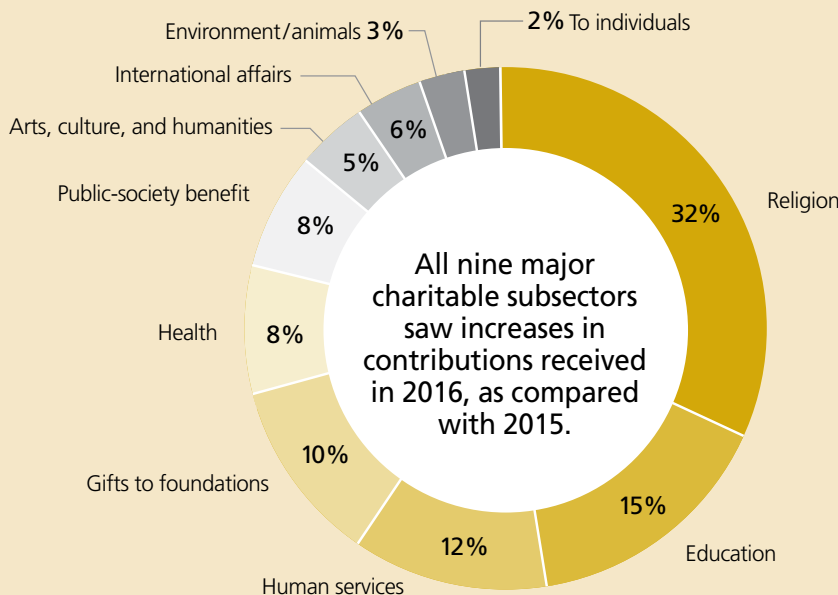
is estimated to have declined by 9.0 percent.

**+3.5%**  
Giving by Corporations

is estimated to have increased by 3.5 percent.

## Contributions by recipient category

(by percentage of the total)

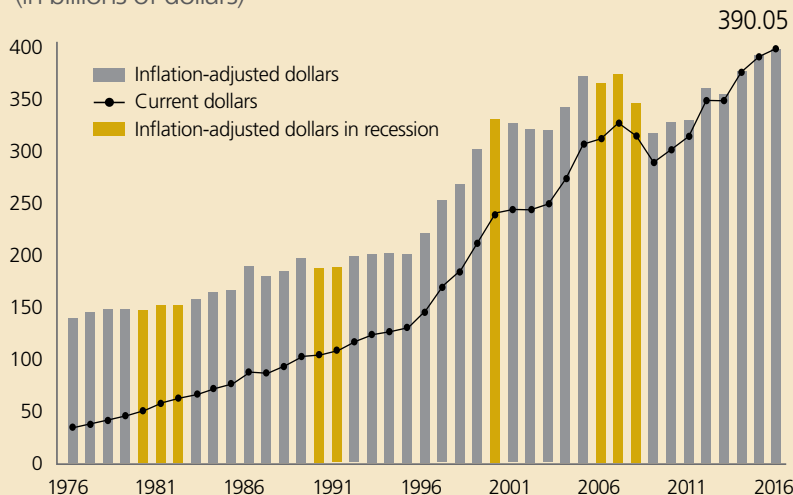


\* All figures on this page are in current dollars.

# An overview of giving in 2016

## Total giving: 1976–2016

(in billions of dollars)

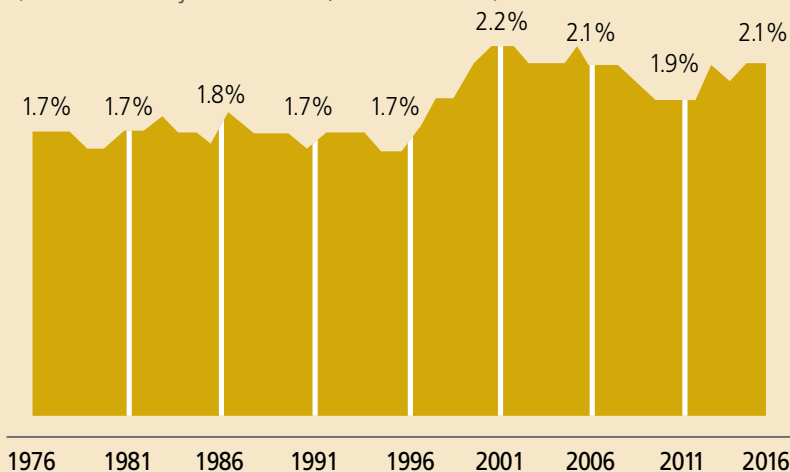


- Total giving rose 2.7 percent in current dollars in 2016, or 1.4 percent adjusted for inflation.
- Between 2006 and 2016, total giving increased by \$93.96 billion in current dollars, or \$37.56 billion in inflation-adjusted dollars.
- Total estimated giving reached its highest levels ever in 2015 and 2016 (in current and inflation-adjusted dollars).

Refer to page 40 in the annual report for a complete review of 2016 total giving trends.

## Total giving as a percentage of GDP: 1976–2016

(in inflation-adjusted dollars, 2016 = \$100)



- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reflects the economic health of a nation.
- GDP increased in inflation-adjusted dollars by 1.7 percent between 2015 and 2016. This rate of change is compared with inflation-adjusted growth in total giving of 1.4 percent. Total giving as a percentage of GDP was 2.1 percent in 2016.

Refer to page 48 in the annual report for a complete review of 2016 total giving as a percentage of GDP trends.

## 2016 giving trends

- In 2016, three of the four sources of charitable giving increased, with the exception of giving by bequest. All nine major charitable subsectors realized growth in giving, which has happened only six times in the last 40 years.
- Key economic indicators were mixed in 2016—while the S&P 500 ended the year at a high compared to 2015, other factors grew at a slower rate than previous years.

Refer to the Numbers section and chapters in the annual report for a complete review of how changes in the economic environment affected different aspects of giving in 2016.

## Key factors related to the rise in giving by individuals in 2016\*

- In 2016, per capita giving by U.S. adults reached \$1,155, and average U.S. household giving reached \$2,240.
- For the year 2016, it is estimated that giving by non-itemizing individuals grew 3.4 percent and giving by itemizing individuals grew 4.0 percent.

Refer to page 41 in the annual report for an overview of 2016 individual giving trends, as well as the chapter on giving by individuals.

## Key factors related to the increase in giving by corporations in 2016\*

- Corporate pre-tax profits rose 2.7 percent, and GDP increased 3.0 percent in 2015. Both of these factors influenced the 3.5 percent rise in corporate giving in 2016.
- Corporate giving as a percentage of corporate pre-tax profits was at 0.8 percent in 2016.

Refer to page 44 in the annual report for an overview of 2016 corporate giving trends, as well as the chapter on giving by corporations.

## Key facts about giving to particular recipient types in 2016\*

- Giving to education and public-society benefit increased for the seventh consecutive year, and giving to international affairs rose for the sixth consecutive year.
- Giving to environment/animals saw the largest increase, at 7.2 percent. This subsector has posted strong two-year growth rates.
- For the years 2012–2016, arts, culture, and humanities was the second-fastest growing subsector out of nine in terms of contributions received. Giving to international affairs was the fastest, and also had the highest two-year growth rate in 2014–2016.
- Giving to foundations and health realized stronger growth in 2016 as compared to previous years, growing 3.1 percent and 5.7 percent, respectively.

Refer to pages 52–60 in the annual report for overviews of 2016 giving by recipient type, as well as the chapters on giving to specific recipient types.

\* In current dollars.

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### Special Research Grant

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Stead Family Foundation

\*Contribution includes an amount for in-kind services

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