



**ISLAMIC
RELIEF
USA**

The Six Myths about Muslim Giving in the United States

By

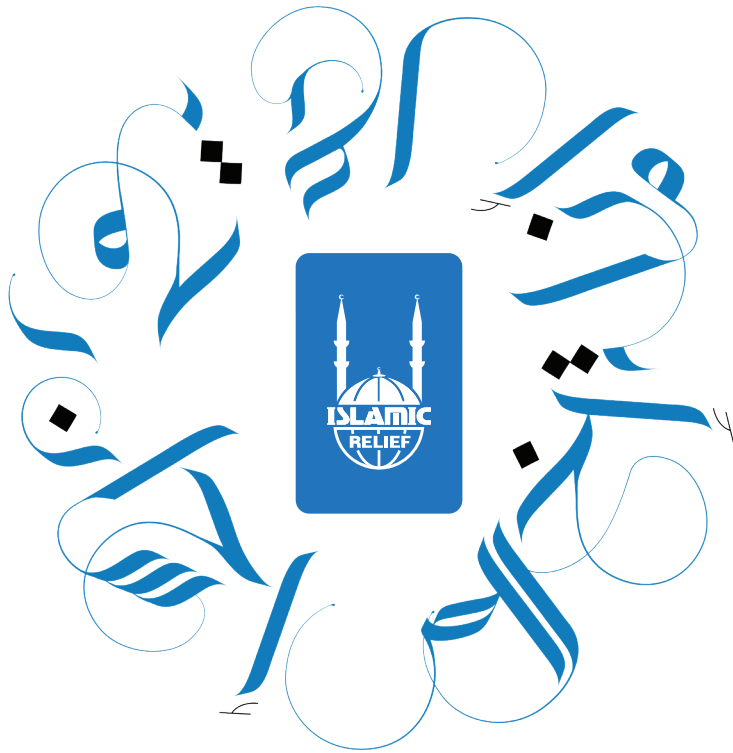
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IRUSA MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES



MISSION

Islamic Relief USA provides relief and development in a dignified manner regardless of gender, race, or religion, and works to empower individuals in their communities and give them a voice in the world.

VISION

Working together for a world free of poverty.

VALUES

إِسْمَان
E X C E L L E N C E

Our actions in tackling poverty are marked by excellence in our operations and conduct, which the people we serve deserve.

إِخْلَاص
S I N C E R I T Y

In responding to poverty and suffering, our efforts are driven by sincerity to God and the need to fulfill our obligations to humanity.

رَحْمَةٌ
C O M P A S S I O N

We believe the protection and well-being of every life is of paramount importance and we shall join with other humanitarians to act as one in responding to suffering brought on by disasters, poverty, and injustice.

أَمَانَةٌ
C U S T O D I A N S H I P

We uphold our duty of custodianship over the Earth, its resources, and the trust people place in us as humanitarian and development practitioners.

عَدْلٌ
S O C I A L J U S T I C E

Our work is founded on enabling people and institutions to fulfill the rights of the poor and vulnerable. We work to empower the dispossessed towards realizing their God-given human potential and developing their capabilities and resources.



Muslim giving in the United States has been under scrutiny since the terrorist attacks on 9/11/2001. Islamic Relief USA partnered with the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy Muslim Philanthropy Initiative (MPI) to learn more about Muslim American giving over five years through empirical research. This brief report draws upon research by MPI and Institute of Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU) to push back against five common myths about Muslim giving in the United States.

The six common myths about Muslim giving in the United States are:

Myth 1

Muslims are not very generous compared to their fellow Americans

Myth 2

Unlike other faith communities, Muslims only care about their own faith community

Myth 3

Muslims give more to their houses of worship compared to other faith communities

Myth 4

Muslims only give to Muslim-led causes

Myth 5

Muslims give most of their money outside the USA

Myth 6

Muslim give most of their money to civil rights

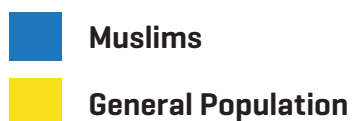
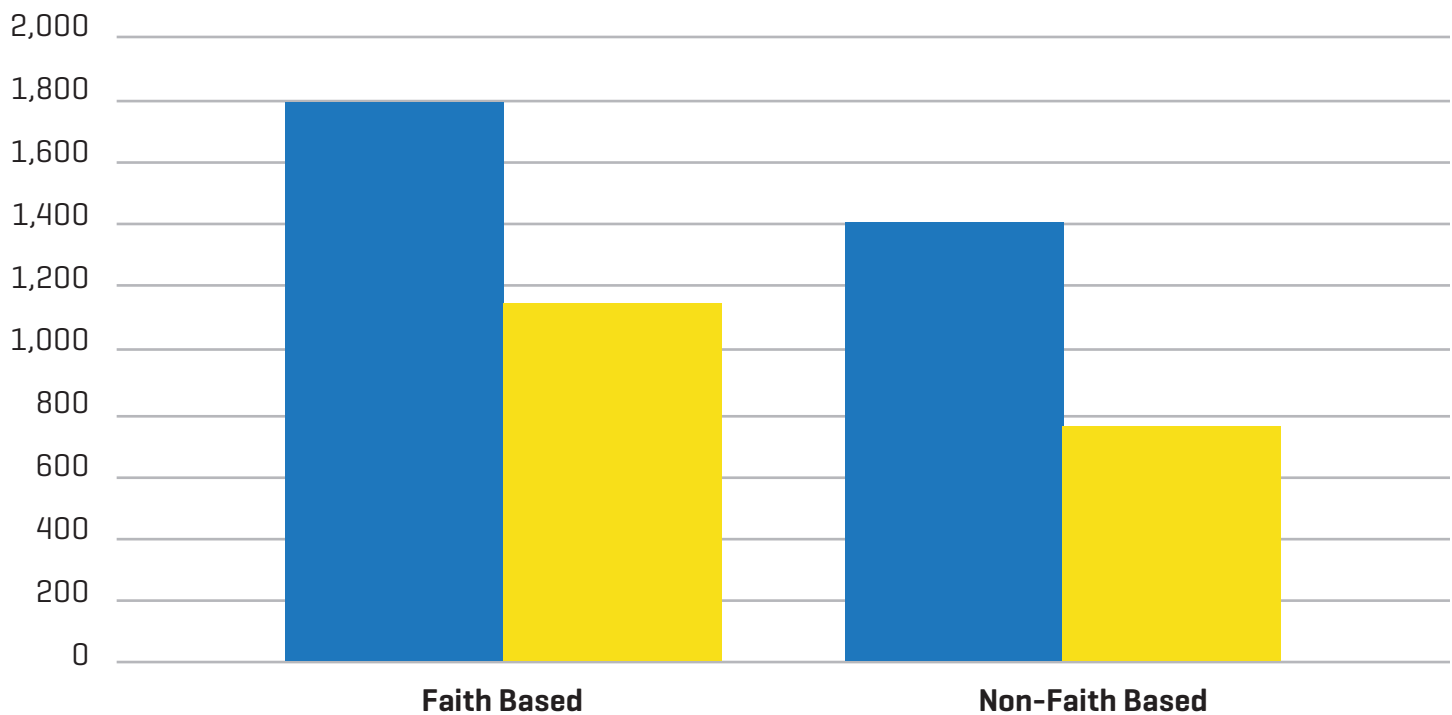


Myth 1

Muslims are not very generous compared to their fellow Americans

Despite Muslims being one of the poorest faith community in the United States - Muslims give more for both faith-based and non faith based causes than the general population.

Muslims



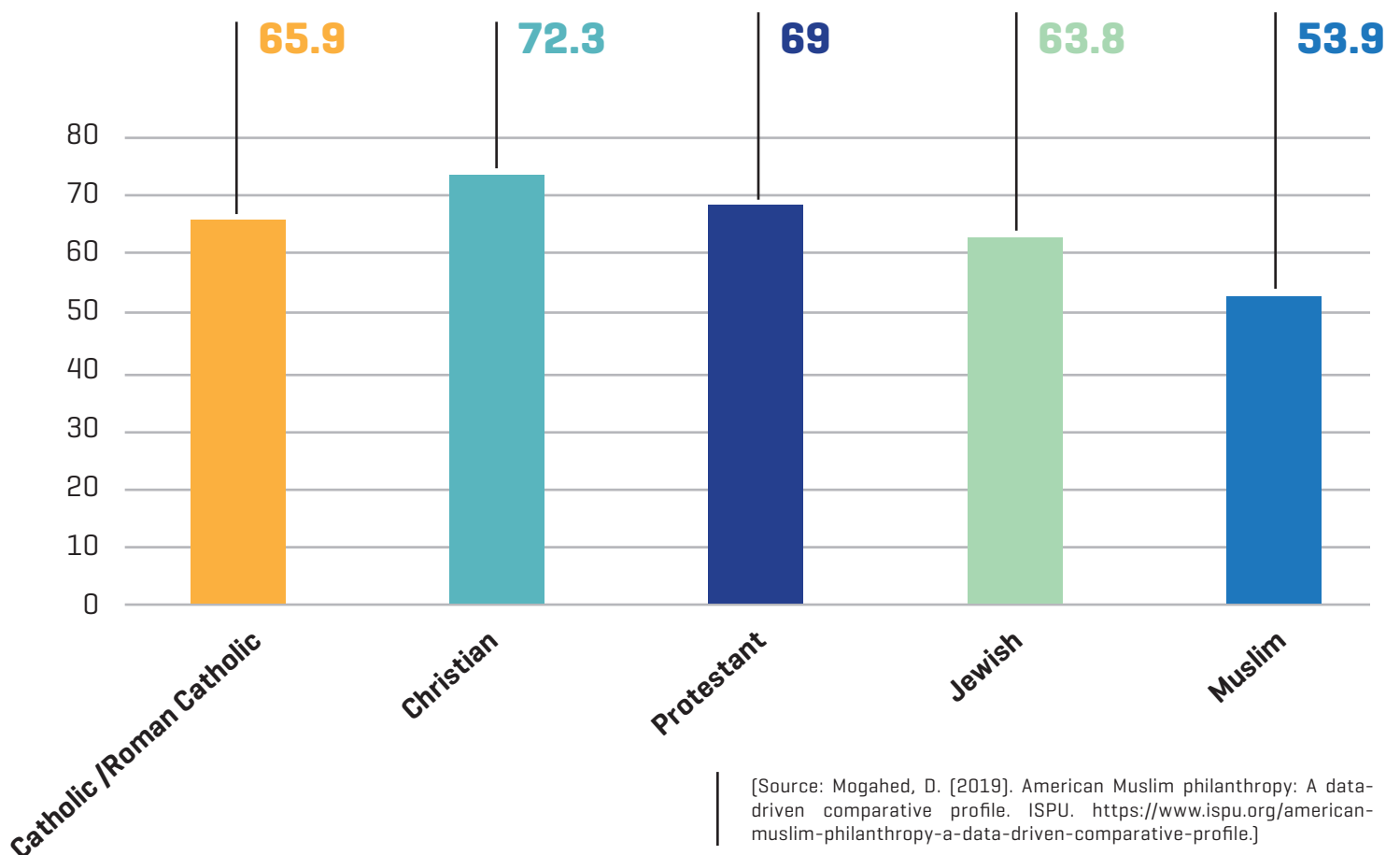
[Source: Siddiqui, S and Wasif, R., Muslim American Giving 2021. October 2021. Muslim Philanthropy Initiative at Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.]



Myth 2

Unlike other faith communities, Muslims only care about their own faith community

Muslims give less to causes within their faith than any other religious communities.



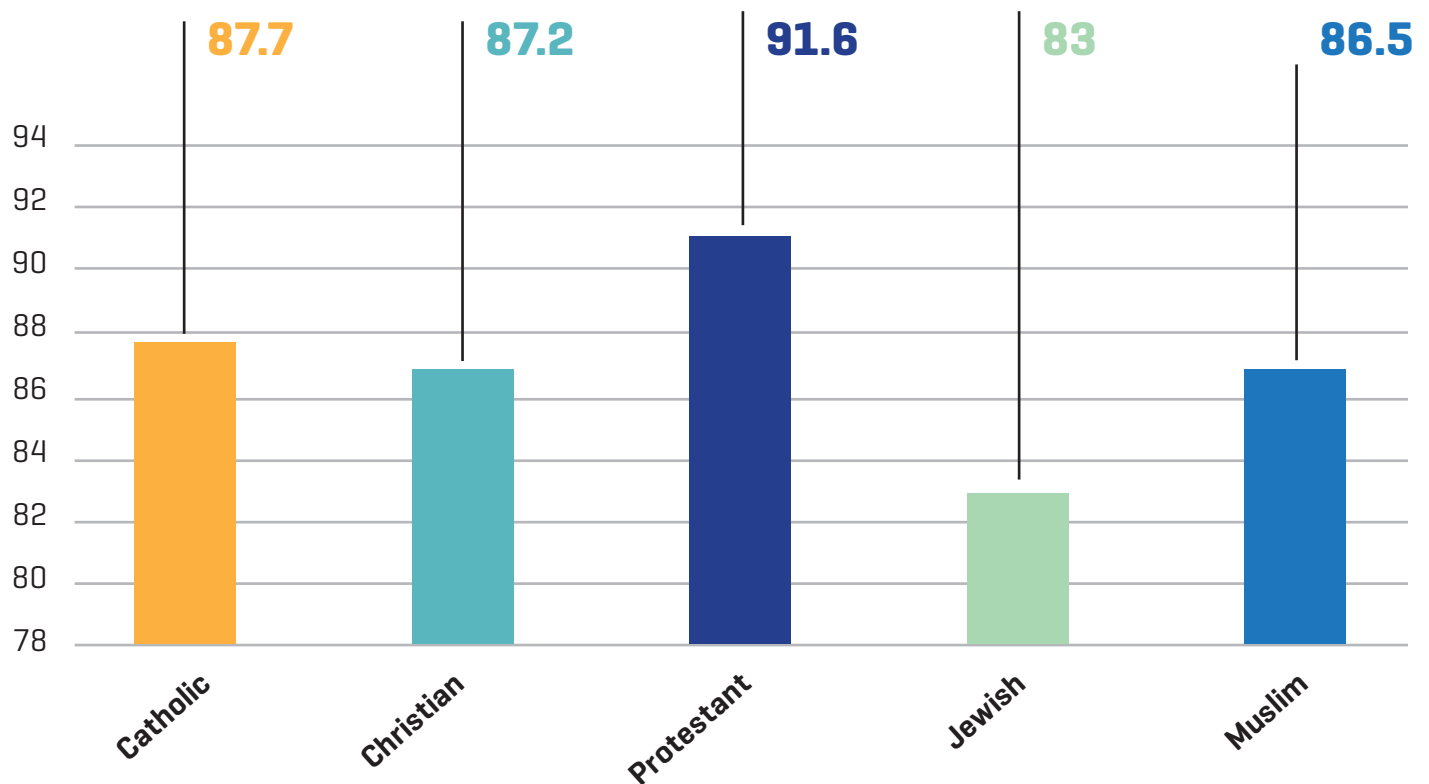


Myth 3

Muslims focus on their houses of worship

Houses of worship (or mosques) are third priority on the list of Muslim giving priorities. However, Muslims give less to their houses of worship than another religious group with the exception of Jewish Americans

House of Worship



[Source: Moghed, D. (2019). American Muslim philanthropy: A data-driven comparative profile. ISPU. <https://www.ispu.org/american-muslim-philanthropy-a-data-driven-comparative-profile>.]

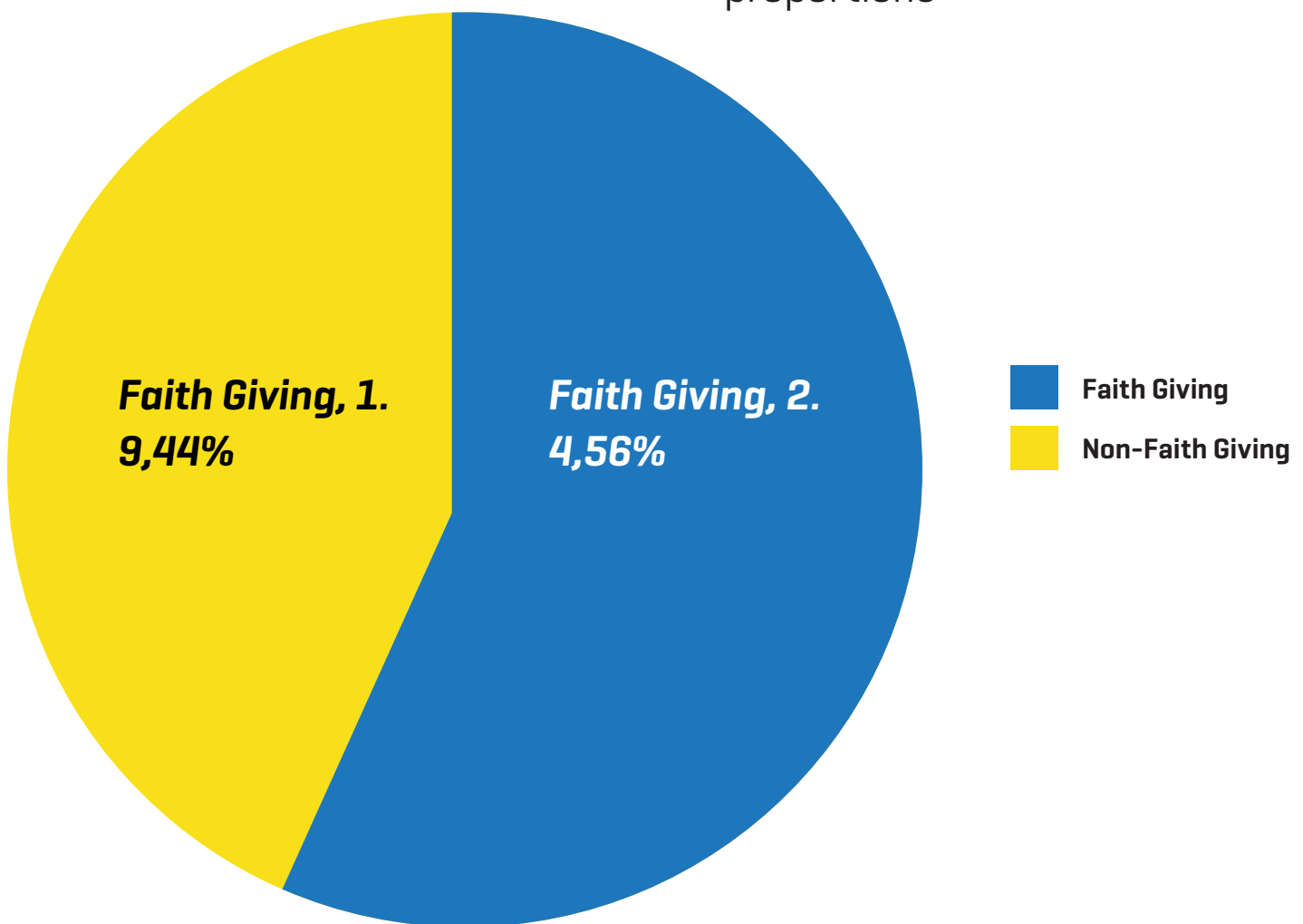


Myth 4

Muslims only give to Muslim-led causes

- Muslims are pluralistic in their giving. They give to both Muslim-led and non-Muslim-led causes in nearly equal proportions

Muslim Giving (Billion)



[Source: Siddiqui, S and Wasif, R., Muslim American Giving 2021. October 2021. Muslim Philanthropy Initiative at Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.]



Myth 5

Muslims give most of their money to overseas relief

Muslims only give 17% towards international relief with the vast majority of their giving focused on the United States. Domestic poverty relief being the top priority.

Myth 6

Muslims give most of their money to civil rights due to Islamophobia

Muslims only give 8% towards civil rights despite heightened levels of discrimination due to Islamophobia. Civil rights is tied for fourth [along with Youth and Family; the Environment; and Healthcare/Medical Research].



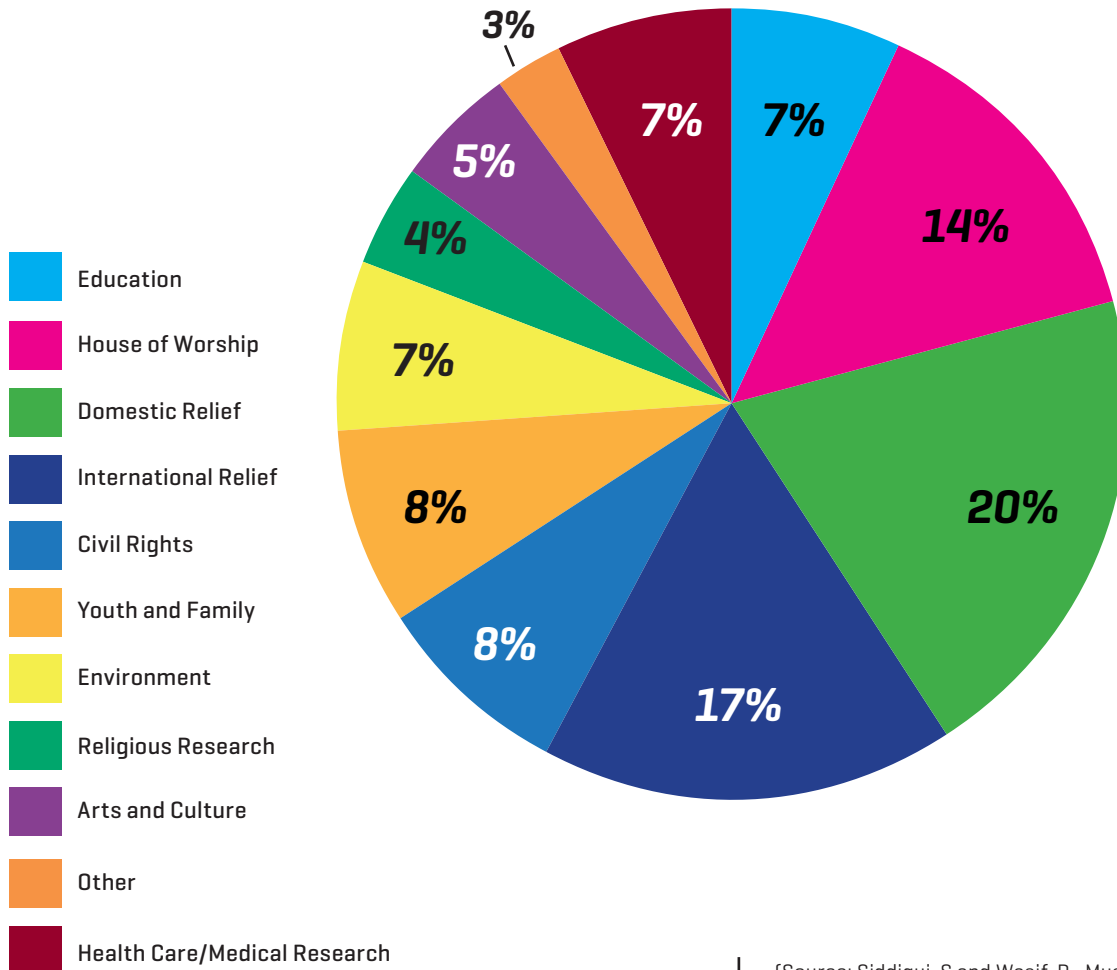
The top three priorities of Muslim giving in the United States are:

● **Domestic Relief;**

International Relief and their

Houses of Worship.

Overall Giving %



[Source: Siddiqui, S and Wasif, R., Muslim American Giving 2021. October 2021. Muslim Philanthropy Initiative at Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.]



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