

Religious Affiliation, Health Behaviors and Outcomes: Nashville REACH 2010

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Objectives: To examine the relationships of religious involvement and affiliation with health behavior and conditions. **Methods:** A survey (n = 3014) conducted for the Nashville REACH 2010 project included questions about religious affiliation and practice as well as health behaviors and conditions. **Results:** Bivariate analyses indicated negative associations between religious involvement and health, along with differences between religious affiliations/groups.

This relationship changed, however, after controlling for demographic differences and individual differences in religious involvement. **Conclusions:** Religious groups share not only beliefs, but also socioeconomic, ethnic, and cultural similarities that must be taken into account in research examining religion and health.

Key words: REACH 2010, religion, health behaviors, religious affiliation

Am J Health Behav. 2008;32(6):714-724
