

**EXERCISE 5.2**

## *How Much Should You Give?*

**5 minutes**

On average, Americans give away only about 2 percent of their income to charity. As mentioned in the Introduction, however, we know that many people give significantly more than that.

In thinking about what percentage of income you want to give away, you might start by looking at the chart below. Find your income level, and then look across the row until you see an amount that feels comfortable to you as an amount to give away. Look at the top of the chart to see what percentage that is. Do both the amount and the percentage feel right to you? If not, where is the disparity? If you have given in the past, what percentage of your income does your past giving represent? How does it compare with the amount or percentage you chose on the chart?

<i>If your income is</i>	<i>and you want to give</i>					
	<i>2%</i>	<i>3%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>20%</i>
\$30,000	600	900	1,500	3,000	4,500	6,000
\$40,000	800	1,200	2,000	4,000	6,000	8,000
\$50,000	1,000	1,500	2,500	5,000	7,500	10,000
\$60,000	1,200	1,800	3,000	6,000	9,000	12,000
\$75,000	1,500	2,250	3,750	7,500	11,250	15,000
\$100,000	2,000	3,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000
\$150,000	3,000	4,500	7,500	15,000	22,500	30,000
\$200,000	4,000	6,000	10,000	20,000	30,000	40,000
\$250,000	5,000	7,500	12,500	25,000	37,000	50,000

Note: You may choose your level of giving based on your pretax or post-tax figures.

This year I/we want to give \$\_\_\_\_\_, which represents \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my/our income.

Next year I/we want to give \$\_\_\_\_\_, which represents \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my/our income.