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Jason T Shaw* (jason.shaw@washburn.edu), Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Washburn University, 1700 SW College Ave, Topeka, KS 66621. *State-by-State Corralation Between Religious Attitudes and Math ACT/SAT Scores*. Preliminary report.

In this paper, the author analyzes each state's average ACT scores along with state-by-state religious attitudes. Gallup regularly collects data on whether individuals are "Very Religious" (they find religion an important part of their lives AND they attend religious services every week or almost every week), "Nonreligious" (religion is not important to their lives AND seldom or never attend religious services), and "Moderately Religious," for which individuals meet just one criteria.

Both the percentages of Very Religious and Nonreligious individuals in a state are significant predictors of average Math ACT scores, even with accounting for other variables such as each state's median income and education spending.

When predicting Math SAT scores, Simpson's paradox will present itself when allowing for participation rates. (Received August 02, 2016)