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JERSEY'S FAVORITE PRESIDENT? BILL CLINTON

Just under half would like their own child to be President

Who is the Garden State's favorite president of all time? **Monmouth University/Asbury Park Press Poll** asked residents to name their choice from all who have served since 1789. The results skew toward those in office during most New Jerseyans' lifetimes, with Bill Clinton, Ronald Reagan, and Barack Obama topping the chart.

Preference for Clinton (21%) has held steady compared to a poll taken three years ago when 22% of New Jerseyans named him as their favorite president. Reagan, though, has slipped from the top spot (24%) in 2010 to number two (16%) this year. Obama increased his share of the Garden State "vote" for best president from 7% three years ago to 14% today. Rounding out the top five are Abraham Lincoln – 12%, up from 7% in 2010 – and John F. Kennedy – 9% compared to 11% in 2010. Franklin D. Roosevelt and George Washington each garner 4% of the vote. The Presidents Day holiday was first established by Congress in 1879 as "Washington's Birthday," which is still its official name.

Among Republican state residents, Ronald Reagan is the clear favorite (38%) with Lincoln (15%) a distant second. Among Democrats, Clinton (33%) is tops with Obama (26%) making a strong second place showing. Among independents, Clinton (20%) just edges out Reagan (17%).

"Three years ago, Ronald Reagan garnered the most support of any president in our poll, but he seems to have lost some of that support to the nation's first Republican president, Abraham Lincoln," said Patrick Murray, director of the Monmouth University Polling Institute.

Among the state's youngest adults age 18 to 34, Clinton is tops (32%), followed by Obama (17%) and Lincoln (16%). Among those age 35 to 54, Reagan (22%) and Clinton (22%) are tied for favorite

president, followed by Obama (14%) and Lincoln (11%). Among New Jerseyans age 55 and older, Reagan (19%) edges out Kennedy (15%), Obama (12%) and Lincoln (11%) as favorite president.

About 1-in-10 New Jerseyans (11%) report that, as a child, they wanted to be president when they grew up. Men (16%) are more likely than women (5%) to have harbored that dream, but there is little gender distinction when it comes to their own children. Just under half of New Jerseyans say they would like to see a son (46%) or daughter (47%) grow up to be president. However, men are more likely to encourage that ambition in either a son (53%) or daughter (54%) than are women – just 39% would like to see either a son or daughter become president.

“Perhaps the gender disparity in these results is not because women think they are not up to the job of president, but because they wouldn’t wish the job on anyone – male or female,” said Murray.

The *Monmouth University/Asbury Park Press Poll* was conducted by telephone with 803 New Jersey adults from February 6 to 10, 2013. This sample has a margin of error of ± 3.5 percent. The poll was conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute and originally published by the Asbury Park Press and its sister publications (Courier-Post, Courier News, Daily Journal, Daily Record, and Home News Tribune).

DATA TABLES

The questions referred to in this release are as follows:
 (* Some columns may not add to 100% due to rounding.)

1. Who is your favorite president of all time? *[LIST WAS NOT READ]*

	TOTAL	PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE			RACE		HAVE CHILDREN	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black & Hisp	Yes	No
George Washington	4%	1%	7%	6%	6%	3%	4%	4%	4%	6%	1%	4%	4%
Thomas Jefferson	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Abraham Lincoln	12%	10%	13%	15%	13%	11%	16%	11%	11%	15%	5%	12%	12%
Teddy Roosevelt	2%	0%	3%	1%	3%	1%	2%	2%	1%	3%	0%	2%	2%
Franklin D. Roosevelt	4%	5%	3%	2%	4%	4%	2%	2%	7%	5%	3%	3%	4%
Harry S. Truman	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	4%	2%	0%	0%	2%
Dwight D. Eisenhower	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%
John F. Kennedy	9%	11%	10%	6%	11%	7%	6%	7%	15%	8%	10%	7%	10%
Richard Nixon	1%	0%	1%	4%	2%	1%	0%	2%	2%	2%	0%	1%	2%
Jimmy Carter	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Ronald Reagan	16%	4%	17%	38%	16%	17%	5%	22%	19%	22%	7%	16%	16%
George Bush (Senior)	1%	0%	0%	5%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%
Bill Clinton	21%	33%	20%	6%	21%	22%	32%	22%	11%	15%	35%	27%	19%
George W. Bush	2%	1%	1%	6%	2%	2%	4%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Barack Obama	14%	26%	7%	3%	12%	16%	17%	14%	12%	6%	28%	17%	13%
Other	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%
No answer	8%	5%	11%	7%	7%	9%	10%	8%	7%	7%	9%	8%	8%

TREND:	February 2013	February 2010
George Washington	4%	3%
Thomas Jefferson	1%	<1%
Abraham Lincoln	12%	7%
Teddy Roosevelt	2%	1%
Franklin D. Roosevelt	4%	5%
Harry S. Truman	1%	3%
Dwight D. Eisenhower	1%	1%
John F. Kennedy	9%	11%
Richard Nixon	1%	1%
Jimmy Carter	1%	2%
Ronald Reagan	16%	24%
George Bush (Senior)	1%	1%
Bill Clinton	21%	22%
George W. Bush	2%	2%
Barack Obama	14%	7%
Other	1%	2%
No answer	8%	7%
Unwtd N	803	803

2. When you were a child, did you ever want to grow up to be president, or not?

	TOTAL	PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE			RACE		HAVE CHILDREN	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black & Hisp	Yes	No
Yes	11%	13%	9%	14%	16%	5%	16%	10%	8%	10%	12%	15%	9%
No	88%	87%	90%	85%	83%	93%	84%	89%	90%	89%	87%	84%	90%
(VOL) Don't know	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%

[QUESTIONS 3 AND 4 WERE ROTATED]

3. If you had a young son, would you like to see him grow up to be president, or not?

	TOTAL	PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE			RACE		HAVE CHILDREN	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black & Hisp	Yes	No
Yes	46%	59%	37%	38%	53%	39%	60%	39%	44%	40%	57%	46%	46%
No	51%	39%	60%	60%	44%	58%	36%	61%	52%	59%	37%	51%	51%
(VOL) Don't know	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%	1%	4%	1%	6%	2%	3%

4. If you had a young daughter, would you like to see her grow up to be president, or not?

	TOTAL	PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE			RACE		HAVE CHILDREN	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black & Hisp	Yes	No
Yes	47%	58%	40%	37%	54%	39%	63%	40%	42%	42%	54%	45%	48%
No	50%	39%	56%	59%	42%	56%	32%	58%	53%	56%	38%	51%	49%
(VOL) Don't know	4%	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%	5%	1%	5%	2%	8%	4%	4%

The *Monmouth University/Asbury Park Press Poll* was conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute from February 6 to 10, 2013 with a statewide random sample of 803 adult residents, including 603 contacted on a landline telephone and 200 on a cell phone. Live interviewing services were provided by Braun Research, Inc. and the telephone sample was obtained from Survey Sampling International. Monmouth is responsible for all aspects of the survey questionnaire design, data weighting and analysis. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling has a maximum margin of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups, such as separate figures reported by gender or party identification, are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

<i>POLL DEMOGRAPHICS (weighted)</i>			
38% Dem	49% Male	28% 18-34	63% White
41% Ind	51% Female	40% 35-54	12% Black
21% Rep		32% 55+	16% Hispanic
			9% Asian/Other

	TOTAL	PARTY ID			GENDER		AGE			RACE		HAVE CHILDREN	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black & Hisp	Yes	No
<i>Unweighted N</i>	803	292	322	164	387	416	155	257	380	585	151	204	593
<i>moe</i>	3.5%	5.7 %	5.5%	7.7%	5.0%	4.8%	7.9%	6.1%	5.0%	4.1%	8.0%	6.9%	4.0%

It is the Monmouth University Polling Institute's policy to conduct surveys of all adult New Jersey residents, including voters and non-voters, on issues that affect the state. Specific voter surveys are conducted when appropriate during election cycles.

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