

## North Carolina's Most Admired People

### Elon University Poll

February 24-28, 2013

The president of the United States and his former secretary of state have many admirers in North Carolina. An Elon University Poll in late February 2013 asked state residents to name the one man and one woman living today, in any part of the world, they most admire. More than 17 percent named Hillary Clinton as the most admired woman, followed by First Lady Michelle Obama at 12 percent of respondents; President Barack Obama (18 percent) topped the list of most admired men, followed by the Rev. Billy Graham at 4 percent.

Four of the top 10 women and four of the top 10 men are African American (Michelle Obama; Condoleezza Rice; Oprah Winfrey; Maya Angelou; Barack Obama; Nelson Mandela; Ben Carson; and Colin Powell).

### Women Most Admired by North Carolinians

Rank	Name	% Mentioning
1	Hillary Clinton	17.5%
2	Michelle Obama	11.6%
3	Condoleezza Rice	5.2%
4	Oprah Winfrey	3.5%
5	Maya Angelou	2.4%
6	Margaret Thatcher	2.1%
7	Sarah Palin	2.0%
8	"Girl Shot by Taliban" (Malala Yousafzai)	1.6%
9	Queen Elizabeth	1.1%
10	Barbara Bush	1.0%
	Family member	7.6%
	Other Mentions	16.9%
	Don't Know	27.5%

The Elon University Poll findings are remarkably similar to a national survey conducted by Gallup in December of last year that found Hillary Clinton, Michelle Obama, Oprah Winfrey and Condoleezza Rice as the four most admired women, and Barack Obama, Nelson Mandela, Mitt Romney and Billy Graham as the four most admired men. The most notable difference is that Mitt Romney did not make the top 10 in the latest Elon University Poll. Because the survey question uses the wording "in any part of the world," respondents usually list national or international figures rather than prominent state leaders.

## Men Most Admired by North Carolinians

Rank	Name	% Mentioning
1	Barack Obama	18.0%
2	Billy Graham	3.9%
3	Nelson Mandela	2.1%
4	Bill Clinton	1.9%
5	George W. Bush	1.6%
6	Bill Gates	1.2%
7	Pope Benedict XVI	1.2%
8	John McCain	1.0%
9	Ben Carson	0.9%
10	Colin Powell	0.9%
11	Marco Rubio	0.9%
12	Warren Buffett	0.9%
	Family member	4.7%
	God or Jesus	1.3%
	Other Mentions	26.6%
	Don't Know	32.8%

### **Question Wording**

#### *Most Admired Man*

What man that you have heard or read about, living today in any part of the world, do you admire most?

#### *Most Admired Woman*

What woman that you have heard or read about, living today in any part of the world, do you admire most?

### Basic Methodological Information

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Mode:	Live Interviewer RDD Telephone Interviews (Dual Frame: Cell Phone and Landlines)
Sample Area:	North Carolina
Dates in the field:	February 24 – February 28, 2013
Sample Size	891
Margin of Error	±3.28
Confidence Level	95%
Weighting Variables	Age , Race, Gender, and Phone Ownership

**For more information on the Elon University Poll, visit [www.elon.edu/elonpoll](http://www.elon.edu/elonpoll)**

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