



The Associated Press-NORC
Center for Public Affairs Research

Public Opinion in Russia: Russians' Attitudes on Economic and Domestic Issues

**Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research
with funding from NORC at the University of Chicago**

Interview dates: November 22, 2014 – December 7, 2014

Interviews: 2,008 Russian adults (age 18 and over)

Margin of error: +/- 2.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

Some items held for later release.

Q1. Generally speaking, would you say that things in our country are headed in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Right direction	67
Wrong direction	20
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	12
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N= 2,008

Q2. When you think about how things are going in your life in general, would you say you are very happy, somewhat happy, neither happy nor unhappy, somewhat unhappy or very unhappy?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Happy NET	59
Very happy	11
Somewhat happy	48
Neither happy nor unhappy	30
Unhappy NET	8
Somewhat unhappy	7
Very unhappy	1
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	3
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N= 2,008

Q3. What do you think are the most important problems facing our country today?

INTERVIEWER: ENTER THE OPEN END VERBATIM RESPONSE

AP-NORC 11/22-12/7	First Response
Corruption	5
Crime	1
Demographics	*
Difficult to answer	7
Drugs, alcoholism	2
Economic and financial crisis, decline in production	21
Health care, education, and social services: poor quality/lack of access	6
Housing and public utilities, poor living conditions	1
Immigration in to Russia, migrants	1
Import ban of Western food products	*
Incompetence/red tape in government	2
Infrastructure, roads	*
No problem	1
Pollution, environmental problems	1
Poor quality of life, low standard of living	3
Price increases, inflation, low wages/pensions	15
Russia's position in the world	6
Situation in Ukraine	16
Terrorism	*
USA	2
Unemployment	5
Unrest and armed conflicts in the North Caucasus	*
Western sanctions	4
Exchange rate	4

N=

2,008

Q4. What are the most important problems facing you and your family today?

INTERVIEWER: ENTER THE OPEN END VERBATIM RESPONSE

AP-NORC 11/22-12/7	First Response
Corruption	1
Crime	*
Difficult to answer	8
Drugs, alcoholism	*
Economic and financial crisis, decline in production	1
Exchange rate	1
Health care, education, and social services: poor quality/lack of access	13
High prices for accommodation	6
High taxes	*
Housing and public utilities, poor living conditions	3
Immigration in to Russia, migrants	*
Incompetence/red tape in government	*
Infrastructure, roads	1
Limitation of civil liberties, powerlessness of ordinary citizens	1
No problem	14
Personal problems	2
Pollution, environmental problems	*
Poor quality of life, low standard of living	2
Price increases, inflation, low wages/pensions	40
Russia's position in the world	*
Situation in Ukraine	*
USA	*
Unemployment	6
Western sanctions	*

N=

2,008

Q5. Please tell me if you have a favorable, unfavorable or neither favorable nor unfavorable view of each of the following people and institutions?

[ROTATE ITEMS]

	Favorable NET	Strongly Favorable	Somewhat Favorable	Neither Favorable nor Unfavorable	Unfavorable NET	Somewhat Unfavorable	Strongly Unfavorable	Don't know	Refused
AP-NORC 11/22-12/7									
President Vladimir Putin	81	40	41	13	6	4	2	*	*
Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev	55	18	38	30	12	8	4	2	*
Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov	28	8	21	46	21	13	7	5	*
Blogger Alexei Navalny	6	1	5	27	31	13	17	35	2

N= 2,008

Q7. Do you approve, disapprove or neither approve nor disapprove of the way Vladimir Putin is handling his job as president?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Approve NET	81
Strongly approve	35
Somewhat approve	46
Neither approve nor disapprove	11
Disapprove NET	6
Somewhat disapprove	4
Strongly disapprove	1
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	2
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N=

2,008

Q8. For each of the following institutions in our country, please tell me how often you think you can trust each one to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, only about half of the time, only sometimes, or never?

(ROTATE ITEMS)

	Just about always/most of the time NET	Just about always	Most of the time	About half of the time	Only Sometimes/Never	Only sometimes	Never	Don't know	Refused
AP-NORC 11/22-12/7									
The presidency	75	36	39	16	7	5	2	2	*
The military	65	27	38	21	10	7	3	4	*
Federal assembly (Duma)	31	8	24	33	28	18	10	8	*
The judiciary	30	7	22	33	29	19	10	8	*
The police	30	9	22	34	31	20	11	5	*

N=2,008

Q9. How would you rate the condition of our country's economy today? Is it...

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Excellent/Good NET	15
Excellent	1
Good	14
Fair	44
Poor/Very poor NET	39
Poor	31
Very Poor	8
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	3
Refused (DO NOT READ)	-

N=

2,008

Q10. Compared to 3 years ago, would you say that the condition of our country's economy is better, worse, or about the same today as it was then?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Better NET	24
Much better	2
Somewhat better	22
About the same	28
Worse NET	44
Somewhat worse	35
Much worse	9
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	4
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N=

2,008

Q11. Looking ahead 3 years from now, do you think the condition of our country's economy will be better, worse or about the same as it is today?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Better NET	38
Much better	4
Somewhat better	33
About the same	26
Worse NET	18
Somewhat worse	15
Much worse	4
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	18
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N=

2,008

Q12. How would you rate the condition of your family's finances today? Are they...

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Excellent/Good NET	24
Excellent	1
Good	23
Fair	51
Poor/Very poor NET	23
Poor	19
Very Poor	4
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	2
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N= 2,008

Q13. Compared to 3 years ago, would you say that the condition of your family's finances is better, worse, or about the same today as it was then?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Better NET	23
Much better	2
Somewhat better	20
About the same	39
Worse NET	37
Somewhat worse	30
Much worse	7
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	2
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N= 2,008

Q14. Looking ahead 3 years from now, do you think the condition of your family's finances will be better, worse or about the same as it is today?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Better NET	37
Much better	4
Somewhat better	33
About the same	28
Worse NET	13
Somewhat worse	11
Much worse	2
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	22
Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

N= 2,008

Q15. Looking ahead 20 years from now, when children being born today grow up, do you think they will be better off, worse off or about the same as people are now?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Better NET	49
Much better	8
Somewhat better	41
About the same	19
Worse NET	13
Somewhat worse	10
Much worse	2
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	19
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N=

2,008

Q16. How serious a problem are each of the following in our country today? For each one, please tell me if it is an extremely serious problem, very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious problem. How about...

	Very/ Extremely serious NET	Extremely serious problem	Very serious problem	Somewhat serious problem	Not very/Not at all serious NET	Not too serious problem	Not at all serious problem	Don't know	Refused
AP-NORC 11/22-12/7									
Drug abuse	83	50	33	12	3	2	1	2	*
Corruption	79	45	33	15	4	3	1	2	*
Pollution	71	31	40	22	6	4	2	1	*
The gap between rich and poor	70	35	35	22	6	5	1	2	*
Access to medical care	69	38	32	22	8	6	1	1	*
Unemployment	65	29	35	26	8	6	2	1	*
Poverty	64	26	38	26	9	8	1	1	*
Crime	63	26	36	29	6	6	*	2	*
Organized crime	61	27	34	27	7	6	1	5	*
Terrorism	56	23	33	28	14	10	3	2	*
Access to education	51	20	31	31	15	11	4	3	*
Tensions between the government and opposition	36	13	23	27	25	17	7	12	*
Election fraud	34	14	20	28	26	16	10	12	*
Hunger	26	13	14	29	40	27	14	4	*

N=2,008

Q17. How interested are you personally in politics?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Extremely/Very interested NET	15
Extremely interested	4
Very interested	11
Somewhat interested	54
Not too/Not at all interested NET	30
Not too interested	26
Not at all interested	4
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	1
Refused (DO NOT READ)	-

N=

2,008

Q19. How often do you watch, read, or hear the news? Do you generally watch, read, or hear the news at least once a day, several times a week, weekly, less often or never?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
At least once a day	56
Several times a week	22
Weekly	9
Less often	11
Never	1
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	1
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N=

2,008

Q20. What are your main sources of news about what is going on in our country and in the world?

(INTERVIEWER: RECORD FIRST AND SUBSEQUENT RESPONSES)

AP-NORC 11/22-12/7	First Response	Subsequent responses
State-owned TV stations («Первый канал», «Россия», «Культура», региональные каналы ВГТРК)	75	14
Independently-owned TV stations («Рен-ТВ», CTC, ТНТ, «Дождь», РБК, другие негосударственные/коммерческие каналы, включая региональные и местные)	5	27
Internet	14	24
Foreign news sources	*	3
State-owned newspapers	*	8
Independently-owned newspapers	1	5
Radio	1	12
Family, friends, and/or neighbors	2	21
Other (write in _____)	*	*
(Vol.) HTA	1	8
N=	2,008	2,008

Q21. Are you using a computer, tablet, or smart phone to access your sources of news most of the time when you watch, read, or hear the news, sometimes, or never?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Most of the time	27
Sometimes	30
Never	43
N=	2,008

Q23. Should there be more private ownership of business and industry, or should there be more government ownership of business and industry?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
More private ownership	28
More government ownership	57
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	15
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

N= 2,008

Q34. When it comes to the Ukraine, would you say except Crimea there are many parts that rightfully belong to Russia, a few parts that rightfully belong to Russia or there are no parts that rightfully belong to Russia?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Many parts rightfully belong to Russia	21
A few parts rightfully belong to Russia	48
No parts rightfully belong to Russia	31

N= 2,008

Q35. Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way Vladimir Putin has handled the situation in Ukraine? Would you say somewhat approve/disapprove or strongly approve/disapprove?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Approve NET	79
Strongly approve	27
Somewhat approve	53
Neither approve nor disapprove	15
Disapprove NET	6
Somewhat disapprove	5
Strongly disapprove	1

N= 2,008

Q36. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose Russia supporting Ukrainians who want to break off from the Kiev government? Would you say somewhat favor/oppose or strongly favor/oppose?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Favor NET	66
Strongly favor	18
Somewhat favor	48
Neither favor nor oppose	25
Oppose NET	9
Somewhat oppose	8
Strongly oppose	1

N= 2,008

Q37. What, if any effect, have economic sanctions from Europe and the United States had on the Russian economy? Would you say extremely negative effect, negative effect, no effect, positive effect or extremely positive effect?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Positive effect NET	7
Extremely positive effect	*
Positive effect	7
No effect	29
Negative effect NET	64
Negative effect	52
Extremely negative effect	12

N= 2,008

Q38. What, if any effect, have economic sanctions from Europe and the United States had on you and your family? Would you say extremely negative effect, negative effect, no effect, positive effect or extremely positive effect?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Positive effect NET	2
Extremely positive effect	*
Positive effect	2
No effect	54
Negative effect NET	45
Negative effect	39
Extremely negative effect	6

N= 2,008

Q41. What is your favorite sport to watch?

[INTERVIEWER: CODE ONE ANSER ONLY]

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Figure skating	27
Soccer	19
Ice hockey	9
Ski, snowboard, biathlon	6
Gymnastics	5
Boxing	4
Basketball	3
Volleyball	2
Track and field	2
Martial arts/extreme fighting	2
Tennis	2
Curling	1
Weightlifting	1
Wrestling	1
Handball	*
Rugby	*
Bandy	*
Chess	*
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	12
Refused (DO NOT READ)	2

N=

2,008

Q42. All things considered, what, if any, effect will hosting the 2018 World Cup have on Russia's economy? Would you say very positive, positive, no effect, negative or very negative?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Very positive	12
Positive	38
Positive NET	50
No effect	33
Negative	14
Very negative	3
Negative NET	17

N= 2,008

Q43. All things considered, what, if any, effect will hosting the 2018 World Cup have on Russia's international image? Would you say very positive, positive, no effect, negative or very negative?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Very positive	19
Positive	52
Positive NET	70
No effect	26
Negative	3
Very negative	*
Negative NET	3

N= 2,008

Q44. All things considered, what, if any, was the effect of hosting the 2014 Winter Olympics on Russia's economy? Would you say very positive, positive, no effect, negative or very negative?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Very positive	16
Positive	35
Positive NET	51
No effect	29
Negative	16
Very negative	4
Negative NET	20

N= 2,008

Q45. All things considered, what, if any, was the effect of hosting the 2014 Winter Olympics on Russia's image internationally? Would you say very positive, positive, no effect, negative or very negative?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Very positive	29
Positive	49
Positive NET	78
No effect	20
Negative	2
Very negative	*
Negative NET	2

N=

2,008

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE**D1. DO NOT ASK. INTERVIEWER: RECORD RESPONDENT'S GENDER**

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Male	45
Female	55
N=	2,008

D2a. What is your age?*(IF REFUSED)***D2b. In which of the following groups does your age fall in?**

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
18-19	6
20-24	9
25-29	11
30-34	9
35-39	9
40-44	9
45-49	8
50-54	9
55-59	9
60-64	7
65-69	6
70 and above	8
Refused	1
N=	2,008

D3. Which of the following durables does your household own? (MULTIPLE RESPONSE)

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Air conditioner	17
Car	50
Hi-fi stereo with CD/VCD/DVD (all kinds of disc)	40
Radio cassette without CD/VCD/DVD	20
Computer	71
Telephone (landline)	51
Refrigerator	98
Gas cooker	80
Washing machine	94
N=	2,008

D4. Are you the main wage earner in your household?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Yes, I am	63
No, I am not	37
<i>N=</i>	<i>2,008</i>

IF THE RESPONDENT IS THE MAIN WAGE EARNER, ASK EDUCATION AND OCCUPATION QUESTIONS ONLY FOR THE RESPONDENT. OTHERWISE, ASK THEM SEPARATELY BOTH FOR THE RESPONDENT AND THE MAIN WAGE EARNER.

D5a. Could you please tell me the last school you've graduated from? (SINGLE CODE)

D5b. Could you please tell me the last school that the main wage earner in your household is graduated from? (SINGLE CODE)

AP-NORC 11/22-12/7	D5a	D5b
Uneducated	*	*
Primary school	1	*
Secondary school	6	2
High school	16	10
Secondary special/tekhnikum	40	44
University	37	42
Post graduate	*	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>2,008</i>	<i>839</i>

D6a. Do you currently work? If yes, do you work part time or full time?

D6b. Does the main wage earner currently work? If yes, does he/she work part time or full time?

AP-NORC 11/22-12/7	D6a	D6b
Full time	57	85
Part time	7	7
Does not work	36	8
<i>N=</i>	<i>2,008</i>	<i>839</i>

D7a. What is your occupation?**D7b. What is the occupation of the main wage earner in your household?**

	D7a	D7b
AP-NORC 11/22-12/7		
UNEMPLOYED		
-HOUSEWIFE	5	*
-STUDENT	8	*
-RETIRED	22	7
-WHO LIVES ON INTEREST RATE/ STOCKS ETC.	*	*
-UNEMPLOYED/LOOKING FOR JOB	2	1
SELF-EMPLOYED		
-OWNER OF LARGE SCALE ENTERPRISE (EMPLOYS +25 PEOPLE)	*	*
-OWNER OF MEDIUM SCALE ENTERPRISE (EMPLOYS 10-24 PEOPLE)	1	1
-OWNER OF SMALL SCALE ENTERPRISE (EMPLOYS -10 PEOPLE)	1	4
- TRADESMAN / WHOLESALER / MERCHANT	*	1
- MEDIUM TRADESMAN	1	1
- SMALL TRADESMAN	1	1
- DRIVER (OWNER)	1	2
- STREET VENDER	*	*
- DOCTOR / CHEMIST / DENTIST / ARCHITECT ETC. (SELF-EMPLOYED)	1	2
- BIG FARMER	-	-
- SMALL FARMER	*	*
WAGE-EARNERS		
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR...	4	5
....HIGH LEVEL MANAGER (50 EMPLOYEES)		
.... HIGH LEVEL MANAGER (10- 50 +EMPLOYEES)	1	2
....HIGH LEVEL MANAGER (-10 EMPLOYEES)	1	1
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR...	4	5
....MEDIUM LEVEL MANAGER (50 + EMPLOYEES)		
MEDIUM LEVEL MANAGER (10- 50 EMPLOYEES)	3	5
(MEDIUM LEVEL MANAGER (-10 EMPLOYEES)	2	3
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR	1	1
....LOW LEVEL MANAGER		
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR	5	5
....EMPLOYEE – OFFICE STAFF		
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR	1	*
PHYSICAL EFFORT WORKING (tea-seller, courier, postman, etc.)		
- DOCTOR / CHEMIST / DENTIST / ARCHITECT ETC.	1	2
- SHOP ASSISTANT / SALES PERSON	2	1
- NURSE / HOSTESS / STEWARD / WAITER/ BARMAN ETC SERVING STAFF	2	1
- TEACHER (ELEMENTARY/ SECONDARY SCHOOL)	2	3
- TEACHER (UNIVERSITY)	*	*
- LOW RANK ARMY OFFICER	*	1
- HIGH RANK ARMY OFFICER	*	2
- DRIVER	3	5
- SKILLED WORKER	9	18

- WORKER	5	9
- TECHNICAL PERSON	3	3
ARTIST / SPORTS PLAYER / DIVER / MODEL / SINGER	*	*
OTHER	6	9
<i>N=</i>	2,008	839

D8. What is your marital status?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Married	57
Widow/divorced	20
Single	22

N= 2,008

D9. Do you have children, if yes how many children do you have?

	AP-NORC 11/22- 12/7
NO children	38
Yes, 1 child	33
... 2 children	23
... 3 children	5
... 4 children	*
... 5 children	*
... 6 children +	*

N= 2,008

If "yes" in D9

D10. Please tell me the age of your children? (MULTI-RESPONSE POSSIBLE)

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
0 – 12 month	5
1 – 3 age	11
4 – 6 age	13
7 – 9 age	12
10 – 12 age	12
13 – 15 age	9
16 - 18 age	8
19 age +	53

N= 1,275

D11. Including yourself, how many people live in your household?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
1	16
2	32
3	26
4	16
5	7
6	2
7	1
8 +	*

N= 2,008

D12. Please let me know your monthly personal income. (SHOWCARD)

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Lower than 5000 RUB	2
5001 RUB- 10,000 RUB	13
10,001 RUB - 17,000 RUB	23
17,001 RUB - 25,000 RUB	17
25,001 RUB - 34,000 RUB	11
34,001 RUB - 42,000 RUB	5
42,001 RUB - 50,000 RUB	4
50,001 RUB - 59,000 RUB	2
59,001 RUB - 67,000 RUB	1
67,001 RUB - 76,000 RUB	1
76,001 RUB - 84,000 RUB	1
84,001 RUB - 100,000 RUB	*
100,000 RUB - 126,000 RUB	*
Higher than 126,000 RUB	*
No income	7
Refused (DO NOT SHOW)	13

N= 2,008

D13. About how many hours in your average week do you spend doing each of these activities?

**INTERVIEWER: (READ EACH ITEM) (IF HESITATES, SAY: "JUST GIVE ME YOUR BEST ESTIMATE."
(WRITE # OF HOURS. ROUND UP TO NEXT HOUR: IF 1 ½ HOURS, RECORD "02." NONE=00)**

AP-NORC 11/22-12/7	Median	Mean
Using a computer	6	12
Using the Internet or going online	5	10
Watching television	14	17
<i>N</i> =	2,008	2,008

D14. Generally speaking, would you say you use your landline phone most of the time, your cell phone most of the time, or would you say you use both about equally?

AP-NORC 11/22-12/7	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Landline	8
Cell phone	78
Both equally	12
Neither	2
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	1
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*
<i>N</i> =	2,008

D15. What is your ethnicity? (DO NOT READ LIST)

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Russian	85
Ukrainian	1
Byelorussian	1
Tatarian	4
Bashkir	1
Jewish	*
German	*
Udmurt	1
Khazakh	*
Khakas	-
Komi/Komi-permyak	-
Chuvash	1
Mordva	*
Adyg	-
Cherquis/Karachaejets	*
Kabardin/Balkarian	*
Ossetin	*
Ingush/Chechen	*
Dagestani/Lezgin/Avar	3
Yakut/other peoples of the Polar North	*
Buryat/Tuvin	*
Other (write in)	1
Hard to say/multiethnic origins/	1
Refused	1

N=

2,008

D16. (INTERVIEWER: RECORD TYPE OF PLACE.)

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Moscow	8
Capital city of oblast	33
Large town (100,000 residents or more)	18
Small town (less than 100,000 residents)	23
Rural	18

N=

2,008

D17. (RECORD FEDERAL DISTRICT)

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
North Western	10
Central	27
Southern	10
North Caucasian	7
Volga	21
Ural	8
Siberian	14
Far Eastern	4
<i>N=</i>	<i>2,008</i>

D18. Do you own or rent the home you currently live in?

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Own	88
Rent	8
Other	3
Don't know	*
Refused to answer	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>2,008</i>

D19. Which one party do you personally most identify with? (RECORD ONE ANSWER)

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
Communist Party	10
LDPR	7
Yabloko	*
United Russia	41
Right Cause (Pravoye Delo)	*
Just Russia	3
Patriots of Russia	*
People's Union (Narodniy Soyuz)	-
Solidarity	*
Party of People's Freedom –Republican Party (PARNAS- RPR)	*
Rodina – KRO	*
Civil Platform Party (Prokhorov's Party)	*
Green Alliance (Mitvol's Party)	-
People's Alliance (Navalny's Party)	*
Other (write in) (Vol.)	*
None (Vol.)	30
Hard to answer (Vol.)	7

N=

2,008

D20. What is your religion, if any? (DO NOT READ LIST)

	AP-NORC 11/22-12/7
None	10
Christian Orthodox	64
Christian Other	4
Jewish (Judaism)	*
Muslim (Islam)	7
Buddhist	*
Atheist	3
Believe in God but do not belong to a particular religion	8
Other	1
Hard to answer/refused	2

N=

2,008

About the Study

This survey, funded by NORC at the University of Chicago, was conducted by NORC with fieldwork by GfK Russia between the dates of November 22 and December 7, 2014. Staff from NORC at the University of Chicago and the Associated Press collaborated on all aspects of the study.

The survey featured a nationally representative, multi-stage cluster, random route-sample of adults 18 years and older in Russia. The poll was conducted with in-person interviews of 2,008 adults.

At the first stage, the population was stratified into six groups, based on population size, for each of eight different regions of the country (Central, North-West, Southern, North-Caucasian, Volga, Ural, Siberian, and Far Eastern). In the end, 142 different groups were selected across 75 different regions. At the second stage, secondary sample units were randomly selected from a full list of election districts. At the third stage, a starting address point was assigned for each election district. On average, six interviews were conducted in each sampling point. Within-household selection was based on the last birthday method.

Interviewers selected and visited 14,021 addresses, and had a 57 percent contact rate. Among those contacted, 21 percent responded. Including non-contacts, the cumulative response rate is 14 percent. The overall margin of error +/- 2.4 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level (including the design effect).

Sampling weights were calculated to adjust for sample design aspects (such as unequal probabilities of selection) and for nonresponse bias arising from differential response rates across various demographic groups. Poststratification variables included age, sex, and region of the country. The data are weighted to reflect the Russian population based on the 2010 Russian Census.

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