

## Public Opinion Monitoring of the State of the Russian Society

As in the previous issues, we publish the results of the monitoring of public opinion concerning the state of the Russian society. The monitoring is conducted by VoIRC RAS in the Vologda Region<sup>1</sup>.

The following tables and graphs show the dynamics of several parameters of social well-being and socio-political sentiment of the region's population according to the results of the latest round of the monitoring (October 2025) and for the period from October 2024 to October 2025 (the last seven surveys, that is, almost a year).

We compare the results of the surveys with the average annual data for 2000 (the first year of Vladimir Putin's first presidential term), 2007 (the last year of Vladimir Putin's second presidential term, when the assessment of the President's work was the highest), 2012 (the first year of Vladimir Putin's third presidential term) and 2018 (the first year of Vladimir Putin's fourth presidential term).

The annual dynamics of the data are presented for 2000–2024<sup>2</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> The surveys are held six times a year in the cities of Vologda and Cherepovets, in Babayevsky, Velikoustyugsky, Vozhegodsky, Gryazovetsky, Tarnogsky Kirillovsky, Nikolsky municipal okrugs, and in Sheksninsky Municipal District. The method of the survey is a questionnaire poll by place of residence of respondents. The volume of a sample population is 1,500 people 18 years of age and older. The sample is purposeful and quoted. The representativeness of the sample is ensured by the observance of the proportions between the urban and rural population, the proportions between the inhabitants of settlements of various types (rural communities, small and medium-sized cities), age and sex structure of the Region's adult population. Sampling error does not exceed 3%.

More information on the results of VoIRC RAS surveys is available at <http://www.vscs.ac.ru>.

<sup>2</sup> In 2020, four rounds of the monitoring were conducted. Surveys in April and June 2020 were not conducted due to quarantine restrictions during the spread of COVID-19.

During the period from August to October 2025, the President's approval rating did not change and amounted to 66–67%. The proportion of negative judgments remained within 19%.

Over the past 12 months (from October 2024 to October 2025), the share of positive assessments of the activities of the head of state has also remained at the same level (66–67%)<sup>3</sup>.

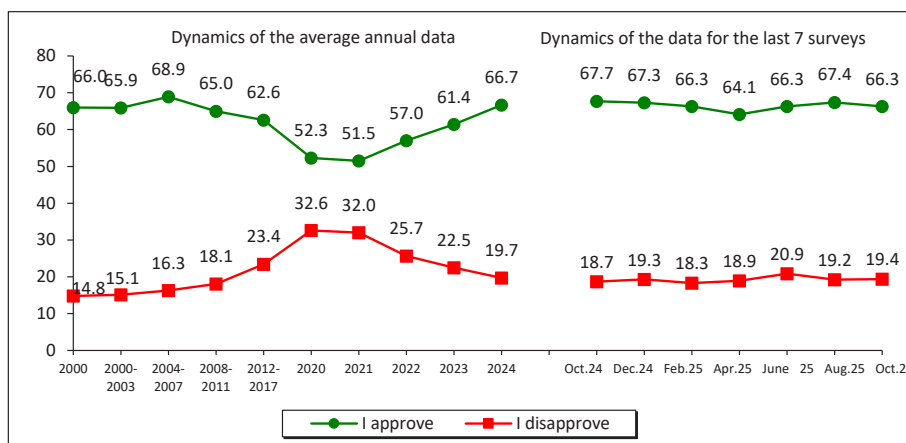
#### How would you assess the current work of...? (% of respondents)

Response	Dynamics of the average annual data										Dynamics of the data for the last 7 surveys							Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	2000	2007	2012	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		Oct. 2024	Dec. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025	June 2025	Aug. 2025	Oct. 2025	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
<b>RF President</b>																			
I approve	66.0	75.3	51.7	66.4	52.3	51.5	57.0	61.4	66.7		67.7	67.3	66.3	64.1	66.3	67.4	66.3	-1	-1
I disapprove	14.8	11.5	32.6	21.7	32.6	32.0	25.7	22.5	19.7		18.7	19.3	18.3	18.9	20.9	19.2	19.4	+1	0
<b>Chairman of the RF Government</b>																			
I approve	–	–	49.6	48.0	38.7	39.9	45.4	50.1	54.1		53.7	55.6	54.7	53.9	53.0	55.1	55.7	+2	+1
I disapprove	–	–	33.3	31.6	40.4	37.6	32.0	27.6	24.8		25.5	25.3	23.8	22.3	22.9	20.6	23.1	-2	+3
<b>Vologda Region Governor</b>																			
I approve	56.1	55.8	41.9	38.4	35.0	36.7	40.9	48.1	51.7		51.9	50.8	46.8	42.9	39.9	41.0	41.8	-10	+1
I disapprove	19.3	22.2	33.3	37.6	42.5	40.5	35.8	30.9	28.4		28.0	29.8	31.4	34.6	37.2	39.1	41.3	+13	+2

Here and elsewhere, in all tables and in the text, **positive changes are highlighted in green**, **negative changes are highlighted in red**, and **no changes – in blue**. Due to the fact that the changes of +/- 3 p.p. fall within the limits of sampling error, they are considered insignificant and are marked in blue.

Wording of the question: "How would you assess the current work of ...?"

#### How would you assess the way that the RF President is handling his job? (% of respondents, VoIRC RAS data)



Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
I approve	-1	-1
I disapprove	+1	0

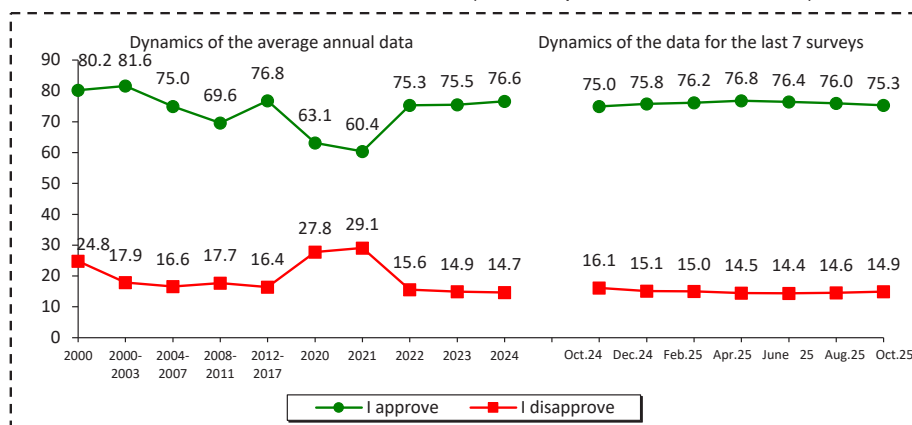
Here and elsewhere, all graphs show the average annual data for 2000, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, as well as the average annual data for the periods 2000–2003, 2004–2007, 2008–2011, 2012–2017 that correspond to presidential terms.

<sup>3</sup> Here and further in the text, the results of a comparative analysis of the data from the survey conducted in October 2025 with the results of the monitoring carried out in October 2024 are given in the frame.

**For reference:**

According to VCIOM, the assessment of the RF President's performance from August to the first half of October 2025 did not change: the share of positive judgments is 75%, negative – 15%.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the RF President is handling his job?  
(% of respondents; VCIOM data)



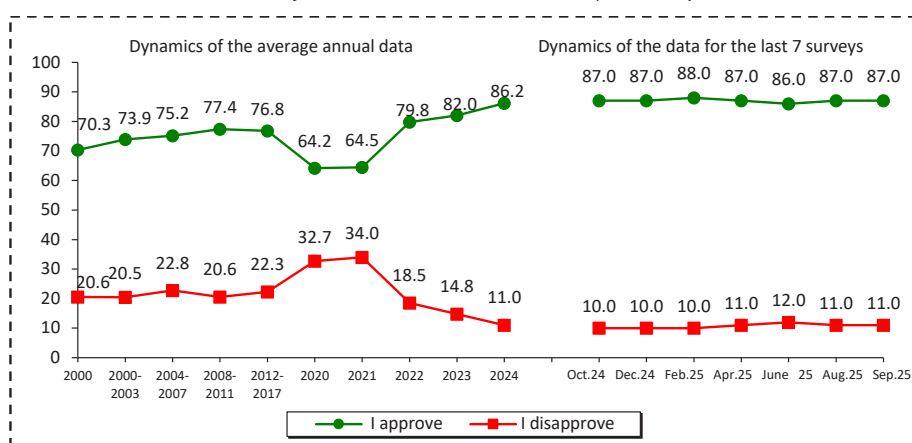
Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
I approve	0	-1
I disapprove	-1	0

Wording of the question: "In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the Russian President is handling his job?"  
Data as of September 2025 – for one survey as of October 5, 2025.  
Source: VCIOM. Available at: <https://wciom.ru/>

According to Levada-Center\*, the share of positive assessments of the activities of the President of the Russian Federation in August – October 2025 was 87%; the share of negative characteristics was 11%.

During the year of observations, no changes were recorded: the share of positive characteristics was 87%, negative – 10–11%.

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Vladimir Putin is handling his job as President of Russia? (% of respondents; Levada-Center\* data)



Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
I approve	0	0
I disapprove	+1	0

Wording of the question: "In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way that Vladimir Putin is handling his job as President of Russia?"  
Source: Levada-Center\*. Available at: <https://www.levada.ru/>

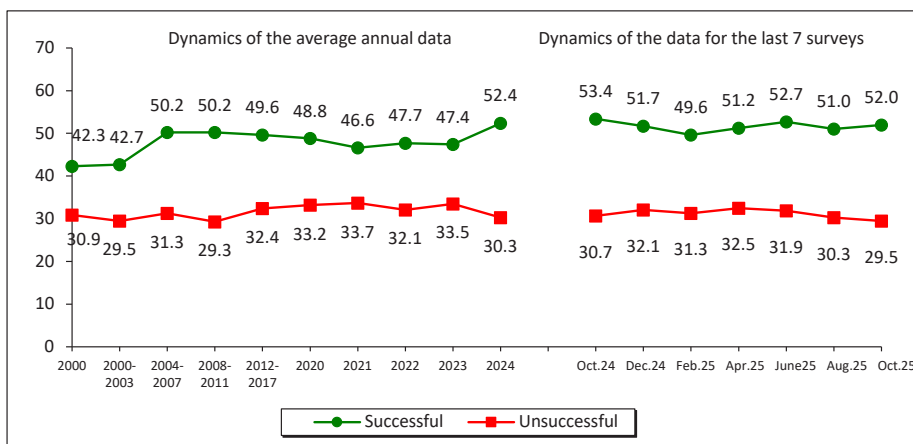
\* Included in the register of foreign agents.

In your opinion, how successful is the RF President in handling challenging issues? (% of respondents; VoIRC RAS data)

Over the past two months, the proportion of people who consider the Russian President's actions to strengthen Russia's international position to be successful has remained stable at 52%. For comparison, the proportion of those who adhere to the opposite point of view is significantly less and amounts to 29–30%.

From October 2024 to October 2025, the shares of both positive and negative assessments of the RF President's work to strengthen Russia's international position did not change.

#### Strengthening Russia's international position

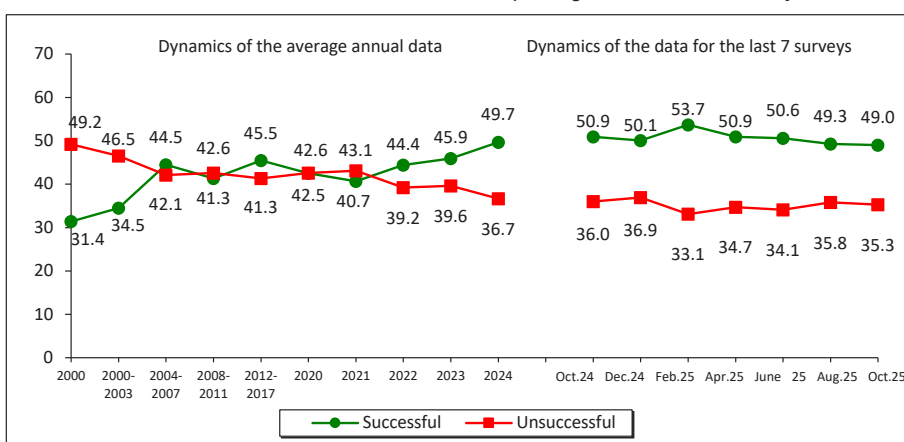


Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Successful	-1	+1
Unsuccessful	-1	-1

In August – October 2025, the share of residents of the region who positively assessed the work of the head of state to restore order in the country was 49%.

Over the past 12 months (from October 2024 to October 2025), the estimates of the population have remained unchanged: the share of positive judgments is 49–51%, negative – 35–36%.

#### Imposing order in the country

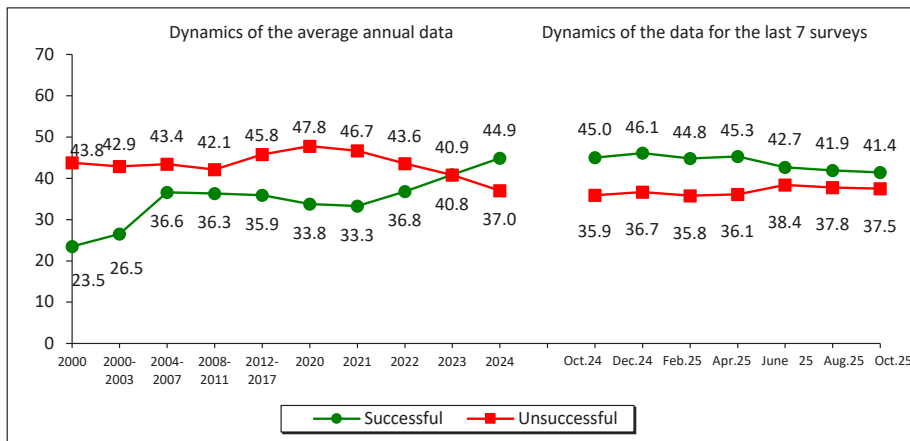


Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Successful	-2	0
Unsuccessful	-1	-1

In August – October 2025, the share of positive assessments of the activities of the President of the Russian Federation to protect democracy and strengthen the freedoms of citizens amounted to 41–42%, the proportion of negative ones was 38%.

From October 2024 to October 2025, the proportion of positive judgments decreased by 4 percentage points, from 45 to 41%. The proportion of negative judgments did not change.

#### Protecting democracy and strengthening citizens' freedoms

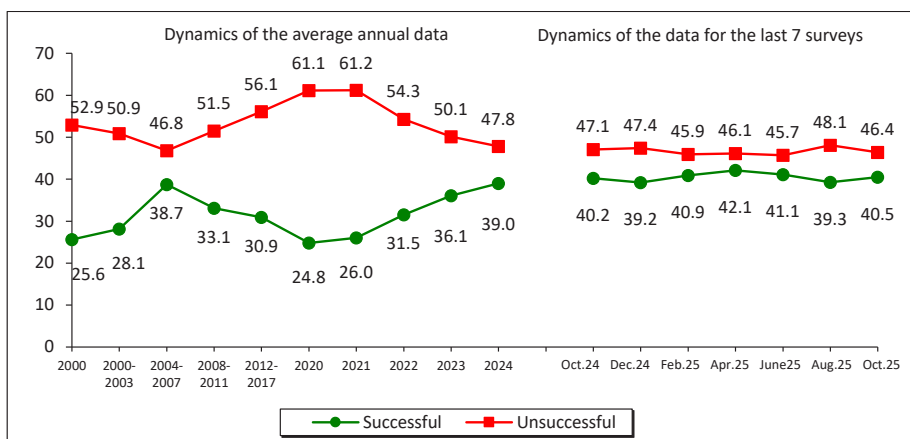


Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Successful	-4	-1
Unsuccessful	+2	0

The share of positive opinions about the activities of the head of state to boost the economy and increase the welfare of citizens remains stable from August to October 2025 (39–40%). The proportion of negative assessments is still high and remains at the level of 46–48%.

Over the past 12 months, there were no significant changes in the judgments regarding the work of the head of state to protect democracy and strengthen citizens' freedoms.

#### Economic recovery, increase in citizens' welfare



Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Successful	0	+1
Unsuccessful	-1	-2

Over the past two months, no significant changes were recorded in the structure of political preferences of the region's residents: in August – October 2025, the share of people whose interests are expressed by the United Russia Party was 41%, the Communist Party of the Russian Federation – 10–12%, the Liberal Democratic Party – 7–9%, Just Russia – 3–4%, New People – 1–2%.

From October 2024 to October 2025, the political preferences of the residents of the region remained unchanged. The share of people who believe that none of the parties represented in Parliament reflects their interests is 23–24%.

Which party expresses your interests? (% of respondents; VoIRC RAS data)

Party	Dynamics of the average annual data													Dynamics of the data for the last 7 surveys							Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	2000	2011	Election to the RF State Duma 2011, fact	2012	2016	Election to the RF State Duma 2016, fact	2018	2020	Election to the RF State Duma 2020, fact	2021	2022	2023	2024	Oct. 2024	Dec. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025	June 2025	Aug. 2025	Oct. 2025	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
United Russia	18.5	31.1	33.4	29.1	35.4	38.0	37.9	31.5	49.8	31.7	35.2	39.5	42.9	41.8	42.3	39.9	40.5	41.6	41.2	40.5	-1	-1
CPRF	11.5	10.3	16.8	10.6	8.3	14.2	9.2	8.4	18.9	9.3	10.1	9.6	8.9	8.7	9.1	8.8	8.0	9.1	11.5	10.5	+2	-1
LDPR	4.8	7.8	15.4	7.8	10.4	21.9	9.6	9.5	7.6	9.9	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.5	8.8	7.5	7.1	9.4	8.7	7.8	0	-1
Just Russia – Patriots for the Truth	–	5.6	27.2	6.6	4.2	10.8	2.9	4.7	7.5	4.7	4.9	4.4	3.5	4.2	4.4	2.3	2.9	3.9	4.2	3.4	-1	-1
New People*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5.3	2.3	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.3	3.1	3.0	2.5	1.8	2.2	0	0
Other	0.9	1.9	–	2.1	0.3	–	0.7	0.5	–	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
None	29.6	29.4	–	31.3	29.4	–	28.5	34.2	–	33.9	30.6	26.5	25.2	24.1	26.3	28.4	27.7	24.9	23.3	24.3	0	+1
Difficult to answer	20.3	13.2	–	11.7	12.0	–	11.2	11.1	–	10.0	10.1	11.1	10.3	11.0	6.5	9.7	10.8	8.5	9.2	11.3	0	+2

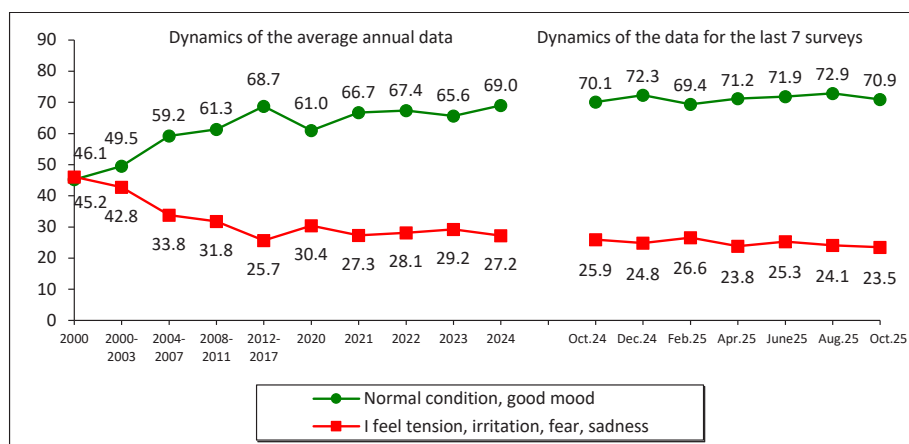
\* The New People party was elected to the State Duma of the Russian Federation for the first time following the results of the election held on September 17–19, 2021.

From August to October 2025, the share of positive assessments of social mood remained at the level of 71–73%. The proportion of people experiencing predominantly negative emotions also remained unchanged at 23–24%.

During the year (from October 2024 to October 2025), the proportion of people who describe their daily emotional state as «normal, fine» did not change (70–71%). The proportion of those who more often experience «tension, irritation, fear, sadness» remains stable (24–26%).

### Estimation of social condition (% of respondents; VolRC RAS data)

#### Social mood

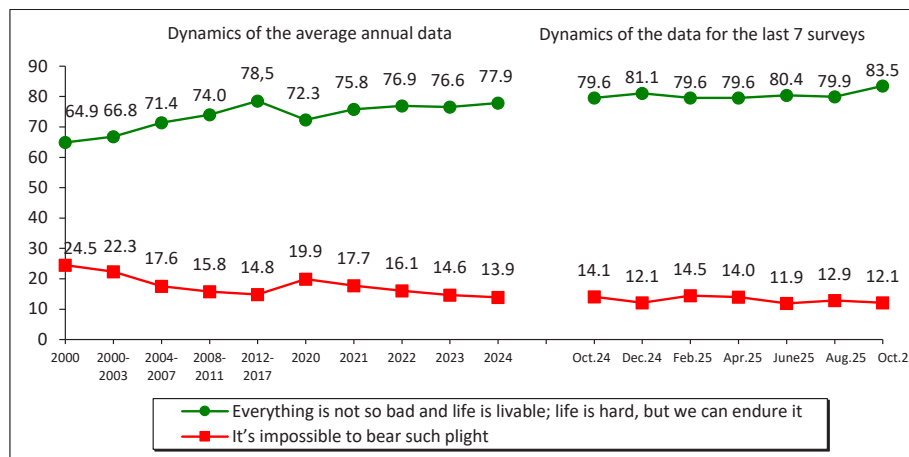


Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Normal condition, good mood	+1	-2
I feel tension, irritation, fear, sadness	-2	-1

From August to October 2025, the share of positive assessments of the stock of patience increased: the proportion of people who note that “everything is not so bad and life is livable; life is hard, but we can endure it” increased by 4 percentage points (from 80 to 84%). The share of those who believe that it is “no longer possible” to bear their plight was 12–13%.

Over the past 12 months (from October 2024 to October 2025), the stock of patience has also increased by 4 percentage points, from 80 to 84%.

#### Stock of patience

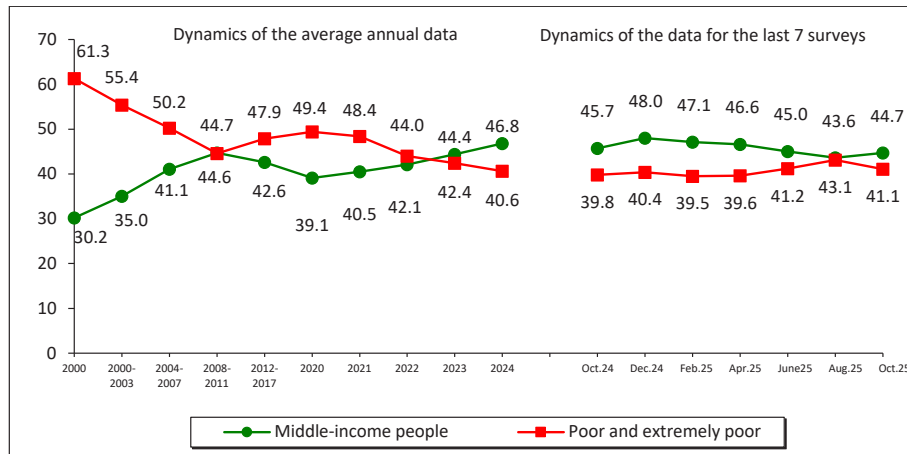


Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Everything is not so bad and life is livable; life is hard, but we can endure it	+4	+4
It's impossible to bear such plight	-2	-1

In August – October 2025, the proportion of residents of the region subjectively classifying themselves as “poor and extremely poor” amounted to 41–43%. The proportion of those who subjectively classify themselves as “middle-income people” was 44–45%.

During the year of observations, the indicators of social self-identification did not change significantly.

Social self-identification\*

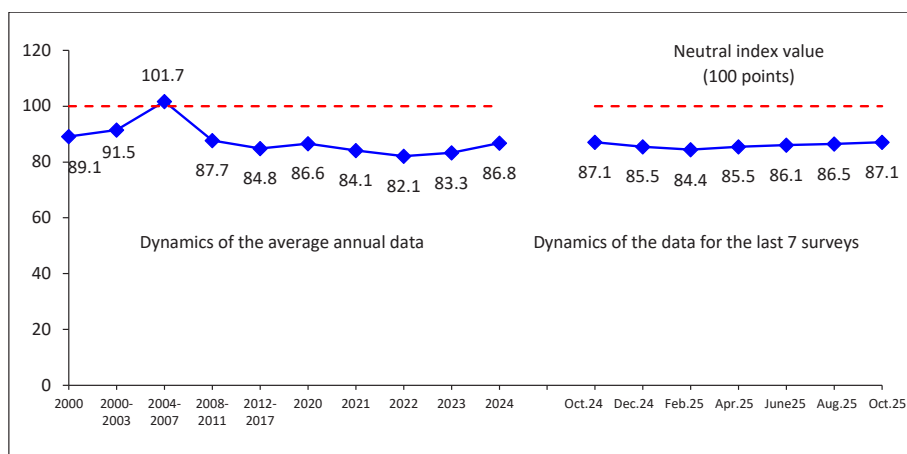


Response	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Middle-income people	-1	+1
Poor and extremely poor	+1	-2

\* Wording of the question: “What category do you belong to, in your opinion?”

The value of the CSI in October 2025 remained at the level of August 2025 – 86–87 points.

In October 2025, the value of the CSI corresponds to the data of October 2024.

Consumer Sentiment Index  
(CSI, points; VolRC RAS data for the Vologda Region)

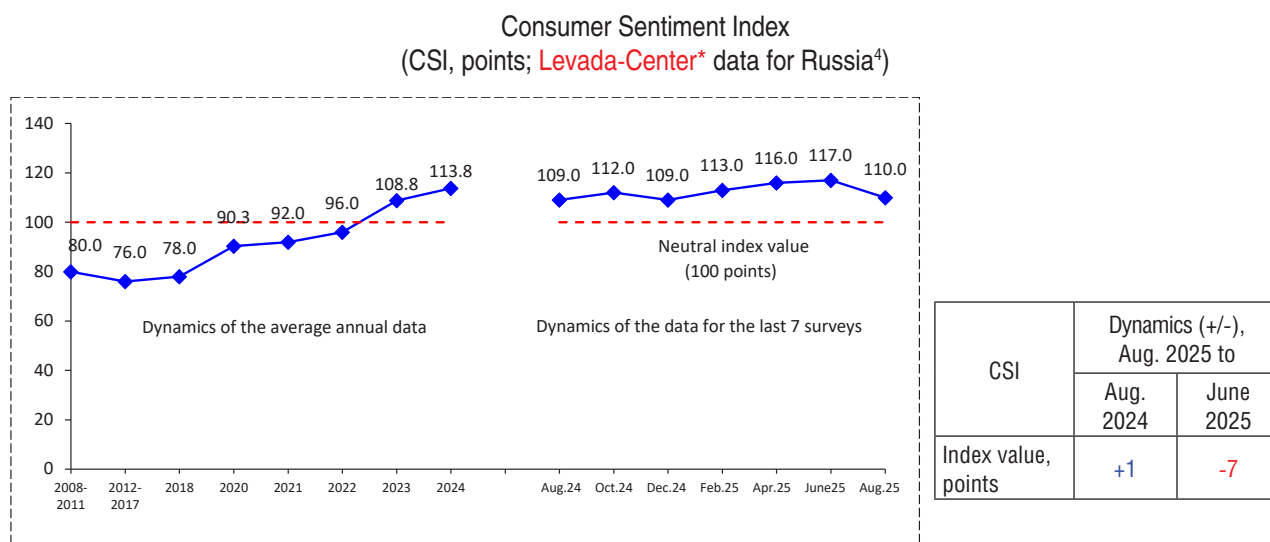
CSI	Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Index value, points	0	+1



*For reference:*

*According to the latest data from the all-Russian Levada-Center surveys\* (for the period from June to August 2025), the Consumer Sentiment Index decreased by 7 points, from 117 to 110 points.*

*There were no tangible changes in the value of the CSI over the past 12 months.*



The index is calculated since 2008.

The latest data – as of August 2025.

Source: Levada-Center\*. Available at: <https://www.levada.ru/indikatory/sotsialno-ekonomicheskie-indikatory/>

During the period from August to October 2025, there were no significant changes in the dynamics of the share of positive assessments of social mood in most of the main socio-demographic groups. There is a decrease in the proportion of people who positively characterize their daily emotional state in only two categories: among men (from 72 to 68%) and in the group of the least affluent (from 56 to 53%).

<sup>4</sup> Since March 2025, Levada-Center\* has updated data on the CSI. The CSI in Russia has been calculated since 1993 on the basis of five questions, similar to the index developed in the 1940s by the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. The individual indices for each question are calculated as the difference between the proportions of positive and negative responses plus 100. The cumulative CSI is the arithmetic mean of individual indices (range 0–200, where >100 is the predominance of positive ratings). In 2009, the CSI was linked to the values of March 2008 (100% base), which was associated with a change in the methodology of surveys and the economic crisis. However, this led to the fact that the index began to reflect changes only relative to 2008. Since March 2025, it was decided to return to the original method of calculating the CSI, abandoning the link to 2008, because in 2023, many indicators exceeded the peaks of 2008 and the old version of the index ceased to adequately reflect the current situation. A return to the original methodology is intended to solve this problem. Source: Updated Consumer Sentiment Index: February 2025 Figures. Available at: <https://www.levada.ru/2025/03/26/obnovlennyyj-indeks-potrebitelskihnastroenij-pokazately-fevralya-2025-goda/>.

\* Included in the register of foreign agents.

Over the past 12 months, the share of positive assessments of social mood has increased in 5 of the 14 main socio-demographic groups, especially among those with secondary education (by 6 percentage points); the most affluent residents (by 6 percentage points); residents of Vologda (by 4 percentage points) and Cherepovets (by 3 percentage points); in the age group of 30–55 years (by 4 percentage points). A slight deterioration in grades is recorded among people with secondary vocational education (by 4 percentage points). There are no significant changes in other socio-demographic groups.

Social mood in different social groups (response: “Wonderful mood, normal, stable condition”, % of respondents; VolRC RAS data)

Population group	Dynamics of the average annual data									Dynamics of the data for the last 7 surveys							Dynamics (+/-), Oct. 2025 to	
	2000	2007	2012	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Oct. 2024	Dec. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025	June 2025	Aug. 2025	Oct. 2025	Oct. 2024	Aug. 2025
Gender																		
Men	50.1	65.9	69.1	72.8	60.8	65.7	66.8	65.5	66.5	65.2	69.2	70.1	68.8	71.6	72.1	68.2	+3	-4
Women	43.3	61.7	65.8	69.8	61.2	67.4	67.9	65.7	70.9	74.0	74.7	68.8	73.1	72.2	73.5	73.1	-1	0
Age																		
Under 30	59.1	71.3	72.3	79.9	67.6	73.5	77.6	75.0	76.6	78.0	81.3	79.9	76.7	76.7	78.1	75.2	-3	-3
30–55	44.2	64.8	67.9	72.6	61.8	69.5	69.4	68.8	71.3	69.8	73.2	70.2	74.1	74.1	74.9	73.9	+4	-1
Over 55	37.4	54.8	62.1	65.2	57.4	60.5	61.1	58.2	63.3	67.4	67.8	64.6	65.8	67.6	68.6	65.9	-2	-3
Education																		
Secondary and incomplete secondary	41.7	58.4	57.2	64.8	56.1	62.1	64.6	62.0	64.6	62.5	65.5	64.6	65.6	68.4	70.3	68.4	+6	-2
Secondary vocational	46.4	64.6	66.7	72.1	63.5	66.7	68.3	66.1	70.3	75.2	76.5	71.8	74.8	74.1	73.6	71.4	-4	-2
Higher and incomplete higher	53.3	68.6	77.0	76.7	63.3	71.5	69.5	68.8	72.3	72.3	74.2	71.4	73.4	73.0	74.7	73.1	+1	-2
Income group																		
Bottom 20%	28.4	51.6	51.5	57.2	43.4	54.6	57.0	50.1	53.5	54.8	55.7	55.9	56.9	56.1	58.3	53.3	-2	-5
Middle 60%	45.5	62.9	68.7	72.1	62.6	67.3	68.1	67.4	70.7	73.6	74.2	70.5	72.6	74.4	73.1	73.1	-1	0
Top 20%	64.6	74.9	81.1	82.4	75.6	79.9	78.3	73.9	77.6	78.4	80.6	77.9	81.3	84.1	83.8	84.8	+6	+1
Territory																		
Vologda	49.2	63.1	73.6	71.0	60.9	60.3	59.8	59.6	66.0	67.9	69.6	66.7	68.6	69.5	72.9	71.4	+4	-2
Cherepovets	50.8	68.1	76.2	75.7	60.4	71.0	71.2	68.1	69.8	70.7	73.0	69.9	71.5	72.5	75.0	73.2	+3	-2
Districts	42.2	61.6	59.8	68.6	61.4	67.8	69.5	67.7	70.2	71.0	73.4	70.7	72.7	73.1	71.6	69.3	-2	-2
Region	46.2	63.6	67.3	71.2	61.0	66.6	67.4	65.6	69.0	70.1	72.3	69.4	71.2	71.9	72.9	70.9	+1	-2
Total number of groups: positive changes / no changes / negative changes																	14: 5 / 8 / 1	14: 0 / 12 / 2

## RESUME

As the results of the next round of monitoring showed, there were no significant changes in the dynamics of most indicators of public sentiment:

- a high level of approval of the activities of the federal government remains: the President of the Russian Federation – 66–67%, the Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation – 55%;
- at the same time, there is still a differentiation of assessments in certain areas of the head of state’s activities: the strengthening of international positions is more highly appreciated than the economic recovery and the growth of the welfare of citizens;
- there are no significant fluctuations in the structure of political preferences of citizens, the leading position is occupied by the United Russia Party;
- the positive background of social well-being also remains: the proportion of respondents who rate their emotional state as “normal” or “fine” remains at the level of 70–73%;
- at the same time, the vast majority of the population (84%) retains a high stock of patience and considers life’s difficulties to be bearable. **We emphasize that the trend toward strengthening this indicator is observed both in the short term and in the annual dynamics.**

In our opinion, it is important to note that against the background of the general stability of public opinion assessments on the main monitoring indicators, there is a **positive trend regarding people’s forecasts about their future. This is indicated by the growth dynamics of the Consumer Sentiment Index (CSI). It is barely noticeable (from February to October – from 84 to 87 points), but it is fixed throughout virtually the entire year 2025.**

Among the negative changes, **a decrease in positive assessments of social mood among men and the least affluent (according to their own self-assessments) citizens** should be highlighted. Such dynamics require close attention, especially due to the fact that in the medium term, with the onset of the autumn-winter period, seasonal factors may put pressure on social well-being: from worsening climatic conditions to higher housing and communal services tariffs, which can have a significant negative impact on assessments, primarily (but not only) socially vulnerable population groups.

Prepared by K.E. Kosygina and I.M. Bakhvalova