

Russia (New Poll Results Since Last Revision of Online Analysis)

*Searches for polling data that appear on "[Americans and the World](#)" are done with the aid of the IPOLL Database at the *Roper Center for Public Opinion Research at the University of Connecticut*.

Views of Russia

UPDATES:

(I'd like your opinion about some possible international concerns for the U.S. (United States).) Do you think that...growing authoritarianism in Russia is a major threat, a minor threat or not a threat to the well being of the United States? (Subpopulation/Note: Asked of Form 1 half sample)

	5/08	2/06	10/05
Major threat	24%	22%	23%
Minor threat	46	45	44
Not a threat	12	16	13
Don't know/Refused	18	17	20

Organization: Pew Research Center/Council on Foreign Relations, conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates International
 Dates: As noted

(Next, I'd like your overall opinion of some foreign countries.) Is your overall opinion of...Russia very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

	2/08	02/07	02/06	02/05	02/04	02/03
Very favorable	4	6	5	6	7	6
Mostly favorable	44	47	53	55	52	57
Mostly unfavorable	35	32	27	27	26	20
Very unfavorable	11	9	8	6	9	6
No opinion	5	6	7	6	6	11

Organization: Gallup
 Dates: As noted

Please tell me if you think Russia is having a mainly positive or mainly negative influence in the world.

	BBC 12/06	WPO/KN 4/06	BBC 11/05	BBC 11/04
Mainly positive	32%	40%	34%	39%
Mainly negative	46	53	40	44
Neither positive nor negative*	2	5	10	-

Depends	10	-	3	1
(No answer)	10	2	13	16

*vol.

Organization: As noted
 Dates: As noted

NEW:

(Now I'm going to read a list of political leaders. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs--a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence or no confidence at all.)...Russian President Vladimir Putin
 Subpopulation: Asked of half sample (2007)

	4/08	5/07
A lot of confidence	2%	2%
Some confidence	26	28
Not too much confidence	22	25
No confidence at all	26	25
Don't know/Refused	25	21

Organization: Pew Global Attitudes Project / Princeton Survey Research Associates International
 Date: As noted

Do you think the government of...Russia respects the personal freedoms of its people, or don't you think so?

23% Yes-respects personal freedoms
 59 No-does not respect personal freedoms
 19 Don't know/Refused

Organization: Pew Global Attitudes Project / Princeton Survey Research Associates International
 Date: April 9, 2008-April 17, 2008

Which one of the following do you think is the leading economic power in the world today--the United States, the European Union, Russia, China, Japan, or India?

40% China
 33 United States
 13 Japan
 7 European Union
 2 India
 2 **Russia**

3 Other/No opinion

Organization: Gallup Organization

Date: February 11, 2008-February 14, 2008

Looking ahead twenty years, which one of the following countries do you expect to be the world's leading economic power at that time--the United States, the European Union, Russia, China, Japan, or India?

- 44% China
- 31 United States
- 10 Japan
- 8 European Union
- 4 India
- 1 Russia**
- 2 Other/No opinion

Organization: Gallup Organization

Date: February 11, 2008-February 14, 2008

Please tell me if you think each of the following are having a mainly positive or mainly negative influence in the world....Russia

- 45% Mainly positive
- 36 Mainly negative
- 19 Depends/Neither/Neutral/Don't know/No answer

Organization: BBC World Service / Program On International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland

Date: December 4, 2007-January 11, 2008

As you may know Vladimir Putin has been President of the Russian Federation since March 2000. On balance, do you think President Putin's leadership has been mostly positive or mostly negative for each of the following....The quality of life in Russia

- 6% Very positive
- 39 Somewhat positive
- 24 Somewhat negative
- 10 Very negative
- 21 Don't know/No answer

Organization: BBC World Service / Program On International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland

Date: December 4, 2007-January 11, 2008

(As you may know Vladimir Putin has been President of the Russian Federation since March 2000. On balance, do you think President Putin's leadership has been mostly positive or mostly negative for each of the following.)...Democracy and human rights in Russia

3% Very positive
28 Somewhat positive
32 Somewhat negative
18 Very negative
19 Don't know/No answer

Organization: BBC World Service / Program On International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland

Date: December 4, 2007-January 11, 2008

(As you may know Vladimir Putin has been President of the Russian Federation since March 2000. On balance, do you think President Putin's leadership has been mostly positive or mostly negative for each of the following.)...Russia's overall relations with other countries

5% Very positive
41 Somewhat positive
30 Somewhat negative
7 Very negative
17 Don't know/No answer

Organization: BBC World Service / Program On International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland

Date: December 4, 2007-January 11, 2008

(As you may know Vladimir Putin has been President of the Russian Federation since March 2000. On balance, do you think President Putin's leadership has been mostly positive or mostly negative for each of the following.)...Russia's reliability as a supplier of energy to other countries

5% Very positive
34 Somewhat positive
28 Somewhat negative
7 Very negative
26 Don't know/No answer

Organization: BBC World Service / Program On International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland

Date: December 4, 2007-January 11, 2008

(As you may know Vladimir Putin has been President of the Russian Federation since March 2000. On balance, do you think President Putin's leadership has been mostly positive or mostly negative for each of the following.)...Peace and security in the world

5% Very positive
35 Somewhat positive
35 Somewhat negative
9 Very negative
16 Don't know/No answer

Organization: BBC World Service / Program On International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland

Date: December 4, 2007-January 11, 2008

Which nation or political region do you think will be the world's leading superpower twenty years from now?...United States, China, European Union, Russia, India, other

49% US
23 China
10 EU
5 Russia
2 India
4 Other
7 Not sure

Organization: Committee of 100 / Zogby International

Date: August 20, 2007-September 4, 2007

As you may know, some people are concerned about recent developments in Russia. Those who are concerned give a number of different reasons. To what extent are you concerned or not about each of the following items?...Very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, not concerned at all...Russia's role as an energy provider

18% Very concerned
40 Somewhat concerned
25 Not very concerned
11 Not concerned at all
3 I don't know anything about this topic
Vol.)
3 Don't know/Refused

Organization: German Marshall Fund

Date: June 4, 2007-June 23, 2007

(As you may know, some people are concerned about recent developments in Russia. Those who are concerned give a number of different reasons. To what extent are you concerned or not about each of the following items?...Very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, not concerned at all)...The weakening of democracy in Russia

- 38% Very concerned
- 37 Somewhat concerned
- 14 Not very concerned
- 7 Not concerned at all
- 2 I don't know anything about this topic
Vol.)
- 2 Don't know/Refused

Survey by German Marshall Fund

Date: June 4, 2007-June 23, 2007

(As you may know, some people are concerned about recent developments in Russia. Those who are concerned give a number of different reasons. To what extent are you concerned or not about each of the following items?...Very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, not concerned at all)...Russia's behavior toward its neighbors

- 21% Very concerned
- 47 Somewhat concerned
- 18 Not very concerned
- 9 Not concerned at all
- 2 I don't know anything about this topic
Vol.)
- 3 Don't know/Refused

Survey by German Marshall Fund

Date: June 4, 2007-June 23, 2007

(As you may know, some people are concerned about recent developments in Russia. Those who are concerned give a number of different reasons. To what extent are you concerned or not about each of the following items?...Very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, not concerned at all)...Russia's role in providing weapons to countries in the Middle East

- 43% Very concerned
- 36 Somewhat concerned
- 14 Not very concerned

- 5 Not concerned at all
- 1 I don't know anything about this topic
Vol.)
- 1 Don't know/Refused

Survey by German Marshall Fund
Date: June 4, 2007-June 23, 2007

Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable opinion of...Russia?

- 4% Very favorable
- 40 Somewhat favorable
- 24 Somewhat unfavorable
- 11 Very unfavorable
- 21 Don't know/Refused

Organization: Pew Global Attitudes Project / Princeton Survey Research Associates International
Date: April 23, 2007-May 6, 2007

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?...Russia

- 5% A lot of trust
- 49 Some trust
- 23 Not much trust
- 20 No trust at all in
- 3 Don't know/No answer

Organization: BBC World Service / Program On International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland
Date: June 8, 2006-June 27, 2006

(Next I'd like to rate your feelings toward some countries, institutions, and people, with 100 meaning a very warm, favorable feeling, 0 meaning a very cold, unfavorable feeling, and 50 meaning not particularly warm or cold. You can use any number from 0 to 100. If you have no opinion or have never heard of that country or institution, please say so.)...Russia

Question Note: * = less than .5%.

- 8% 76-100 Warm
- 27 51-75

- 32 50 Not particularly warm or cold
- 9 31-49
- 20 0-30 Cold
- 4 Don't know
- * Refused

Organization: German Marshall Fund
 Date: June 6, 2006-June 24, 2006

(Now I'm going to read a list of political leaders. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs--a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all?)...Russian President Vladimir Putin

- 3% A lot of confidence
- 30 Some confidence
- 26 Not too much confidence
- 19 No confidence at all
- 22 Don't know/Refused

Organization: Pew Global Attitudes Project / Princeton Survey Research Associates International
 Date: May 2, 2006-May 14, 2006

The US-Russian Relationship

UPDATES:

Do you feel that...Russia...is a close ally of the US (United States), is friendly but not a close ally, is not friendly but not an enemy, or is unfriendly and is an enemy of the US?

	Close Ally	Friend, not close ally	Not friend, not enemy	Unfriendly and enemy	D/K Refused
Jul. 2007 Harris	6	33	37	17	6
Jul. 2006 Harris	10	36	33	16	5
Aug. 2005 Harris	11	45	28	8	8
Aug. 2004 Harris	11	40	33	4	12
Aug. 2003 Harris	13	39	28	9	10
May 2002 ABC	10	53	24	7	7
Oct 2001 Harris	17	41	27	6	9
Aug. 2000 Harris	5	31	36	14	13
Sep. 1998 Harris	6	39	35	13	6
Sep. 1997 Harris	6	43	32	13	6

Nov. 1996 Harris	8	36	31	12	12
Oct. 1995 Harris	4	42	37	14	3
Mar. 1994 Harris	7	49	29	9	6
Apr. 1993 Harris	10	56	20	7	6

Organization: As noted

Date: As noted

(I'd like to get your feelings about some countries and governing organizations who have been in the news and what sort of relationship you feel they have with the United States. I'll read the name of a country or governing organization and I'd like you to rate how much of a friend or foe they are to the U.S. using the feeling thermometer. You can choose any number between 0 and 100. The higher the number, the warmer or more friendly you feel they are to the U.S. The lower the number, the colder or less friendly they are. If we come to a country or governing organization who you haven't heard enough about to form an opinion, you don't need to rate them. Just tell me and we'll move on to the next one.) How friendly or unfriendly do you think...Russia is to the US?

	4/07	2/07	11/06	8/06	5/06	2/06
Mean	47.7	43.1	46.2	45.5	44.3	47.1
0-20 -- Cold, unfriendly	12%	19%	16%	16%	15%	13%
21-40	20	22	20	21	24	22
41-60	37	33	38	37	36	39
61-80	18	15	18	18	15	18
81-100 -- Warm, friendly	2	2	2	2	2	2
Don't know	10	9	6	6	7	6

Organization: Quinnipiac University

Date: As noted

How important do you think what happens in each of the following countries is to the United States today--would you say it is vitally important, important but not vital, not too important, or not at all important?) How about what happens in... Russia?

	2/07	5/00
Vitally important	40%	46%
Important, but not vital	40	40
Not too important	14	8
Not at all important	4	3
No opinion	3	3

Organization: Gallup Organization

Date: As noted

NEW:

(I am going to read you a list of countries. For each, please tell me if they are the most important, a very important, a somewhat important, or not an important partner to the US (United States) in the world today.)...Russia

35% Most/Very important
62 Somewhat/Not very important
3 Not sure

Organization: Committee of 100 / Zogby International
Date: August 20, 2007-September 4, 2007

Do you consider Russia an ally of the United States, friendly but not an ally, unfriendly, or an enemy of the United States?

10% Ally
58 Friendly but not an ally
18 Unfriendly
6 Enemy
8 Don't know/No answer

Organization: CBS News,
Date: June 26, 2007-June 28, 2007

(As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely.)...Recent talks between the United States and Russia over a missile defense shield in Europe...(If Necessary, ask:) Did you follow...recent talks between the United States and Russia over a missile defense shield in Europe very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?

17% Very closely
27 Fairly closely
23 Not too closely
32 Not at all closely
1 Don't know/Refused

Organization: Pew Research Center for the People & the Press / Opinion Research Corporation
Date: June 8, 2007-June 11, 2007

(Now I'd like to get your feelings about some countries and governing organizations who have been in the news and what sort of a relationship you feel they have with the United States. I'll read the name of a country or governing organization and I'd like you to rate how much of a friend or foe they are to the US using the feeling thermometer. You can choose any number

between 0 and 100. The higher the number, the warmer or more friendly you feel they are to the US. The lower the number, the colder or less friendly they are. If we come to a country or governing organization who you haven't heard enough about to form an opinion you don't need to rate them. Just tell me and we'll move on to the next one.) How friendly or unfriendly do you think...Russia is to the US?

Question Note: Mean = 43.1

	5/07	2/07
Mean	47.7	43.1
0-20 Unfriendly	12%	19%
21-40	20	22
41-60	37	33
61-80	18	15
81-100 Friendly	2	2
Don't know	10	9

Organization: Quinnipiac University Polling Institute

Date: As noted

Which of the following is more likely?...Russia is actively trying to help the United States deal with military threats from North Korea and Iran. Russia is actually helping North Korea and Iran.

32% Helping US
31 Helping North Korea/Iran
11 Neither (Vol.)
25 Don't know

Organization: Fox News / Opinion Dynamics

Date: July 11, 2006-July 12, 2006

Which country do you think poses the greatest danger to the United States right now?...Iran, North Korea, France, Russia, China

39% Iran
32 North Korea
1 France
1 Russia
12 China
4 All (Vol.)
3 None (Vol.)
7 Don't know

Organization: Fox News / Opinion Dynamics

Date: June 27, 2006-June 28, 2006

Nuclear Arms and Russia

UPDATES:

NEW:

How high a priority do you think the US should put on cooperating with Russia on each of the following? Do you think they should be a top priority, an important but not a top priority, or not a priority?

- a. Stopping the spread of nuclear weapons
 - Top priority.....67%
 - Important priority, but not top priority.....31
 - Not a top priority.....2
 - Refused/Don't know.....*
- b. Preventing Iran from developing nuclear weapons
 - Top priority.....72%
 - Important priority, but not top priority.....25
 - Not a top priority.....2
 - Refused/Don't know.....1
- c. Preventing terrorists from acquiring nuclear weapons
 - Top priority.....87%
 - Important priority, but not top priority.....11
 - Not a top priority.....1
 - Refused/Don't know.....*

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks

Date: September 14-23, 2007

As you may know, the US and Russia have many inactive nuclear weapons and a substantial amount of weapons-grade nuclear material. The US has been providing technical assistance and money to help Russia secure these nuclear weapons and materials. Do you approve or disapprove of the US providing technical assistance and money to help Russia secure its nuclear weapons and materials?

- Approve.....47%
- Disapprove.....52
- Refused/Don't know.....1

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks

Date: September 14-23, 2007

Some people say that, to make sure that Russia and the US would know if nuclear weapons and weapons-grade materials are stolen, both countries should share more information and create systems to monitor each others' stocks.

Others think that this is not a good idea because there is a risk that sharing such information with Russia would compromise our security.

Do you favor or oppose Russia and US agreeing to share more information and create systems to monitor each others nuclear weapons and material?

Favor.....	44%
Oppose.....	54
Refused/Don't know.....	2

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks

Date: September 14-23, 2007

As you may know a number of countries have land-based missiles that could be used to attack Russian satellites. Under what circumstances would the US have the right to destroy these missiles?

Only if the country has actually started an attack on the US or its allies.....	54%
If the US has strong evidence that an attack by the country is imminent.....	37
If the US believes that at some point in the future the country may decide to attack the US satellites.....	9
Refused/Don't know.....	*

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks

Date: September 14-23, 2007

Currently there is debate about whether the US should build a missile defense system that would try to shoot down missiles that could be developed by countries like Iran and North Korea. Please select the position which is closest to yours.

The US should try to build a missile defense system and it should do so on its own because this will put the US in the strongest position.....	46%
The US should only try to build a missile defense system in cooperation with Russia and China, so they do not believe the US is trying to gain an advantage over them.....	26
The US should not try to build a missile defense system because it is unlikely to work, and even if it did, our enemies would just shift to other means for delivering nuclear weapons.....	23
Refused/Don't know.....	4

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks
Date: September 14-23, 2007

If US and Russia established a system for verifying that nuclear weapons have been taken off high alert, would you favor or oppose the US agreeing to take all of their nuclear weapons off of high alert?

Favor.....	64%
Oppose.....	33
Refused/Don't know.....	3

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks
Date: September 14-23, 2007

Do you think that when the US and Russia decrease their nuclear arms, they should:

	9/07	3/04
Make it part of a legally binding and verifiable agreement between them.....	79%	85%
Do it through a general understanding that each country decides on its own how to implement.....	20	12
Refused/Don't know.....	1	3

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks
Date: September 14-23, 2007

The current treaties between the US and Russia do not address short-range nuclear weapons designed for battlefield use. Would you favor or oppose US and Russia agreeing to the following:

The US eliminates its short range nuclear weapons based in Europe and Russia eliminates its short range nuclear weapons in the western part of Russia?

Favor.....	59%
Oppose.....	34
Refused/Don't know.....	7

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks
Date: September 14-23, 2007

As you may know, the US and Russia have signed an agreement to reduce the number of active nuclear weapons on each side to about 2,000 weapons by the end of the year 2012. Do you approve or disapprove of the US signing this agreement?

Approve.....88%
Disapprove.....11
Refused/Don't know.....1

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks
Date: September 14-23, 2007

Would you favor or oppose having an agreement between the US and Russia to reduce their nuclear weapons to a number significantly lower than 2,000?

Favor.....71%
Oppose.....25
Refused/Don't know.....4

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks
Date: September 14-23, 2007

As you may know, in addition to the US and Russia, several other countries have nuclear weapons. None of them have more than 400 active nuclear weapons. Assuming all of the other countries would agree to not increase their number of active nuclear weapons would you favor or oppose the US and Russia agreeing to lower their number of active nuclear weapons to 400?

Favor.....59%
Oppose.....38
Refused/Don't know.....3

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks
Date: September 14-23, 2007

NATO Enlargement and Russia

N/A

Aid to Russia

N/A

Space Weapons & Russia

NEW:

How high a priority do you think the US should put on cooperating with Russia on each of the following? Do you think they should be a top priority, an important but not a top priority, or not a priority?

- d. Preventing an arms race in space
 - Top priority.....28%
 - Important priority, but not top priority.....58
 - Not a top priority.....14
 - Refused/Don't know.....1

Organization: PIPA/Knowledge Networks
 Date: September 14-23, 2007

Miscellaneous

(Next I'd like to ask about some things that have been in the news. Please answer as best you can. If you don't know the answer just tell me and we'll move to the next question.)...Who is the current president of Russia?...(Vladimir) Putin, (Boris) Yeltsin, (Mikhail) Gorbachev, (Leonid) Brezhnev

- 60% Putin (correct)
- 8 Yeltsin
- 8 Gorbachev
- 5 Brezhnev
- 19 Don't know/Refused

Organization: Newsweek / Princeton Survey Research Associates International
 Date: June 18, 2007-June 19, 2007

Can you tell me who is the President of Russia? Is it...Boris Yeltsin, Vladimir Putin, Mikhail Gorbachev, or is it someone else? (8/07: Is it...Vladimir Putin, Boris Yeltsin, Mikhail Gorbachev, or Angela Merkel?)

	8/07	3/07
Boris Yeltsin	10	7%
Vladimir Putin (correct)	71%	60
Mikhail Gorbachev	10	7
Someone else	-	8
Angela Merkel	2	-
Don't know/Refused	7	18

Organization: Pew Research Center for the People & the Press / Opinion Research Corporation

Date: As noted

Can you tell me the name of the President of Russia?

36% Vladimir Putin (correct)

64 Anything else/Other/Don't know/Refused

Organization: Pew Research Center for the People & the Press / Princeton Survey Research Associates International

Date: February 1, 2007-February 13, 2007