

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 Region¹.

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 (April 2025) and for the period from June 2024 to June 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 2000–2024².

¹ 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/>.

² 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.

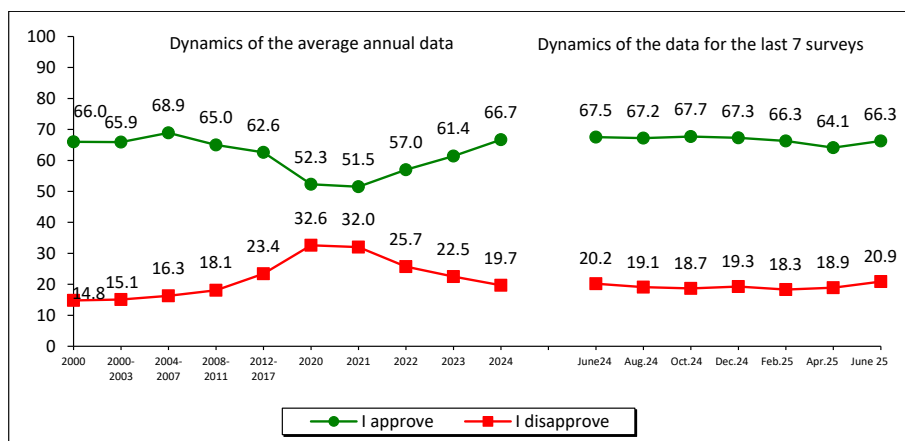
In April – June 2025, the President’s approval rating did not change significantly and amounted to 64–66%. The share of negative judgments is 19–21%, which is noticeably lower than that of positive ones.

From June 2024 to June 2025, the share of positive assessments of the activities of the head of state remains stable, as well as that of negative ones³.

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

Response	Dynamics of the average annual data										Dynamics of the data for the last							Dynamics* (+/-), June 2025 to	
	2000	2007	2012	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	June 2024	Aug. 2024	Oct. 2024	Dec. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025	June 2025	June 2024	Apr. 2025	
RF President																			
I approve	66.0	75.3	51.7	66.4	52.3	51.5	57.0	61.4	66.7	67.5	67.2	67.7	67.3	66.3	64.1	66.3	-1	+2	
I disapprove	14.8	11.5	32.6	21.7	32.6	32.0	25.7	22.5	19.7	20.2	19.1	18.7	19.3	18.3	18.9	20.9	+1	+2	
Chairman of the RF Government																			
I approve	-	-	49.6	48.0	38.7	39.9	45.4	50.1	54.1	53.5	55.3	53.7	55.6	54.7	53.9	53.0	-1	+2	
I disapprove	-	-	33.3	31.6	40.4	37.6	32.0	27.6	24.8	23.4	24.1	25.5	25.3	23.8	22.3	22.9	+1	+2	
Vologda Region Governor																			
I approve	56.1	55.8	41.9	38.4	35.0	36.7	40.9	48.1	51.7	51.6	53.4	51.9	50.8	46.8	42.9	39.9	-12	-3	
I disapprove	19.3	22.2	33.3	37.6	42.5	40.5	35.8	30.9	28.4	28.0	26.7	28.0	29.8	31.4	34.6	37.2	+9	+3	
Wording of the question: “How would you assess the current work of ...?”																			
*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.																			

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



Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
I approve	-1	+2
I disapprove	+1	+2

* 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.

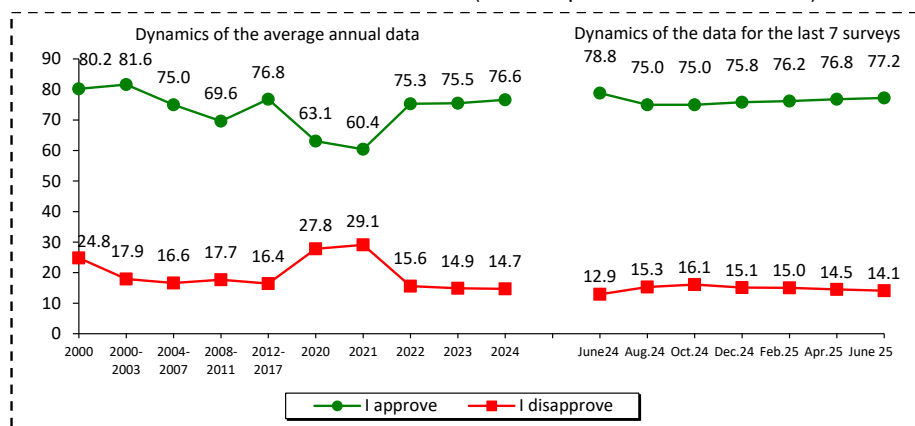
³ Here and further in the text, the results of a comparative analysis of the data from the survey conducted in June 2024 with the results of the monitoring carried out in June 2025 are given in the frame.

For reference:

According to VCIOM, the President's approval rating in April – early June 2025 did not change and amounted to 77%, while the proportion of negative assessments was significantly lower (14%).

There are no significant changes in the level of support for the activities of the head of state in June 2025 compared to the same period in 2024.

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



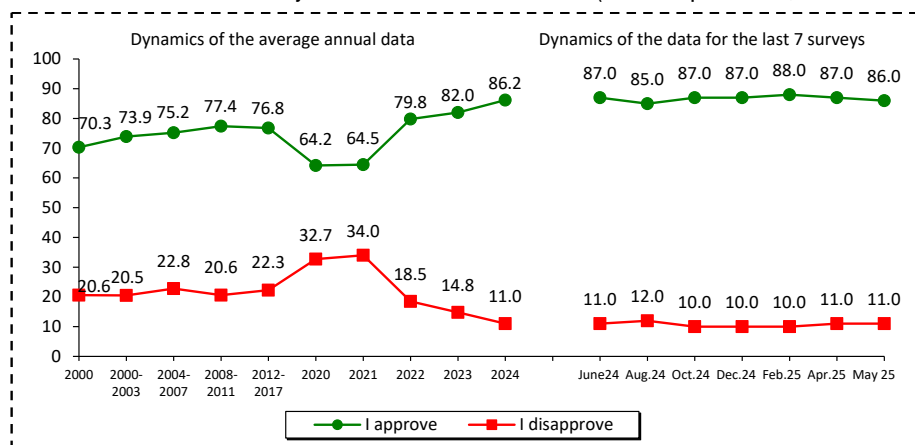
Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
I approve	-2	0
I disapprove	+1	0

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 June 2025 – for one survey as of June 1, 2025.
Source: VCIOM. Available at: <https://wciom.ru/>

According to Levada-Center*, the assessments of the activities of the President of the Russian Federation for April – May 2025 have not changed significantly: the approval rating is 86–87%. The proportion of negative judgments is 11%.

In May 2025, the President's approval rating remained high, as in June 2024, amounting to 86–87%.

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 (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
I approve	-1	-1
I disapprove	0	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/>

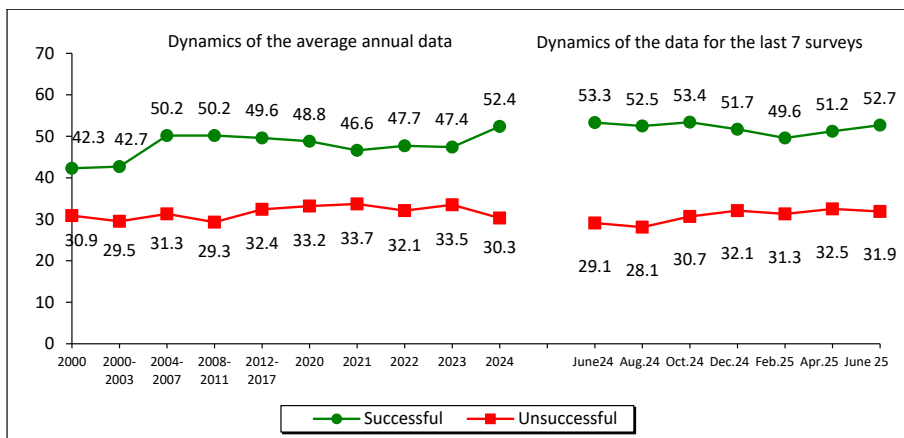
* Included in the register of foreign agents.

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

The share of residents of the region who consider the actions of the President of the Russian Federation to strengthen Russia's international position to be successful was 53% in April – June 2025. The proportion of those who adhere to the opposite point of view was significantly lower (32%).

Compared to June 2024, the proportion of positive ratings remained unchanged in June 2025. The proportion of negative judgments increased by 3 percentage points (from 29 to 32%).

Strengthening Russia's international position

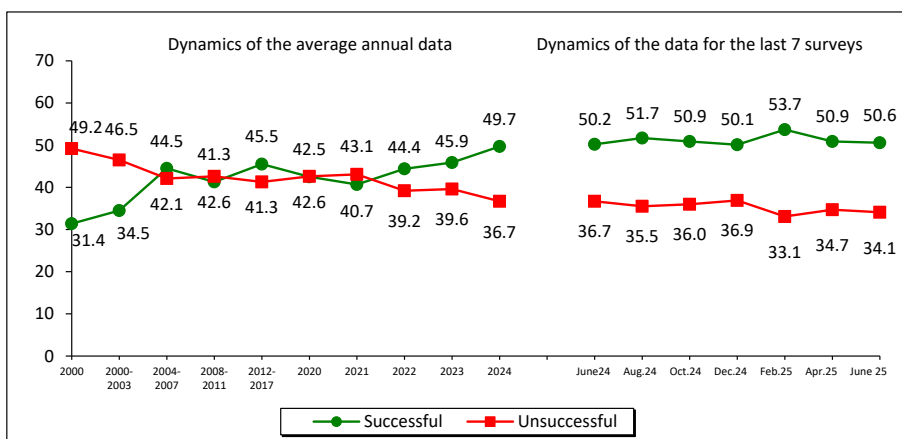


Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Successful	-1	+2
Unsuccessful	+3	-1

Over the past two months, the opinion of the residents of the region about the activities of the head of state to restore order in the country has remained the same: the share of positive judgments was 51%, negative – 34–35%.

From June 2024 to June 2025, the proportion of people who believe that the President of the Russian Federation is unsuccessfully managing to restore order in the country remains stable (37–34%). The share of positive ratings has not changed and stands at 51%.

Imposing order in the country

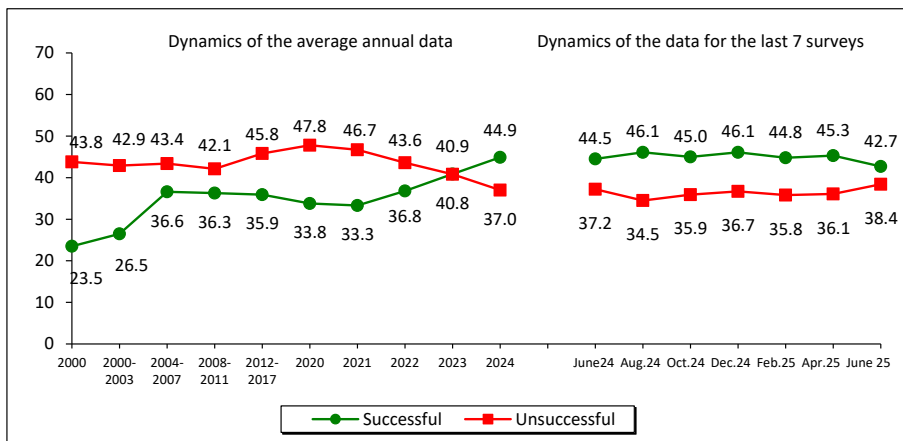


Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Successful	0	0
Unsuccessful	-3	-1

In June, compared with April 2025, the share of residents of the region who positively assess the activities of the President of the Russian Federation to protect democracy and strengthen citizens' freedoms decreased slightly (from 45 to 43%); the proportion of opposing opinions remains stable.

The population estimates have not changed in 12 months. The proportion of those approving the head of state's work to protect democracy and strengthen citizens' freedoms was 43–44%; the proportion of negative judgments was lower (37–38%).

Protecting democracy and strengthening citizens' freedoms

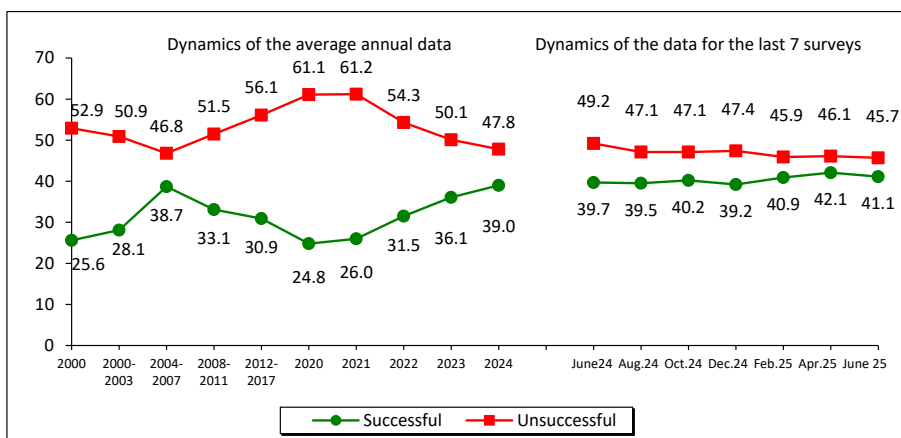


Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Successful	-2	-3
Unsuccessful	+1	+2

The share of positive assessments of the success of the Russian President's solution to the problem of economic recovery and the growth of citizens' well-being in April – June 2025 did not change and amounted to 41–42%.

From June 2024 to June 2025, the proportion of negative judgments regarding the activities of the head of state in addressing economic issues decreased by 4 percentage points, from 49 to 45%.

Economic recovery, increase in citizens' welfare



Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Successful	+1	-1
Unsuccessful	-4	0

MONITORING STUDIES

The political preferences of Vologda Region residents remained stable in April – June 2025. As before, the share of people whose interests are expressed by the United Russia party was 41–42%, the Communist Party – 8–9%, the Liberal Democratic Party – 7–9%, Just Russia – 3%, New People – 3–4%.

In the period from June 2024 to June 2025, the level of support for the represented political parties did not change.

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 (+/-), June 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	June 2024	Aug. 2024	Oct. 2024	Dec. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025	June 2025	June 2024	Apr. 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	43.7	42.5	41.8	42.3	39.9	40.5	41.6	-2	+1
KPRF	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	8.2	9.7	8.7	9.1	8.8	8.0	9.1	+1	+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	7.1	6.1	7.5	8.8	7.5	7.1	9.4	+2	+2
New People*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5.3	2.3	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.7	3.5	4.2	4.4	3.1	2.9	3.9	+1	+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	2.3	1.6	2.3	2.3	2.3	3.0	2.5	0	-1
Other	0.9	1.9	–	2.1	0.3	–	0.7	0.5	–	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	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	26.1	25.1	24.1	26.3	28.4	27.7	24.9	-1	-3
Difficult to answer	20.3	13.2	–	11.7	12.0	–	11.2	11.1	–	10.0	10.1	11.1	10.3	9.8	11.5	11.0	6.5	9.7	10.8	8.5	-1	-2

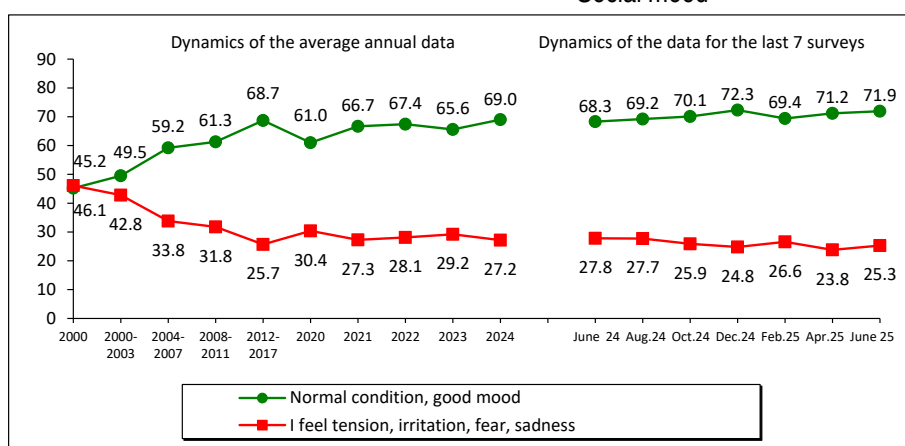
* The New People party was elected to the State Duma of the Russian Federation for the first time following the results of the election held on September 17–19, 2021.

Estimation of social condition (% of respondents; VoIRC RAS data)

Over the past two months, the share of positive assessments of social mood amounted to 71–72%; the share of negative characteristics was 24–25%.

Over the past 12 months, the proportion of people describing their mood as “normal, fine” increased by 4 percentage points (from 68 to 72%). The proportion of those who more often experience «tension, irritation, fear, sadness» decreased by 3 percentage points, from 28 to 25%.

Social mood

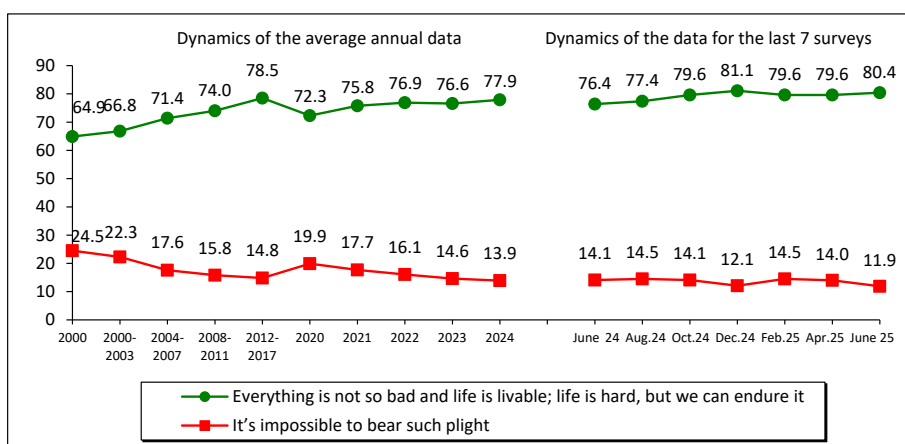


Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Normal condition, good mood	+4	+1
I feel tension, irritation, fear, sadness	-3	+2

The reserve of patience remains at a consistently high level: 80% of residents of the region in April – June 2025 noted that “everything is not so bad and life is livable”. The proportion of those who believe that it is “no longer possible” to bear their plight was 12–14%.

In June 2025, compared with June 2024, we observe a positive trend: the share of positive assessments of the stock of patience increased by 4 percentage points, from 76 to 80%

Stock of patience

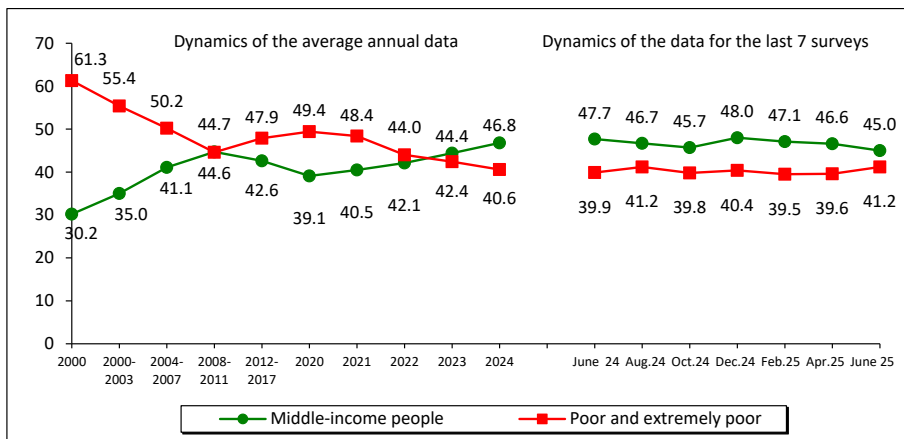


Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Everything is not so bad and life is livable; life is hard, but we can endure it	+4	+1
It's impossible to bear such plight	-2	-2

As in April, in June 2025 the share of residents of the region subjectively classifying themselves as “middle-income” people was 45–47%. The proportion of those who identify themselves as “poor and extremely poor” did not change as well (40–41%).

In June 2025, compared with June 2024, the proportion of those who consider themselves to be middle-income people decreased by 3 percentage points (from 48 to 45%).

Social self-identification



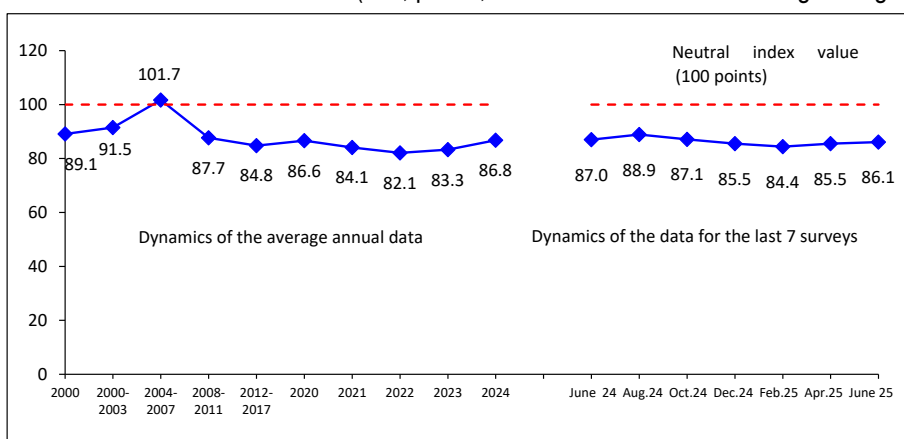
Response	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Middle-income people	-3	-2
Poor and extremely poor	+1	+2

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

The Consumer Sentiment Index (CSI) in April – June 2025 amounted to 86 points.

There were also no significant changes in the CSI over the year (86–87 points).

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



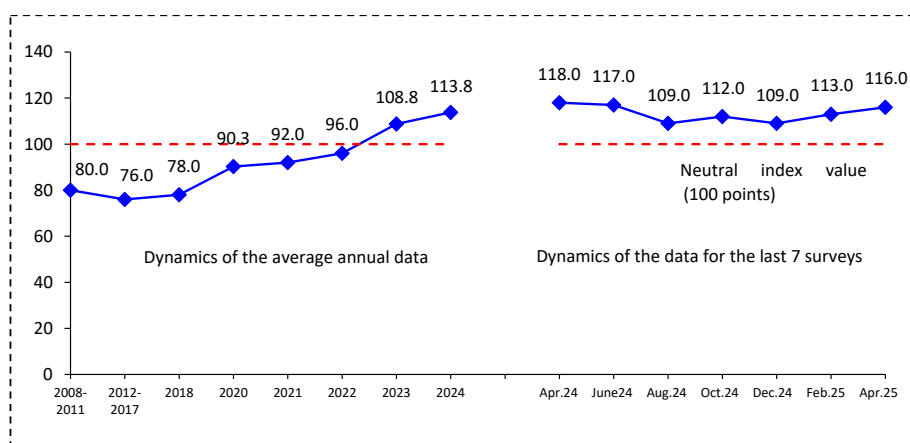
CSI	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Index value, points	-1	+1

For reference:

According to the latest data from the all-Russian Levada-Center* surveys (for the period from February to April 2025), the Consumer Sentiment Index amounted to 113–116 points.

From April 2024 to April 2025, the CSI has not undergone any significant changes.

Consumer Sentiment Index (CSI, points; Levada-Center* data for Russia⁴)



CSI	Dynamics (+/-), June 2025 to	
	Apr. 2024	Feb. 2025
Index value, points	-2	+3

The index is calculated since 2008. The latest data – as of April 2025.

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

During the period from April to June 2025, there were no significant changes in the dynamics of the share of positive assessments of social mood in all socio-demographic groups.

During the year (from June 2024 to June 2025), the share of positive assessments of social mood increased in most major socio-demographic groups (in 9 out of 14). The largest increase is observed in men (by 8 percentage points); people with secondary education (by 9 percentage points); people under the age of 30 and over 55 (by 5 percentage points), as well as in all income groups. An increase in the values of social mood is recorded in Vologda (by 4 percentage points) and districts of the Vologda Region (by 5 percentage points).

⁴ 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/obnovlennyj-indeks-potrebitelskih-nastroenij-pokazately-fevralya-2025-goda/>

*Included in the register of foreign agents.

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							Изменение (+/-), июнь 2025 к	
	2000	2007	2012	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	June 2024	Aug. 2024	Oct. 2024	Dec. 2024	Feb. 2025	Apr. 2025	June 2025	June 2024	Apr. 2025
Gender																		
Men	50.1	65.9	69.1	72.8	60.8	65.7	66.8	65.5	66.5	63.5	67.1	65.2	69.2	70.1	68.8	71.6	+8	+3
Women	43.3	61.7	65.8	69.8	61.2	67.4	67.9	65.7	70.9	72.1	70.9	74.0	74.7	68.8	73.1	72.2	0	-1
Age																		
Under 30	59.1	71.3	72.3	79.9	67.6	73.5	77.6	75.0	76.6	71.8	76.1	78.0	81.3	79.9	76.7	76.7	+5	0
30–55	44.2	64.8	67.9	72.6	61.8	69.5	69.4	68.8	71.3	71.8	72.8	69.8	73.2	70.2	74.1	74.1	+2	0
Over 55	37.4	54.8	62.1	65.2	57.4	60.5	61.1	58.2	63.3	62.7	62.1	67.4	67.8	64.6	65.8	67.6	+5	+2
Education																		
Secondary and incomplete secondary	41.7	58.4	57.2	64.8	56.1	62.1	64.6	62.0	64.6	65.5	65.3	62.5	65.5	64.6	65.6	68.4	+3	+3
Secondary vocational	46.4	64.6	66.7	72.1	63.5	66.7	68.3	66.1	70.3	65.2	70.7	75.2	76.5	71.8	74.8	74.1	+9	-1
Higher and incomplete higher	53.3	68.6	77.0	76.7	63.3	71.5	69.5	68.8	72.3	76.0	72.1	72.3	74.2	71.4	73.4	73.0	-3	0
Income group																		
Bottom 20%	28.4	51.6	51.5	57.2	43.4	54.6	57.0	50.1	53.5	51.3	53.7	54.8	55.7	55.9	56.9	56.1	+5	-1
Middle 60%	45.5	62.9	68.7	72.1	62.6	67.3	68.1	67.4	70.7	70.0	71.0	73.6	74.2	70.5	72.6	74.4	+4	+2
Top 20%	64.6	74.9	81.1	82.4	75.6	79.9	78.3	73.9	77.6	78.5	75.9	78.4	80.6	77.9	81.3	84.1	+6	+3
Territory																		
Vologda	49.2	63.1	73.6	71.0	60.9	60.3	59.8	59.6	66.0	65.2	66.4	67.9	69.6	66.7	68.6	69.5	+4	+1
Cherepovets	50.8	68.1	76.2	75.7	60.4	71.0	71.2	68.1	69.8	69.4	70.2	70.7	73.0	69.9	71.5	72.5	+3	+1
Districts	42.2	61.6	59.8	68.6	61.4	67.8	69.5	67.7	70.2	69.4	70.3	71.0	73.4	70.7	72.7	73.1	+4	0
Region	46.2	63.6	67.3	71.2	61.0	66.6	67.4	65.6	69.0	68.3	69.2	70.1	72.3	69.4	71.2	71.9	+4	+1

RESUME

The latest round of the public opinion monitoring took place in May – June 2025 against the background of two key events. On the one hand, the 80th anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War was widely celebrated, which was accompanied by nationwide large-scale events, patriotic actions and media coverage. According to a VCIOM study, “for Russians, this day is far from just a holiday, but a symbol of national pride and unity, a sacred, memorable date associated with liberation from fascism and the value of peace”⁵. On the other hand, negotiations were actively underway: two rounds of Russian-Ukrainian talks (on May 16 and June 2, 2025 in Istanbul); contacts between Russia and the United States (on May 19 and June 4,

⁵ The 80th anniversary of the Great Victory! VTSIOM. Available at: <https://wciom.ru/analytical-reviews/analiticheskii-obzor/velikoi-pobede-80-let>

heads of state D. Trump and V. Putin held telephone talks). In general, this period was characterized by a complex intertwining of the patriotic upsurge associated with the Victory anniversary and the cautious expectation of the results of international negotiations.

Given the significance of these events for society, it is important to note that the monitoring results show the stability of the population's assessments of key indicators of public administration effectiveness both over the two months of measurements and over the year.

In June 2024, the RF President's approval rating remained consistently high (64–66%), which is confirmed by assessments of his work in key areas. At the same time, we observe a positive trend in the field of economics and improving the well-being of citizens: from June 2024 to June 2025, the proportion of negative judgments about the activities of the head of state on economic issues decreased by 4 percentage points, from 49 to 45%.

The political preferences of Vologda Region residents remain stable, the United Russia party is in the lead (41–42%), the population's support for other parties has not changed (2–9%).

There are also no significant negative shifts in the dynamics of self-assessments of the standard of living (the share of “the poor and extremely poor” remained at the level of 40–41%, the proportion of people of “average income” – 45–48%) and prospects for its development (consumer sentiment index was 86–87 points).

The situation regarding the purchasing power of household incomes is also stable: almost half of the region's residents (according to data for June 2025) note that “they have enough money to buy the necessary goods, but large purchases have to be postponed for later” (49%). While the share of those who “have enough money for food at best” is 30%, which is 2 times more than the proportion of people for whom “the purchase of most durable goods (refrigerator, TV) does not cause difficulties” (15%).

At the same time, we should note that over the past 27 years (from 1997 to 2024), the standard of living in the two groups – “the poor and extremely poor” and “rich and middle-income people” – has increased significantly. In other words, while the problem of social inequality remains highly relevant, the modern “poor and extremely poor” people are not what they used to be in the past: among them, for example, there is a significant increase in the proportion of those who own a motor vehicle (from 6 to 26%), a TV-set (from 31 to 64%), etc.

Assessment of provision of non-food products depending on social self-identification, % of respondents

“Provided to a sufficient extent”	The poor and extremely poor		Rich and middle-income people	
	1997	2024	1997	2024
TV-set	30.9	63.9	69.1	80.7
Vacuum cleaner	31.8	55.9	60.7	75.3
Washing machine	50.9	62.4	74.3	81.1
Fridge	53.8	64.7	76.2	83.1
Furniture	32.0	54.6	55.6	80.1
Motor vehicle	5.8	26.2	24.4	55.2
Source: VoIRC RAS public opinion monitoring.				

Positive changes are observed in the social mood. From June 2024 to June 2025, the proportion of people describing their mood as “normal, fine” increased by 4 percentage points (from 68 to 72%), and the proportion of those experiencing negative emotions decreased slightly (by 3 percentage points). This indicates an improvement in the psychological climate in society. A high level of patience is also an important factor for stability: during the year, the share of positive assessments of the stock of patience increased by 4 percentage points, from 76 to 80%. In general, indicators of social mood remain consistently positive for the main socio-demographic groups, and estimates have improved in 9 out of 14 categories over the year.

Nevertheless, it should be borne in mind that the improvement in social mood may be due to seasonal factors, such as the holiday period, as shown by long-term annual observations. In order to maintain positive dynamics and prevent an increase in social tension, further work is required to improve the economic situation and raise the standard of living, which corresponds to the tasks set out in the state social policy and national projects.

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