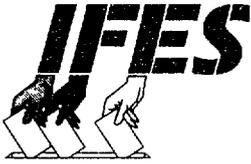


P.N. ACC-400

27121



International Foundation for Election Systems

1101 15th STREET, N W • THIRD FLOOR WASHINGTON, D C 20005 • (202) 828-8507 • FAX (202) 452-0804

SUMMARY:

**IFES RUSSIA NATIONAL SURVEY,
REGIONAL PROFILES**

**PREPARED BY
GARY FERGUSON**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.
OCTOBER, 1995**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles T Manatt <i>Chairman</i>	Patricia Hutar <i>Secretary</i>	Barbara Boggs	Peter Kelly	William R Sweeney, Jr	<i>Directors Emeriti</i>
David R Jones <i>Vice Chairman</i>	Joseph Napolitan <i>Treasurer</i>	Dame Eugenia Charles (Dominica)	Maureen A Kindel	Leon J Well	James M Cannon
		Judy G Fernald	Jean-Pierre Kingsley (Canada)	Randall C Teague <i>Counsel</i>	Richard M Scammon
		Victor Kamber	Peter McPherson	Richard W Soudrette <i>President</i>	

Due to the large scale of the main sample in the IFES Russia National Survey (N = 3,560), a meaningful analysis may be conducted which examines the 10 regions of the Russian Federation rather than the four combined zones that are commonly used. This kind of analysis provides a richer understanding of the political environment and will assist in targeting voter education efforts.

The 10 regions (outlined on the map on the last page) are as follows:

IFES RUSSIA NATIONAL SURVEY Regional Distribution		
Region	Number of Interviews	Percent of Total
North/Northwest	235	7
Center	798	22
Centralno-Chernozemnyi	472	13
Volgo-Vyatsky	302	8
Volga	402	11
North Caucasus	134	4
Urals	569	16
East Siberia	128	4
West Siberia	264	7
Far East	257	7

The size of each region is based on its contribution to the total population of the Russian Federation. Each region is proportionate to the population by age. For the most part, the regions are also generally proportionate to the national figures for men and women. In the North Caucasus, however, 66% of the respondents are men and 34% women. Anna Andreenkova of CESSI attributes this to cultural practices in the region. That is, the North Caucasus is a heavily Muslim region with a traditionally male-dominated society. One other region, East Siberia, also has a majority male sample (54%) with 46% female.

OVERVIEW

- The highest levels of interest in politics and government are found in the Urals (45% interested) and the North Caucasus (43%) The lowest levels are shown in the Volga (22% interested) and East Siberia (24%).
- The economic crisis is the number one problem in all regions except Centralno-Chernozemnyi where quality of life issues top the list
- Satisfaction with the direction of the country is highest in the Urals (15%) and North Caucasus (10%) Satisfaction is lowest in the North/Northwest (3%) and the Center (5%)
- Optimism about the political situation is highest in the Urals (28% better), East Siberia (22%) and West Siberia (24%) The Volga (40% worse) and Far East (40% worse) are the most pessimistic regions The North Caucasus have higher scores in both directions (24% better-41% worse).
- Voters in two regions, North/Northwest and East Siberia, express an above-average desire to continue economic reforms At the same time, voters in West Siberia, the Urals, Volgo-Vyatsky, the North Caucasus, and the Far East have an above-average desire to return to state control of the economy
- Several regions – Centralno-Chernozemnyi, Volgo-Vyatsky, the Urals, and East Siberia – exhibit a greater interest in using western countries as development models. West Siberia, the North Caucasus, and the Volga region on the other hand, are more likely to say that Russia serves as its own best model.

- In the upcoming Duma elections, voters in the North Caucasus are the most likely to vote. The following table outlines the "definitely voting" scores for the entire region and for young voters (age 17-35) in each area.

	All	Age 17-35
North Caucasus	61%	47%
Far East	47%	36%
Center	44%	31%
Urals	43%	34%
Volga	42%	27%
North/Northwest	39%	30%
West Siberia	38%	25%
Volgo-Vyatsky	37%	25%
Centralno-Chernozemnyi	32%	24%
East Siberia	24%	18%

- All regions rely primarily on National Channel 1. However, alternative means of communication may prove effective as follows:

Local Radio

North/Northwest	68% useful
Urals	66%
West Siberia	58%
Volgo-Vyatsky	57%

Local TV

Volga	71% useful
North/Northwest	70%
Urals	62%
West Siberia	62%
North Caucasus	53%

Newspapers

North Caucasus	78% useful
East Siberia	78%
Far East	72%
Volgo-Vyatsky	71%
Volga	65%
West Siberia	65%

- Official corruption is perceived to be widespread. The following table orders the regions according to "very common" responses

68%	North Caucasus
58%	Center
57%	North/Northwest
55%	Far East
54%	Volgo-Vyatsky
54%	Volga
53%	West Siberia
52%	East Siberia
50%	Centralno-Chernozemnyi
50%	Urals

- This table outlines expectations for fraud in the upcoming State Duma elections

54%	Urals
54%	Far East
52%	Volgo-Vyatsky
52%	East Siberia
50%	Center
48%	North/Northwest
46%	West Siberia
42%	North Caucasus
41%	Volga
39%	Centralno-Chernozemnyi

- Support for the computerization of elections is strong in all regions
- Voters in the North Caucasus and the Urals are the most likely to vote for a candidate who is affiliated with a political party
- Although party definition is a difficult problem nationwide, parties face a major challenge in the eastern regions where a high number of voters perceive no clear differences between the parties on major issues

- There is a clear need for voter education in all regions. A majority in all regions say they don't have enough information about their rights with regard to the authorities, at least a plurality in all regions say they didn't have enough information about candidates or parties in the 1993 elections, a large majority in every region say they are not familiar with their voting rights, and there are widespread misperceptions about who may and may not vote.

METHODOLOGY

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems commissioned this survey of the Russian electorate as part of its voter education program. The project was a joint effort of researchers and policy experts in Russian and the United States. The project director and analyst was Gary Ferguson, Vice President of American Viewpoint, Inc., who designed the questionnaire in conjunction with the IFES team led by Catherine Barnes, Senior Program Officer. This project was made possible by a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

The field test in Russia was led by Richard Raquet, Vice President of the Response Center in Philadelphia. Sampling, interviewing and data entry were conducted by the *Institute for Comparative Social Research* (CESSI). The project director in Russia was Anna Andreenkova of CESSI. The personal interviews were conducted by CESSI during the month of July, 1995.

The main sample consists of 3,560 interviews. All surveys are subject to errors caused by interviewing a sample of persons rather than the entire population. At the 95 confidence level, the margin of error for a random sample of 3,560 interviews is plus or minus 1.7 percentage points.

The sample was weighted by sex, age, and region and is representative of the population by those characteristics. The following table displays the sample characteristics.

Sample Characteristics

	17-35	36-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
North/Northwest	39%	18%	10%	15%	17%	47%	53%
Center	37	19	14	16	14	50	50
Centralno-Chernozemny	38	19	15	14	13	44	56
Volgo-Vyatsky	35	20	15	17	13	49	51
Volga	40	19	13	14	13	45	55
North Caucasus	32	17	24	17	10	66	34
Ural	41	16	14	14	16	45	55
East Siberia	48	22	19	6	5	54	46
West Siberia	43	14	13	13	16	44	56
Far East	44	14	10	14	17	42	58

SAMPLING DESIGN

The Russian National sample consists of 51 sampling points across the country to represent its population of 149 million people. Each sampling point thus represents about 3 million people, except for Moscow (9 million) and St. Petersburg (5 million). The sample was created using Kish's (1965) area probability methods for national surveys.

The units of selection in this multi-stage cluster sampling scheme are described below in decreasing order of generality. In the first stage, the primary sampling units (PSUs) were districts (*rayony*) or major cities, with probabilities of selection based on their population size (PPS).

In the second stage, the municipalities and rural Soviets (grouping of several smaller communities) within these rayons were selected, again based on population size. Since both

Moscow and St Petersburg are large communities with more than 3 million population, they were automatically included in the sample

The units for the third stage of selection were the electoral districts within these municipalities and rural communities (selected randomly from the list of electoral districts for each city). In each of these first three stages, then, sampling units had probabilities of selection proportionate to unit size

In the fourth stage of selection, individual households are listed and randomly selected within electoral districts, while in the fifth stage, individual respondents are selected within these households. In these last two stages, households and individual respondents within households are selected randomly according to standard Kish procedures

Russia - 10 economical regions

