

Only Half of Russians Can Name June 12 Holiday

By [The Moscow Times](#)

June 11, 2013

The  **Moscow Times**

Only 50 percent of Russians know the correct name of the June 12 national holiday — Russia Day, according to a survey by the Levada Center independent pollster.

The survey, published on Monday, indicates that another 30 percent of Russians know this holiday by its previous name — the Day of Signing the Declaration of National Sovereignty, while 7 percent cannot name the holiday at all and 7 percent do not consider it a holiday.

The survey was conducted on May 23-27 in 45 regions and involved 1,601 respondents. The margin of error is 3.4 percentage points.

The First Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation adopted the Declaration on Russia's National Sovereignty on June 12, 1990.

June 12 was proclaimed Russia's national holiday by the President Boris Yeltsin on June 2,

1994.

Originally named the Day of Signing the Declaration of National Sovereignty, the holiday was officially renamed Russia Day in 2002.

Russia's opposition and human rights activists plan to stage a rally in Moscow on June 12 this year, according to the opposition's Coordination Council.

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