

Sobyanin, Navalny Support Holds Steady in Latest Poll

By The Moscow Times

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Acting Mayor Sergei Sobyanin's support has remained constant among Muscovites, as 55 percent of those polled plan to vote for the incumbent in the upcoming mayoral elections.

The latest VTsIOM poll, published Monday, looks very similar to the opinion center's results on July 23, with a small majority of respondents supporting Sobyanin and RPR-Parnas candidate Alexei Navalny receiving 9 percent support.

Ninety-four percent of the 1200 people polled knew of the Sept. 8 elections, with 76 percent saying they were either definitely or likely going to vote. The poll showed an age gap in awareness, however, as one-fifth of 18 to 24-year-olds were hearing about the race for the first time.

Communist Party candidate Ivan Melnikov was the choice of 4 percent of respondents while 3 percent voiced support for Yabloko's Sergei Mitrokhin.

Liberal Democratic Party representative Mikhail Degtyarev and Just Russia leader Nikolai Levichev received 2 percent and 1 percent respectively..

The absence of a sharp rise or fall in the ratings is due to the fact that the presidential race came in the summer and many people are on vacation or at their dachas, Dmitry Abzalov of the Center for Current Politics in Russia told Izvestia.

The poll was conducted by phone from July 30 to August 1 and has a 3.9 percent margin of error.

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