30 YEARS Moscow Times

## 72\％of Russians Against Abortion Ban－ Poll

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Jonathan Ernst／Reuters

Seventy－two percent区 of Russians are against a total ban on abortion，which is three percent凶more than last year，a poll published by the state－run pollster VTsIOM revealed on Tuesday．Only eighteen percent of respondents－区same amount as in 2015 －believe such a ban should be instituted， $\mathbf{x}$ the study showed．

The number of $\boldsymbol{x}$ Russians that are against excluding abortion from the state－funded $\mathbf{x h e a l t h}$ insurance，has also grown from 59 percent in 2015 to 70 区percent in 2016．At the same time， the number of people who thinkxthat abortion should not be a state－funded procedure， lowered from 25区percent in 2015 to 21 percent in 2016.

Nine percent of $\mathbf{x}$ female respondents said they had an abortion．More than half of the $\mathbf{\nabla}$ respondents－ 51 percent－believe that poor financial conditions凶are the main reason why women resort to abortion．

The poll was $\mathbf{x}$ conducted between Oct. 15 and 16 in 46 Russian regions among $1,600 \mathbf{x}$ respondents. The margin of error does not exceed 3.5 percent.

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