

One in Four Russians Willing to Give Up Plastic Bags – Poll

June 05, 2019



velkr0 / Flickr (CC BY 2.0)

Almost 40 percent of Russians would consider no longer using plastic bags, according to a state-funded survey published on World Environment Day.

The UN's World Environment Day takes place on June 5 every year to raise environmental awareness. Greenpeace estimates that more than 26 billion plastic bags are [handed out](#) annually in shops across Russia.

Related article: [Calls to Ban Plastic Bags Mount in Russia as Trash Crisis Deepens](#)

A total of 85 percent of Russian respondents would consider fully (39 percent) or partially (46 percent) giving up plastic bags, the VTsIOM pollster [said](#) Wednesday.

While over two-thirds said they pack their groceries in plastic bags, 70 percent believe that banning them would considerably cut waste and help the environment.

Related article: [Can Russia Turn a Plastic Corner?](#)

Plastic bag use was heavily prevalent across all demographic groups. However, Russians aged 18 to 24 were more likely to say they use their own bags or backpacks instead of plastic bags while shopping (46 percent versus 42 percent).

Only a quarter of all Russian respondents said they reuse plastic bags, while almost one-third always use new bags.

VTsIOM conducted the telephone survey among 1,600 respondents on June 2.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/06/05/one-in-four-russians-willing-to-give-up-plastic-bags-poll-a65894>