

Number of Russians Opposed to Putin's Re-Election Reaches 6-Year High – Poll

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Igor Ivanko / Moskva News Agency

Almost two out of five Russians would not like to see President Vladimir Putin stay in office after his current term ends in 2024, according to a new poll published by the independent Levada Center pollster.

The [question](#) of who will succeed Putin, the country's longest-serving leader since Josef Stalin, has grown more pressing as his constitutional term limit approaches. Aides and advisers are [working](#) on ways to allow Putin to prolong his rule despite his [lagging](#) popularity caused by widespread poverty and unpopular pension reforms.

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Thirty-eight percent of Russian respondents said they wouldn't like to see Putin remain president beyond 2024, Levada [said](#) Tuesday, an 11% increase since 2018.

At the same time, 54% of Russians said they would like for Putin to stay in office, an increase from 51% in 2018.

The share of undecided respondents has reached a record low of 8%, dropping almost threefold in a year.

The percentage of Russians opposed to Putin's extended rule reached a record high of 45% in late 2013.

"We're approaching the situation of 2011-2013 when there was a peak in anti-Putin sentiment... However, this irritated mass is restrained by the lack of a leader who could consolidate discontent," Lev Gudkov, the head of Levada, [told](#) the Vedomosti business daily.

Levada conducted the survey among 1,605 respondents in 50 Russian regions on July 17-24.

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