

## Most Russians Still Mistrust Coronavirus Vaccine – Poll

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President Vladimir Putin has ordered a mass vaccination campaign. **Sergei Vedyashkin / Moskva News Agency** 

Russians are still overwhelmingly unwilling to take the coronavirus vaccine as the national vaccination drive gains steam, the RBC news website <u>reported</u> Friday, citing poll results.

The Superjob.ru job board's survey taken this month showed 60% of Russian respondents opposing the vaccine compared with 40% favoring it, according to RBC.

Opponents cited mistrust of the Covid-19 vaccine, its side effects and contraindications, as well as a lack of information about clinical trial results. Some respondents said they suffered from severe chronic diseases or were unsure how long their antibodies would last after recovering from Covid-19. Others said they were waiting for other vaccines, both domestic and foreign, to become available to the general public.

While 29% of those willing to vaccinate showed no preference for a particular jab, others were twice as likely to name Sputnik V their vaccine of choice as EpiVacCorona, which the Russian

government <u>approved</u> in October.

Superjob.ru surveyed 1,600 respondents across nearly 400 Russian cities between Jan. 13-14.

On Wednesday, President Vladimir Putin ordered a mass vaccination campaign to start next week following a slower-than-expected rollout that began early in December.

Recent analysis found that only five out of 85 Russian regions, including Moscow, had high availability of Covid-19 vaccines. Half of Russia's regions were judged not to have launched mass vaccinations yet.

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