

Wrongful Mobilization Hits 50% in Far East Russian Region

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AP Photo/TASS

Around half of those recruited into the Russian military from Far Eastern Russia's Khabarovsk region had been sent home due to wrongful mobilization, the region's governor [said](#) Monday.

Russia's first draft since World War II has sparked protests and criticism, even among Kremlin loyalists, for the chaotic mobilization process. Several regional leaders have reported [taking measures](#) to improve their regions' draft efforts after President Vladimir Putin last week acknowledged "mistakes" in carrying out his "partial" mobilization orders.

In the Khabarovsk region 8,500 kilometers east of Moscow, Governor Mikhail Degtyaryov said he has dismissed the local chief enlistment officer for excesses at the draft board.

"Out of several thousand of our compatriots who had received a summons and arrived at military enlistment offices in the past 10 days, around half have returned home for failing to meet the selection criteria," he said.

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The governor did not specify how many Khabarovsk region residents have been mobilized, but the 50% figure is believed to be the highest share of wrongful mobilization cases to be declared in a single region. His colleague in the neighboring republic of Sakha [reported](#) Monday that 300 of those wrongfully enlisted have returned home.

Degtyaryov's announcement follows reports of recruiters in the Khabarovsk region signing up men diagnosed with schizophrenia and single fathers with disabled children.

Yury Laiko, the Khabarovsk region's chief enlistment officer, is at least the second senior recruitment officer to be fired over mistakes with the "partial" mobilization.

His counterpart in the Magadan region — another Russian subject in the Far East and one of the country's least-populated regions — was dismissed last week.

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