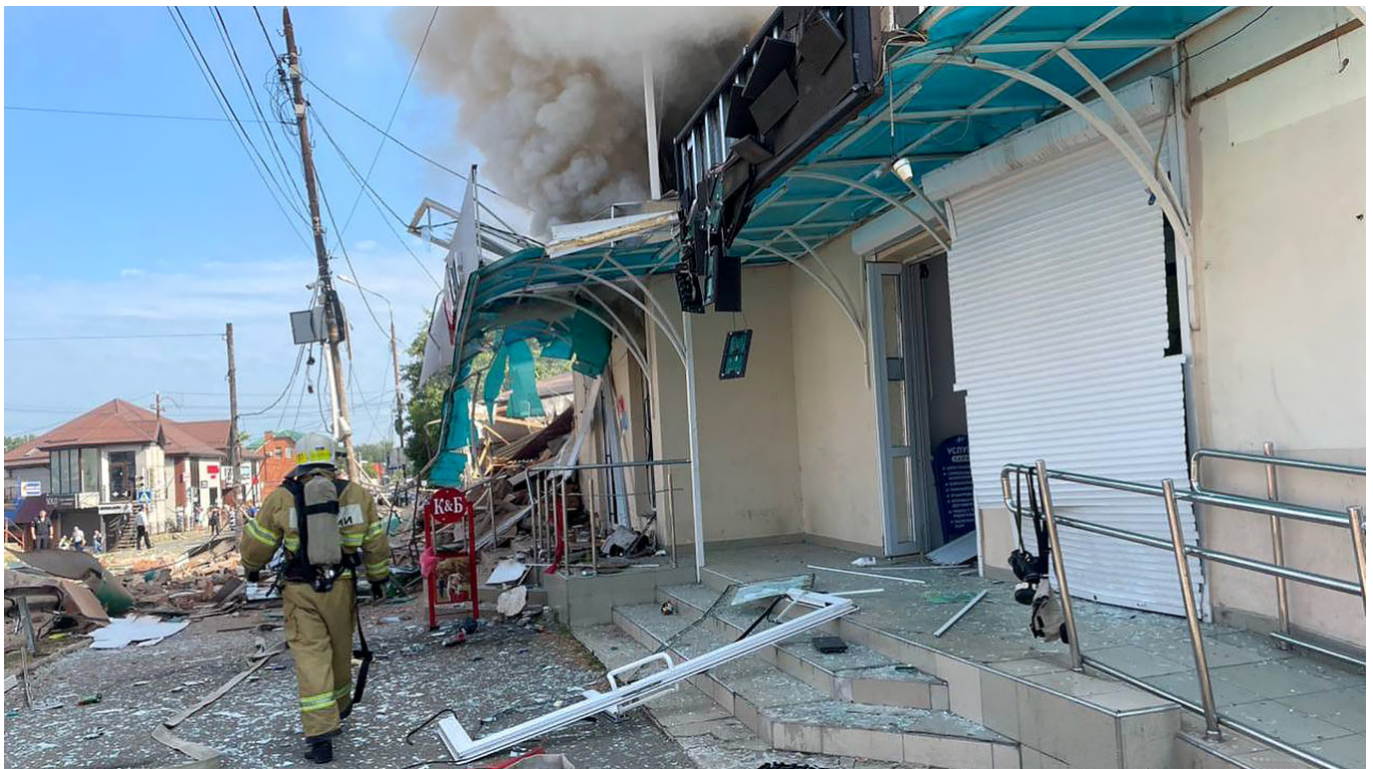


Liquor Store in Southern Russia Explodes

July 22, 2024



The Krasnoe & Beloe liquor store after Monday's explosion. **Russian Emergencies Ministry**

A gas explosion ripped through storefronts in southern Russia's Krasnodar region, injuring at least four people, investigators [said](#) Monday.

"Building structures collapsed in the city of Apsheronsk as a result of the explosion of a gas-air mixture early this morning," Russia's Investigative Committee, which probes major crimes, said in a statement.

Videos published by [independent media](#) and state news agencies [showed](#) police, medics, investigators and firefighters at the scene of the incident.

A damaged sign for the Krasnoe & Beloe ("Red & White") liquor store chain is visible next to the explosion site. Krasnodar region Governor Veniamin Kondratyev [said](#) the shopping pavilion where the liquor store was located had been "destroyed."

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At least four people were hospitalized as authorities continued their search for victims, the Investigative Committee said.

The state-run Interfax news agency, citing anonymous emergency service sources, [reported](#) that up to 15 people may have been injured at a nearby bus stop.

The Investigative Committee said it has launched a criminal probe into safety violations.

Gas explosions are common in Russia, though they often affect residential buildings built in the Soviet era.

Russia's Defense Ministry [said](#) earlier on Monday that it had destroyed eight Ukrainian drones over the Krasnodar region, though it was not clear whether the Apsheronsk explosion was connected.

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