

# Russians' Attitudes Toward the War

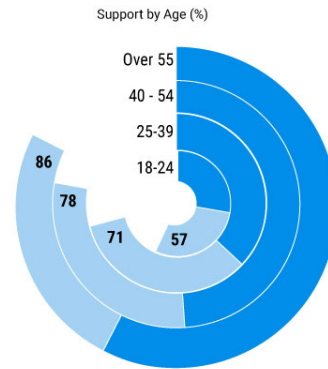
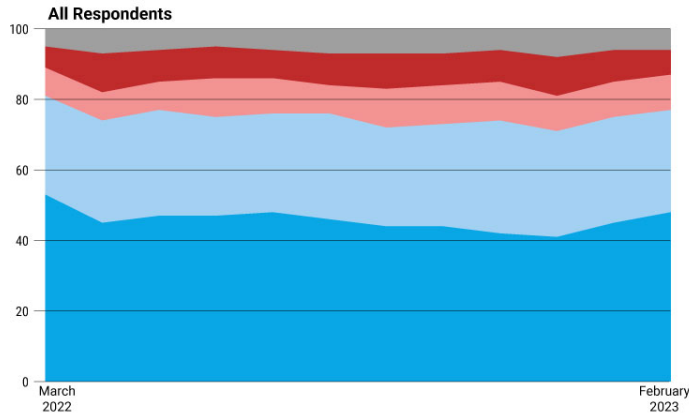
by Geopolitical Futures - March 3, 2023

## Russian Support for the 'Special Military Operation'

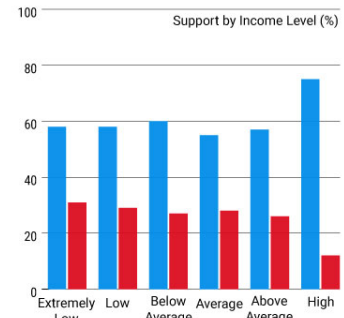
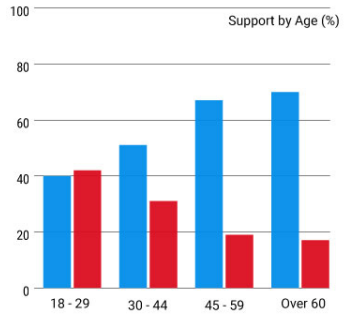
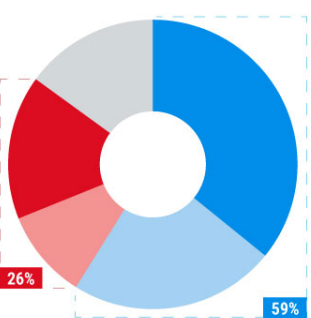
One year into the war, support remains highest among older, wealthier citizens

Definitely yes
Mostly yes
Mostly no
Definitely no
Unsure/no answer

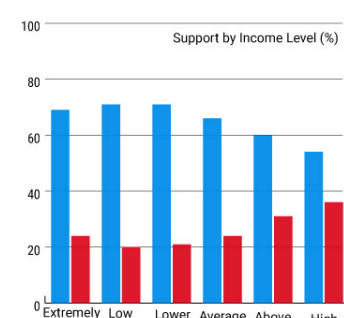
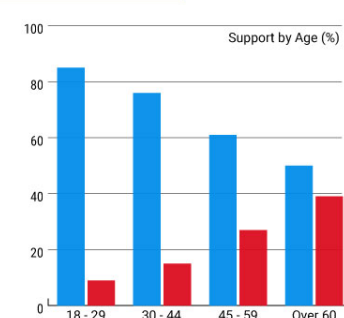
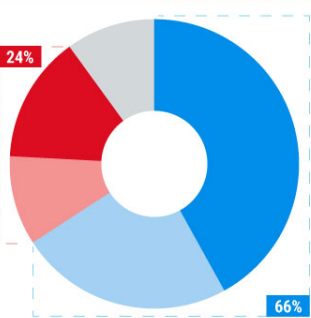
Do you personally support the actions of Russian armed forces in Ukraine?



Would you support a new attack on Kyiv tomorrow?



Would you support a peace agreement signed by Putin?



Sources: Levada, Russian Field

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*(click to enlarge)*

A year into what was supposed to be a short war, Russia has given little indication it is prepared to back down. Its Wagner paramilitary force has taken the lead in Bakhmut, the focus of the most intense fighting, while Ukraine steps up drone attacks and receives resupplies from NATO countries. For Moscow, a critical factor is the level of domestic support for the conflict.

Public approval in Russia has remained high and stable for most of the war, except briefly when the Kremlin announced a partial mobilization. Two waves of emigration, however, served as a release valve. By now, most Russians have adapted to the new normal. Their main concerns today have to do with the realignment of the Russian economy in response to Western sanctions, the exit from Russia of Western firms, and Kremlin decrees on import substitution. That said, people still fear a new wave of mobilization or a significant escalation of hostilities.

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