



Citizen Opinions on Russian and American Responses to ISIS Terrorism

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The RIWI Corporation | www.riwi.com

Demographics

Russia



Age (Unweighted)

18-24	25%
25-34	33%
35-44	21%
45-54	11%
55-64	6%
65 and over	4%

Gender (Unweighted)

Male	69%
Female	31%

N=2,816

USA



Age (Unweighted)

18-24	22%
25-34	24%
35-44	17%
45-54	14%
55-64	13%
65 and over	10%

Gender (Unweighted)

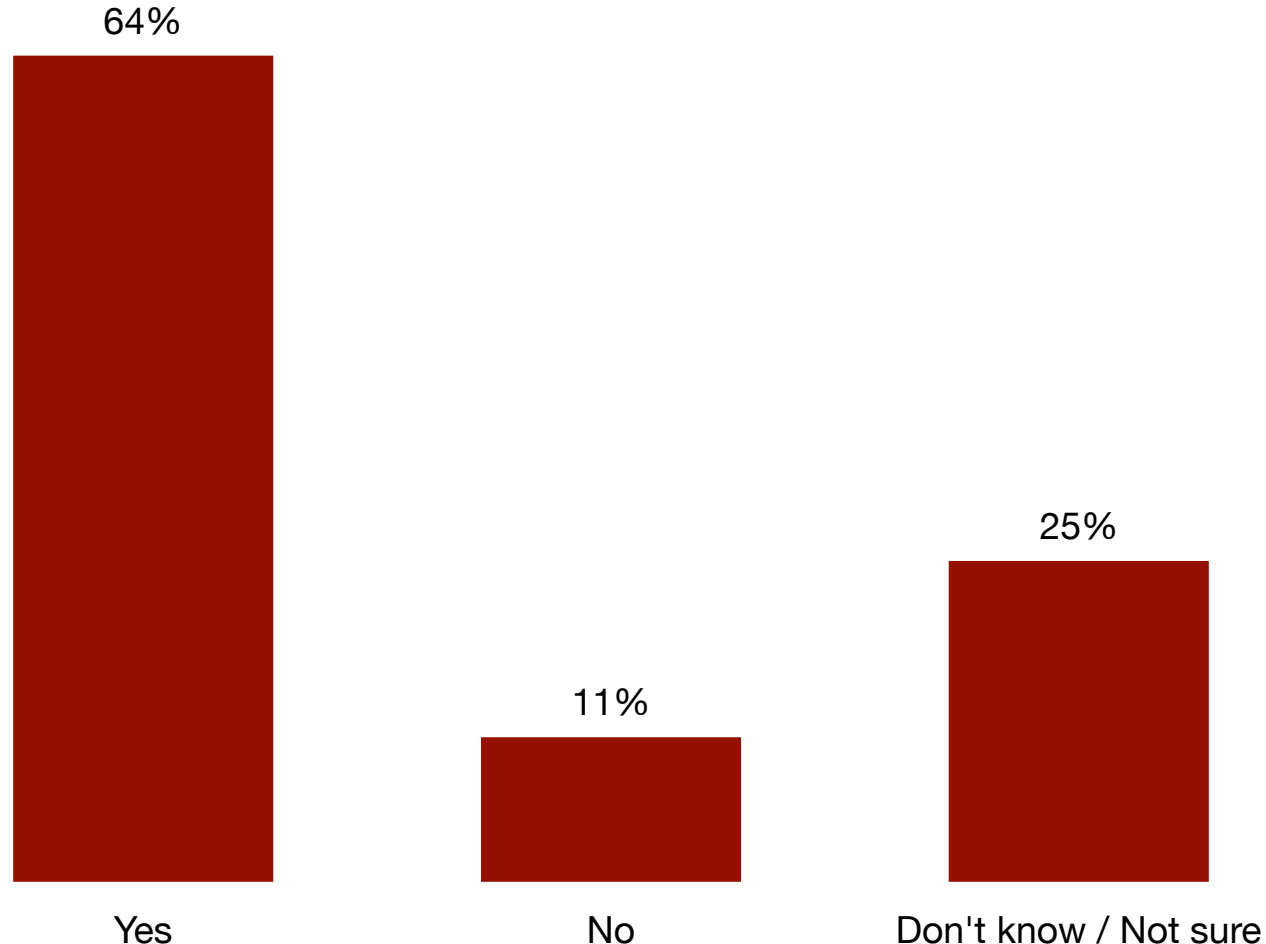
Male	56%
Female	44%

N=2,691

All percentages / proportions in this report are weighted to Russian/US census, unless stated otherwise.

Do you think Russia's strong response to ISIS terrorism will increase world respect for Russia?

Question shown to Russian respondents only



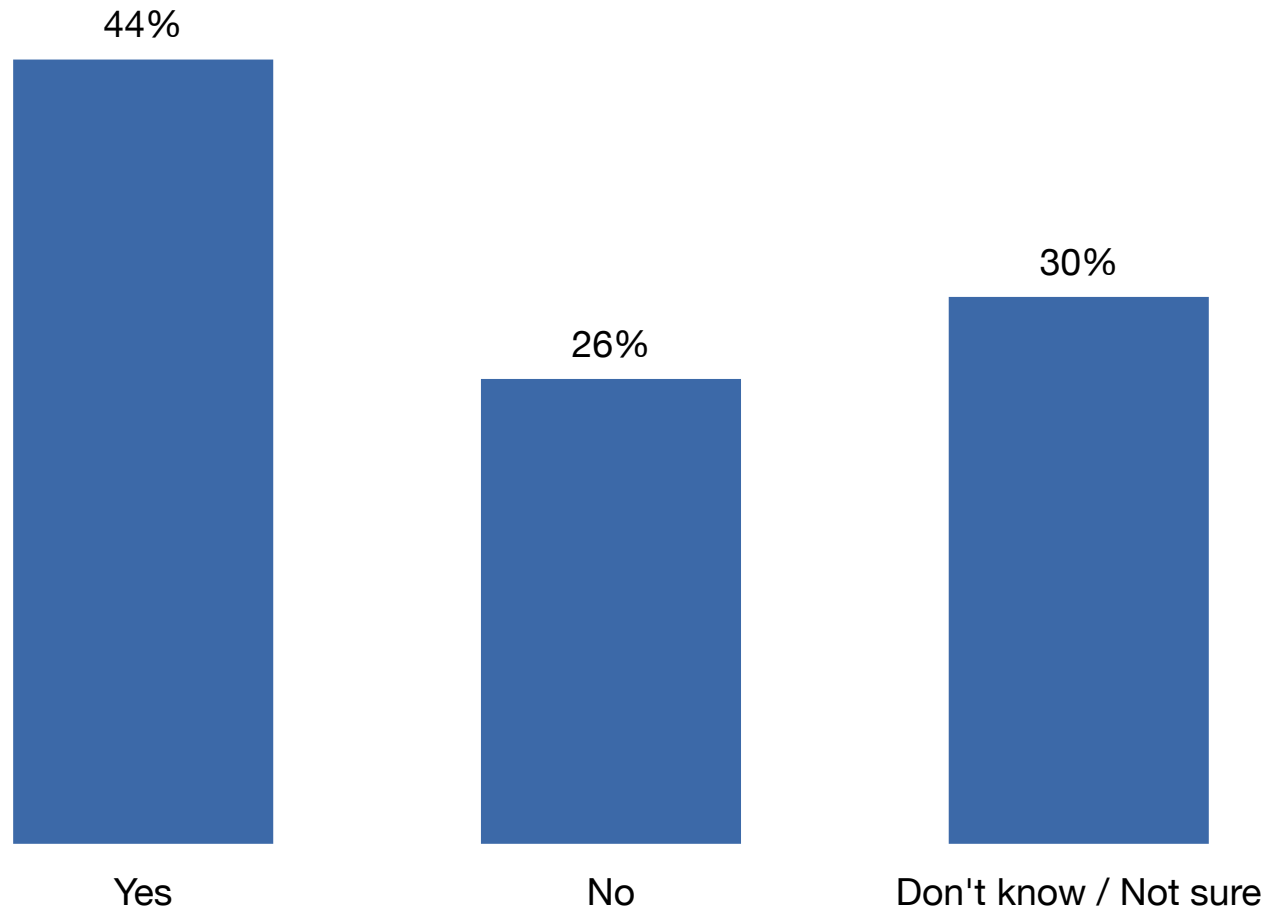
A majority of Russians (64%) agreed that Russia's intervention in Syria will increase world respect for Russia. However, Turkey's November 24 downing of a Russian warplane slightly decreased support for the statement. Initially, 67% of Russians agreed; that fell to 62% following the plane's downing.

There were significant differences, according to gender and age:

- A higher percentage of men (69%) than women (60%) agreed that Russia's intervention will increase world respect for Russia.
- Generally, middle-aged and older Russians were more likely to agree with the statement. In the age groups 35-44, 45-54, and 55-64, 69 to 70% of respondents agreed with the statement.
- The most significant difference was with regard to younger Russians. The number fell to 57% for the 25-34 age group and even further—52%—in the 18-24 age group.

Should the USA have been more aggressive against ISIS when the USA began bombing ISIS over a year ago?

Question shown to American respondents only



A plurality of Americans (44%) agreed that the U.S. should have been more aggressive in its bombing campaign against ISIS over the past year. 26% disagreed, while nearly a third—30%—did not know.

Men (46%) were more likely than women (41%) to say that the U.S. should have been more aggressive.

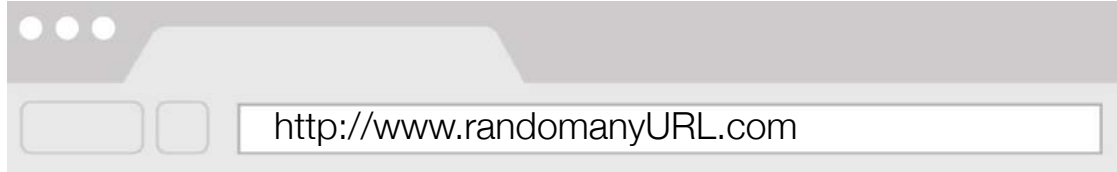
Older Americans were most likely to say that the U.S. should have been more aggressive: 72% for those 65 and over. In the 45-54 and 55-64 age groups, support for the statement was less: 41-42%. That fell to 31-33% for the age groups 35-44 and 25-34, respectively (the 18-24 age group fell in between at 37%.)

All age groups, except 65 and over, had a relatively high percentage of “don’t know”—roughly a third.

Implications

1. The expectation of some pundits that ISIS' bombing of a Russian passenger plane would awaken the ghosts of Russia's defeat in Afghanistan and diminish Russians' support for the campaign in Syria has not manifested itself in any significant way.
2. A significant number of Americans now believe the Obama administration has not been aggressive enough in its anti-ISIS campaign. Polls ([WashPost/ABC](#)) show that dissatisfaction with Obama's handling of terrorism has reached an all-time high. The dissatisfaction is apparently driven by ISIS' rise and resilience and by the terrorist attacks in Paris. If politicians craft their stance on terrorism by the public opinion polls, they will be playing "catch-up," because public concern about terrorism is reactive, rising after an attack and then fading away.
3. Russian public opinion is fairly solid behind Putin's aggressive stance in Syria. A large plurality of Americans are dissatisfied with Obama's restrained campaign against ISIS—but not a majority. A significant number are uncertain. Indeed, the combination of "don't know" and those who think the U.S. should not have been more aggressive against ISIS constitutes a majority. There is more determination and cohesion in Russia than in the U.S. in regards to how to confront the tangle of threats and dangers related to ISIS, Syria, and Iraq.

RIWI's Random Domain Intercept Technology (RDIT™)



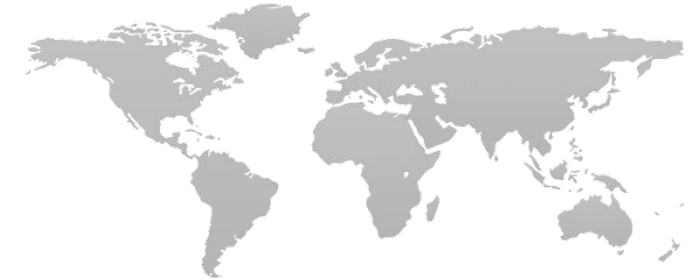
Step 1: Web user enters incorrect URL and lands on survey site



Step 2: RDIT recognizes and removes bots and renders survey



Step 3: RDIT recognizes device type and Operating System



Step 4: RDIT validates location and delivers survey

Step 5: Survey data are delivered to client



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Margin of Error, Response Rate, and FAQ

1. The “Margin of Error” is based conservatively on a sample size of +/- 2.6% for a completed respondent set of 2,816 Russians 18 years of age and older and +/- 1.9% for 2,691 Americans 18 and over. Some question elements have larger sample sizes, and, therefore, lower ‘margins of error.’ Margin of error is a theoretical construct. It is the error produced by interviewing a random sample rather than the entire population whose opinions you care about. RIWI’s coverage bias mitigation here is proprietary, since, although we report margin of error because it is an important construct, our data are reflective of online usage, and, as disclosed in our IP and third party reviews, our technology is designed to reduce coverage bias. So if your population parameter is the online parameter, then margin of error is much less relevant when using RIWI. We still report it, subject to the caveat that it should not be relied on generally for online data. Here’s why: Based on the sample size (and some other factors) and utilizing statistics, a margin of sampling error can be determined. This describes how close the sample’s results likely come to the results that would have been obtained by interviewing everyone in the population—in theory—within plus or minus a few percentage points. We are actively committed to exploring these issues at events with which we are associated, such as AAPOR and ESOMAR, in order to review our positions, in league with multiple data constituencies.
2. For detailed statistical FAQ about RIWI’s proprietary all-country survey technology and risk measurement platform, please visit: <https://riwi.com/riwi-faq/>
3. For why RIWI is unique in the world on issues such as randomization, scale, intellectual property, and global access, please visit: <https://riwi.com/why-we-are-unique/>

RIWI is a global survey technology and risk measurement company using its proprietary, patented methods to capture a new stream of citizen opinion data in any region of the world.

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