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Possible combinations of second round candidates		Will vote for			Will vote against both			Will not vote in second round	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar
Yeltsin	21	27	33						
Ziuganov	41	39	36	21	22	18	7	4	3
Zhirinovsky	15		13						
Ziuganov	42		40	27		32	6		7
Ziuganov	34	37	34						
Yavlinsky	36	33	32	15	19	17	4	4	6

Ziuganov need Yeltsin as opponent in the secind round or, 40% will not come to polling sites. Add 10% more and the results will not be valid. The outcome of competition between Ziuganov and Yavlinsky is not very different from competition of Ziuganov and Yeltsin (most probably in the second round their supporters will unite).

4. WHICH OF THE POLITICIANS LISTED BELOW YOU WOULD NEVER WANT TO BE RUSSIAN PRESIDENT? (More than one answer possible)

	Jan	Feb	Mar
Zhirinovsky	49	49	58
Yeltsin	43	40	37
Ziuganov	14	21	26
Lebed	9	8	10
Yavlinsky	6	4	8
S. Fiodorov	4	2	5
Find it hard to answer	8	8	_10

Zhirinovsky is ahead of evrybody else, which will hardly please him. Interestingly enough people are looking at Yeltsin less sternly (-6%) and more so, at Zhirinovsky (+9%) and Ziuganov (+12%). But, following this logic, the future President will be Fiodorov...

5. IN YOU OPINION, WHO WILL BECOME RUSSIAN PRESIDENT?

	Jan	Feb	Mar
Yeltsin	14	21	35
Ziuganov	18	22	28
Zhirinovsky	8	8	6
Chernomyrdin	6	6	x
Lebed	4	2	2
Yavlinsky	5	2	2
Gaidar	1	1	-
S. Fiodorov	2	2	1
Gorbachev	0.6	0.4	-
Other	2	1	1
Find it hard to answer	around 40	39	25

x - Were not included in March poll.

With all these choices, there is no alternative. Supporters of Yavlinsky, Lebed and even Zhirinovsky (partially) are giving their votes to Yeltsin because they understand their favorites will not make it to the second round. What is on the mind of 25% that still have not decided - they don't know themselves, but their votes will define victory of one or the other candidate.

More struggle for your votes is ahead, and things like "acts of denouncing" and "special troops training in Duma building" will seem April's Fool Day's innocent jokes. Too much is at stake.

VCIOM conducted a poll of 1,600 Russian citizens on March 22-27, 1996. The responses given are provided together with the data received in previous polls in January and February, 1996. (Margin of error - 4%)

1. IF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS WERE THIS SUNDAY, WOULD YOU TAKE PART IN IT?

	Jan	Feb	Mar
For sure, I will not	9	14	13
I doubt that I will	8	9	7
Don't know if I will	14	13	10
Most probably I will	20	15	13
Definitely, I will (unless something happens with me before)	46	48	54
Find it hard to answer	3	1	3

It's great that we have elections in June - as you see, our people are warming up. For the first time the number of those who will come to the polling sites exceeded 50%, which means, if elections are called for tomorrow, they will be valid.

2. IF THE FOLLOWING POLITICIANS ARE ON THE BALLOT, WHO WOULD YOU VOTE FOR? (This question was asked on order from "ITOGY" Weekly TV Show [NTV]). 100% represent only those citizens who said will vote on election day, that is, 6% of all. (?-Alex)

	Jan	Feb	Mar
1. Ziuganov	20	24	25
2. Yeltsin	8	11	18
3. Lebed	. 10	8	10
4. Zhirinovsky	10	12	9
5. Yavlinsky	13	9	9
6. S. Fiodorov	8	7	7
7. Chernomyrdin	7	5	3
8. Gaidar	3	4	3
9. Gorbachev	1	1	1
Other	3	2	2
Against All	2	3	4
Find it hard to answer	15	14	10

Yeltsin's support is growing (+10%), while Ziuganov's is the same (+1% in the last month). This is the tendency. In January there was a group that followed one lider, now the situation changed - it's basically Ziuganov and Yeltsin. While Ziuganov is supported by the same 25% that voted for him in last December Yeltsin has more room to move in - so far he took votes from Chernomyrdin (-4%), Yavlinsky (-4%) and those who find it hard to make a choice (-5%), but can steal some votes from others, like Fiodorov and Lebed. Plus the last grop with big potential (hard to answer).

Ziuganov understands that he can only find more support if he starts working with non-communist electorate, but he is afraid of losing his legal 25% support.

Yeltsin will most probably build his campaign on fighting the "spectre of communism" and still keeps chances of moving up.

In terms of the remaining candidates, the situation simply pushes them to each other (Yavlinsky - 4% down, Lebed - +2%, Fiodorov -0% growth).

3. IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN . . . AND . . . IN THE SECOND ROUND OF ELECTIONS, WHO WOULD YOU VOTE FOR?

OR, WOULD YOU RATHER VOTE AGAINST BOTH?

OR, YOU WOULD NOT VOTE AT ALL?

(Only the responses of those who said would vote are counted, which explains the difference between 100%)

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