

Half of Independents Refused

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The  **Moscow Times**

More than 50 percent of independent candidates who applied to run in Oct. 10 elections for six regional legislatures were refused registration, Vedomosti reported Thursday, citing the Central Elections Commission.

Only 117 of 254 independents made the ballots, while political parties managed to register 89.6 percent of their candidates, the report said. All but two of 33 party lists were successfully registered.

Municipal elections, which will take place in 14 regions on the same day, have similar statistics, with only 45 percent of independents registered, compared with 92 percent of party candidates.

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