

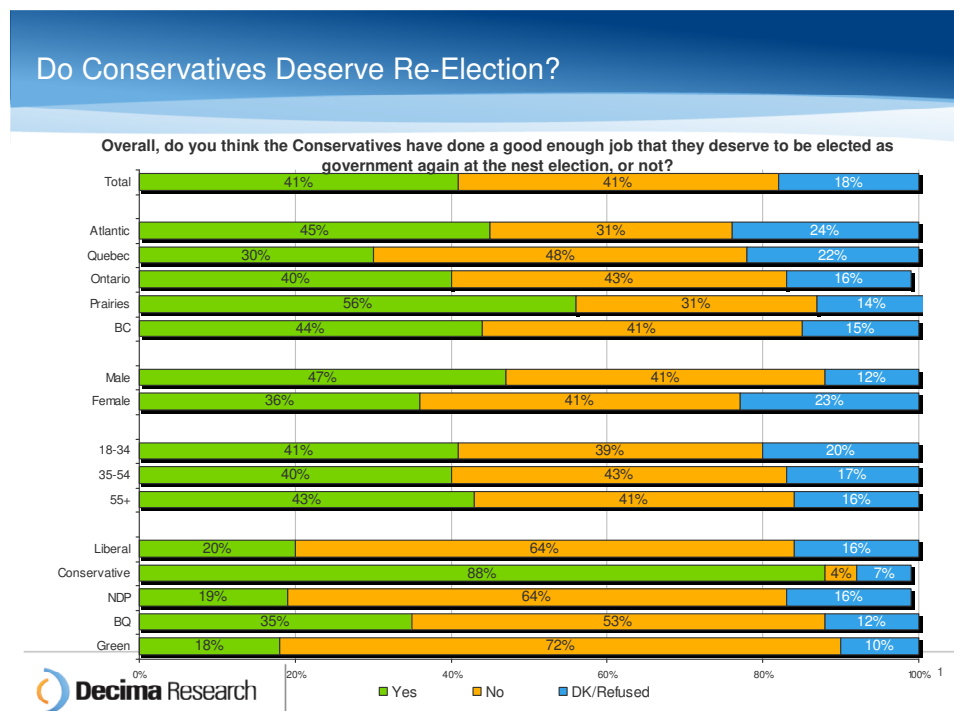
## Canadians divided over Conservative performance

August 31, 2006

New polling by Decima Research shows that for every Canadian who thinks the Conservatives deserve to win the next election, there is another who thinks they don't.

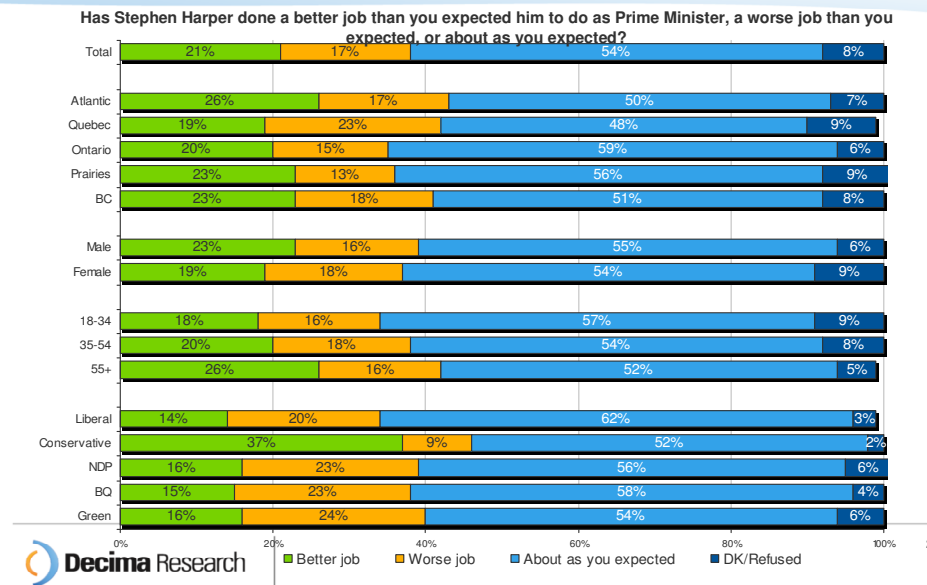
### The findings of Decima's latest poll show:

- 41% think the “Conservatives have done a good enough job that they deserve to be elected as government again”, while an equal number (41%) feel otherwise. 18% are on the fence. There are significant differences by gender and region.
- Roughly one in five of those who say they would vote for the Liberal, NDP, or Green Party if an election were tomorrow say the Conservatives deserve to win the next election, and roughly one in three BQ voters feel the same way. This suggests some potential strategic migration of votes towards the Conservatives, if that election outcome were to appear in doubt. Only 4% of those who would vote Conservative say they don't feel the Conservatives have done well enough to deserve re-election.



- Most Canadians (54%) say that Stephen Harper is doing about as they expected him to in his role as Prime Minister. 21% say he has exceeded their expectations, and 17% said he has fallen short of their expectations. Quebec is the only region where more people indicate disappointment than the opposite. About 15% of those who would vote for the Liberal, NDP, Green or BQ parties acknowledge feeling that Mr. Harper has exceeded their expectations. 9% of Conservative voters say they feel disappointed.

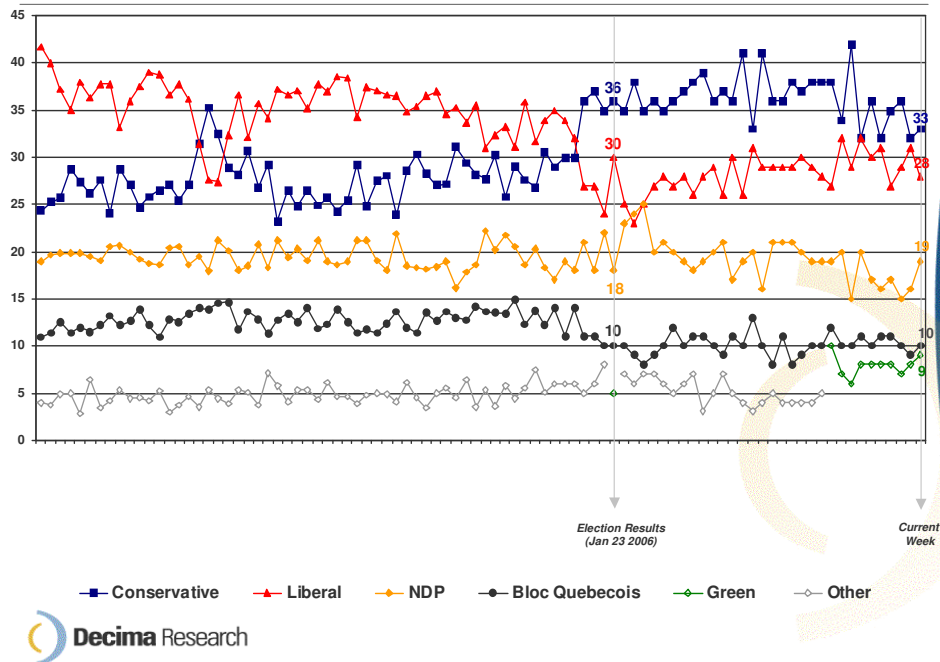
## PM Harper Performance Against Expectations?



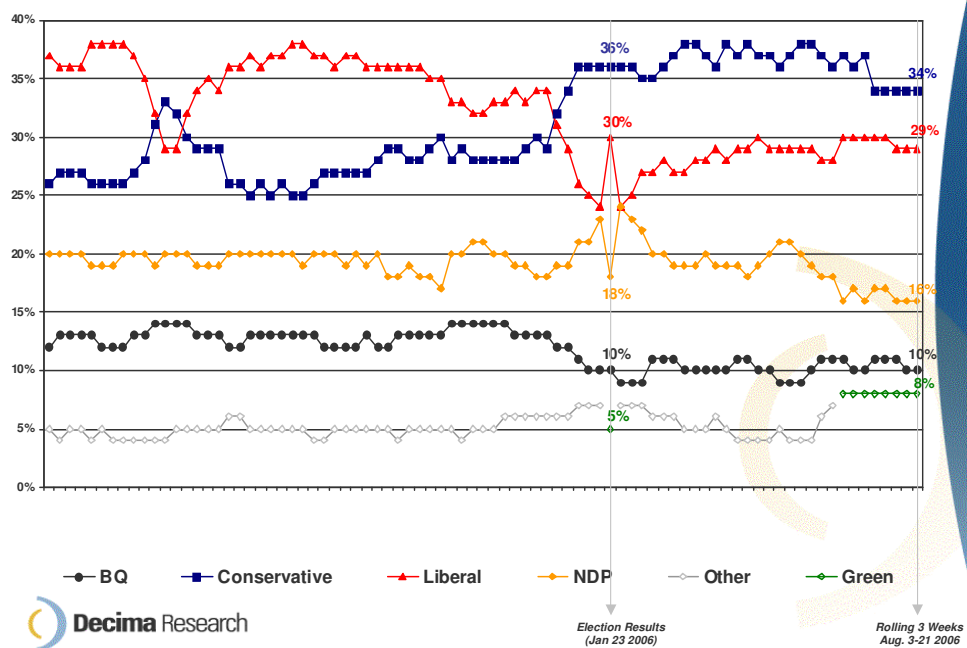
- In terms of the latest results on Decima's voting intention questions, the Conservatives have 33% support among decided voters in the latest week's poll, compared to the Liberals 28%, the NDP at 19%, the BQ 10% and the Green Party 9%. Rolling averages for the last three weeks show the Conservatives with 34%, the Liberals with 29%, the NDP 16%, the BQ 10%, and the Green Party 8%.
- In **Ontario**, the Liberals hold 35% support, compared to the Conservatives 34%, the NDP 20%, and the Green Party 10% in this week's survey. Rolling averages for the last three weeks show the Liberals with 39%, the Conservatives with 34%, the NDP 17% and the Green Party 8%.
- In **Quebec**, the BQ has 43% in this week's survey, compared to 18% for the Liberals, 16% for the Conservatives and, 9% for the Green Party and 12% for the NDP. Rolling results from the last three weeks, the BQ claim 41% support, the Liberals 20%, the Conservatives 19%, the NDP 9% and the Green Party 7%.

According to Decima CEO Bruce Anderson, "There's a gap of 6-8% between the number of people who say they would vote Conservative tomorrow and the number who say the Conservatives deserve re-election, implying a ballot booth bonus for the Conservatives. Some of the weakening of the Conservative support numbers in recent weeks is more a case of voters expressing temporal disappointment than a desire to change government. Having said that, 41% is far from the level of endorsement that seemed in reach a few months ago, and the summer has been a challenging period for the Conservatives."

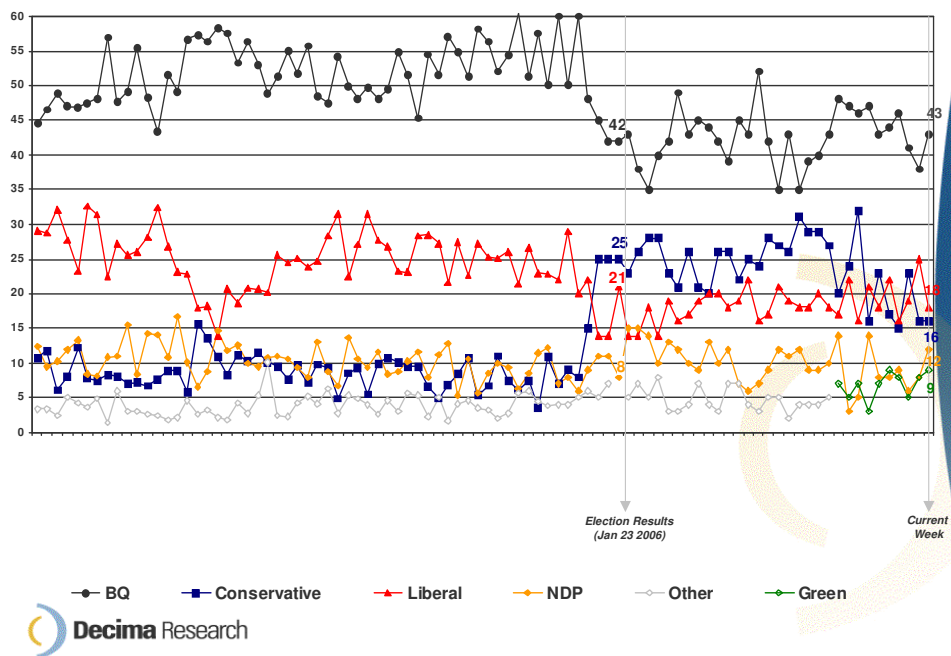
## National Vote Intention



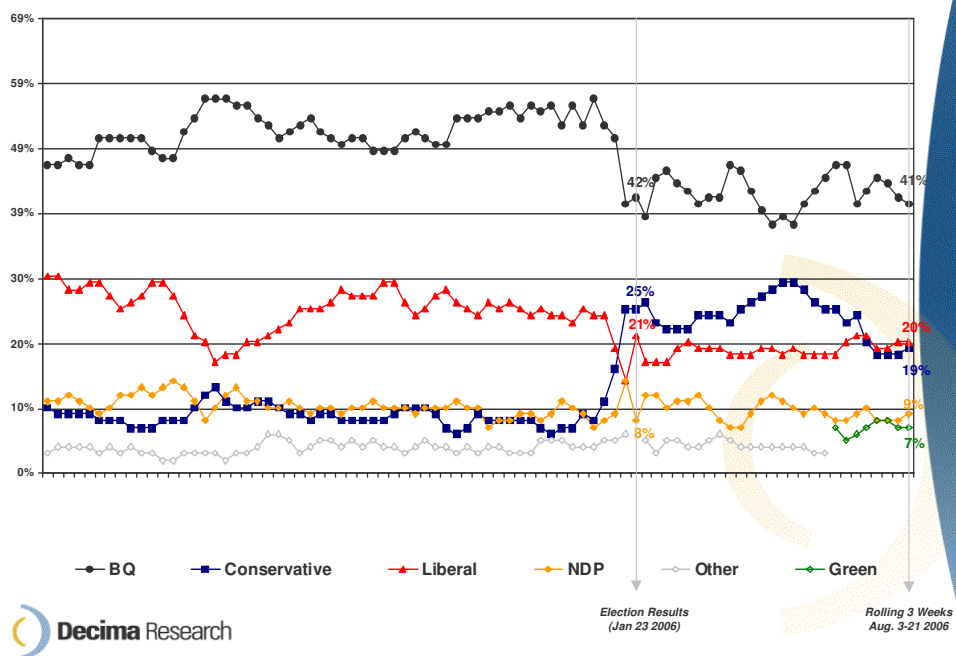
## National Vote Intention 3-Week Rolling Averages



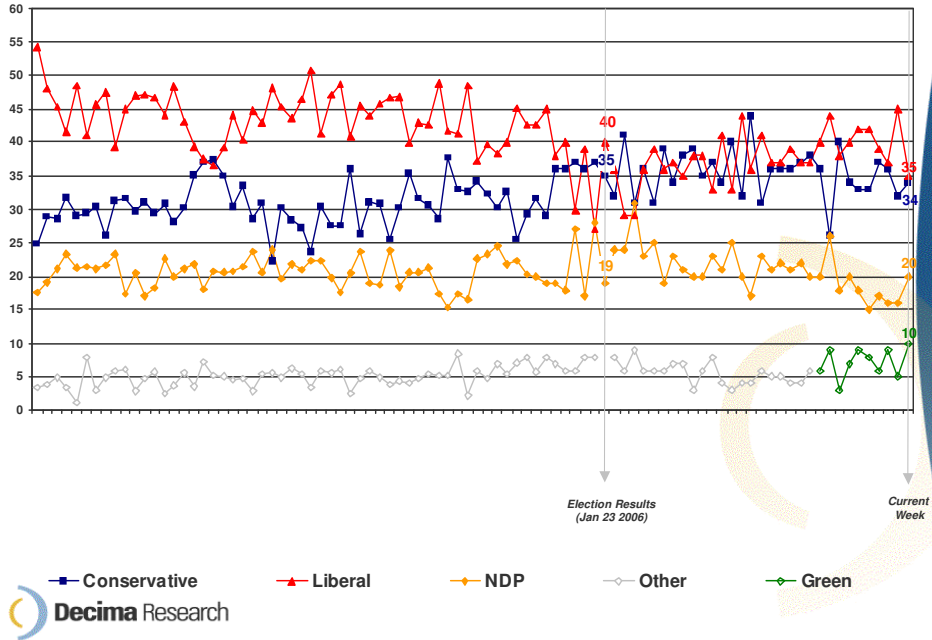
## Quebec Voters



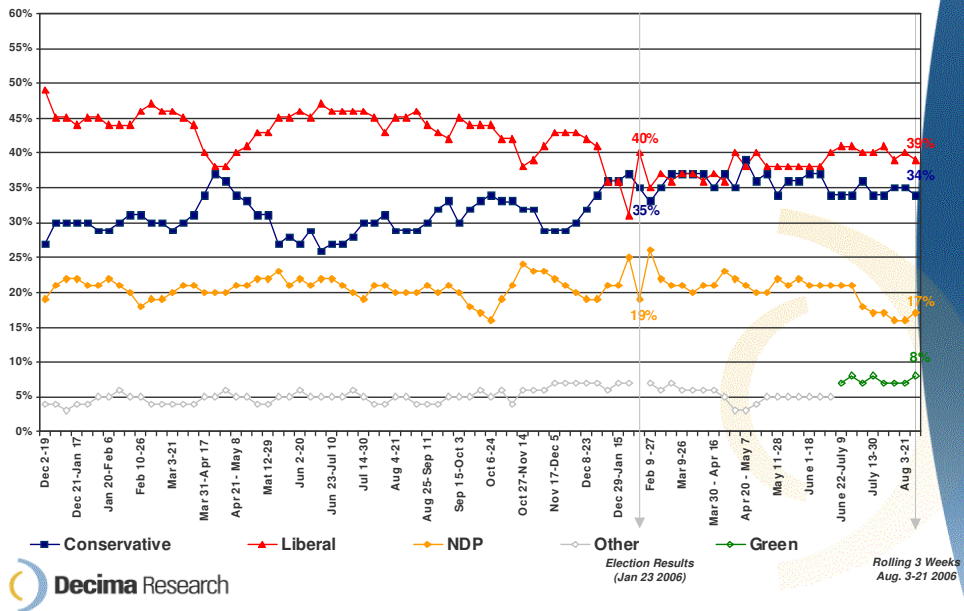
## Quebec Voters 3-Week Rolling Averages



## Ontario Voters



## Ontario Voters 3-Week Rolling Averages



These results were gathered between August 24th through August 28th, 2006, through the Decima teleVox, a national weekly omnibus telephone survey. Results are based on a sample of 1010 Canadians, accurate to within +/-3.1%, 19 times out of 20.



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