

Majority (61%) Disagrees Harper Government Doing a Good Job Protecting Canada's Environment

*Only Four in Ten (37%) Think Harper Government Has Struck the Right
Balance between Economic Growth and Environmental
Protection and Management*

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Toronto, ON – Canadians believe the Harper government could be doing more to protect the environment, according to a new poll conducted by Ipsos Reid on behalf of Postmedia News and Global Television. Only two in five (39%) Canadians 'agree' (6% strongly/32% somewhat) that 'the Harper government is doing a good job in protecting Canada's environment'. Three in five (61%), however, 'disagree' (29% strongly/32% somewhat) that the Harper government is good job protecting the environment.

Albertans (55%) are most likely to believe the Harper government is sufficiently protecting the environment, while residents of Saskatchewan and Manitoba (45%) and Ontario (42%) are also more likely than the national average to believe the Harper government is doing a good job protecting Canada's environment. British Columbians (37%), Atlantic Canadians (34%) and Quebecers (26%) are less likely than the national average to believe the Harper government is doing a good job protecting the environment. Men (44%) are considerably more likely than women (34%) to believe the Harper government is doing a good job protecting the economy.

Over its tenure, the Harper government has placed less emphasis on the environment and more on things like the economy, but a majority of Canadians do not believe the Harper

government has found the proper balance between the environment and the economy. Only two in five (37%) 'agree' (7% strongly/31% somewhat) that 'the Harper government has struck the right balance between economic growth and environmental protection and management', while three in five (63%) 'disagree' (25% strongly/38% somewhat) that the Harper government has found such a balance.

Albertans (54%) and Ontarians (41%) are most likely to 'agree' that the Harper government has been able to find the proper balance between economic growth and environmental protection, followed by residents of Saskatchewan and Manitoba (39%), British Columbia (38%), Atlantic Canada (30%) and Quebecers (26%). Men (44%) are more likely than women (31%) to believe the right balance has been struck.

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between December 7th to 12th, 2012, on behalf of Postmedia News and Global Television. For this survey, a sample of 1,021 Canadians from Ipsos' Canadian online panel was interviewed online. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case the poll is accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points of the entire Canadian adult population. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

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