

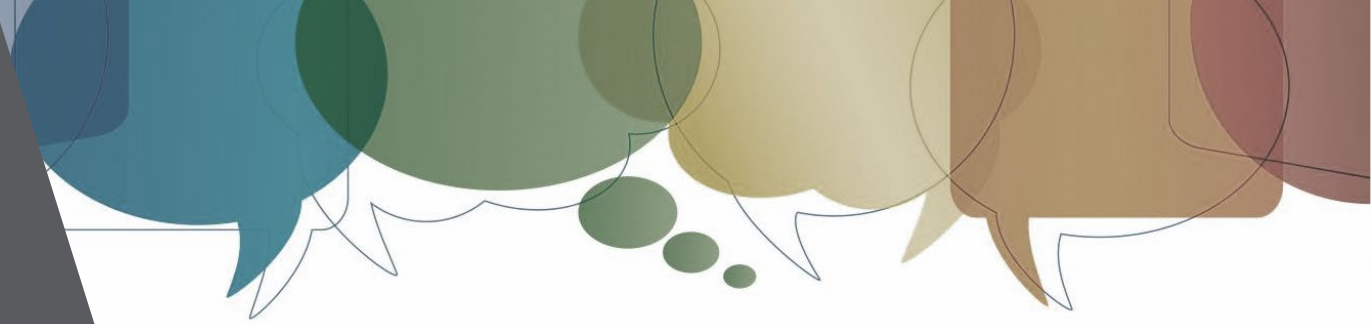


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OCTOBER 2020 RESEARCH

PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #54

CABINET OFFICE

October 30th 2020



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 The government's 'right track' scores have slipped to 68% from 75% over the past week, while 'wrong track' is now up to 32%.

On a positive note, the government's 'strongly right track' scores have moved upwards from 18% to 23%.

The 'right track' slippages are evident in virtually all demographic groups led by 65+, women, under \$40k, urbanites, and those born in Canada.

4 Ontarians continue to perceive the government is ready for COVID-19's Second Wave.

2 Over the past two weeks, Ontarians express much lower levels of trust in the government's communications regarding messages about the COVID-19 situation and re-opening of the provincial economy compared to previous months.

The drop has been particularly significant on communications related to the COVID-19 situation.

5 Ontarians are paying close attention to the infection reports.

As a result, they are acknowledging the government has taken actions to bend the infection curve: several weeks ago, 39% felt the government was 'not doing as much as they should'. Now this percentage is 30%.

3 Since August, positive perceptions of the government's performance on 'keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation' have been declining. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, 'right track' scores are closely linked to perceptions about the government taking strong actions to protect Ontarians' health.

6 The fact that Ontarians are paying attention to news reports on COVID-19 and infection reports means they are noticing that infections have skyrocketed in the US and Europe.

As a result, the gap between Ontario and the rest of the world has widened again: about one-third now feels the Ontario COVID-19 situation is under control, while only 19% say this is true for the rest of the world.

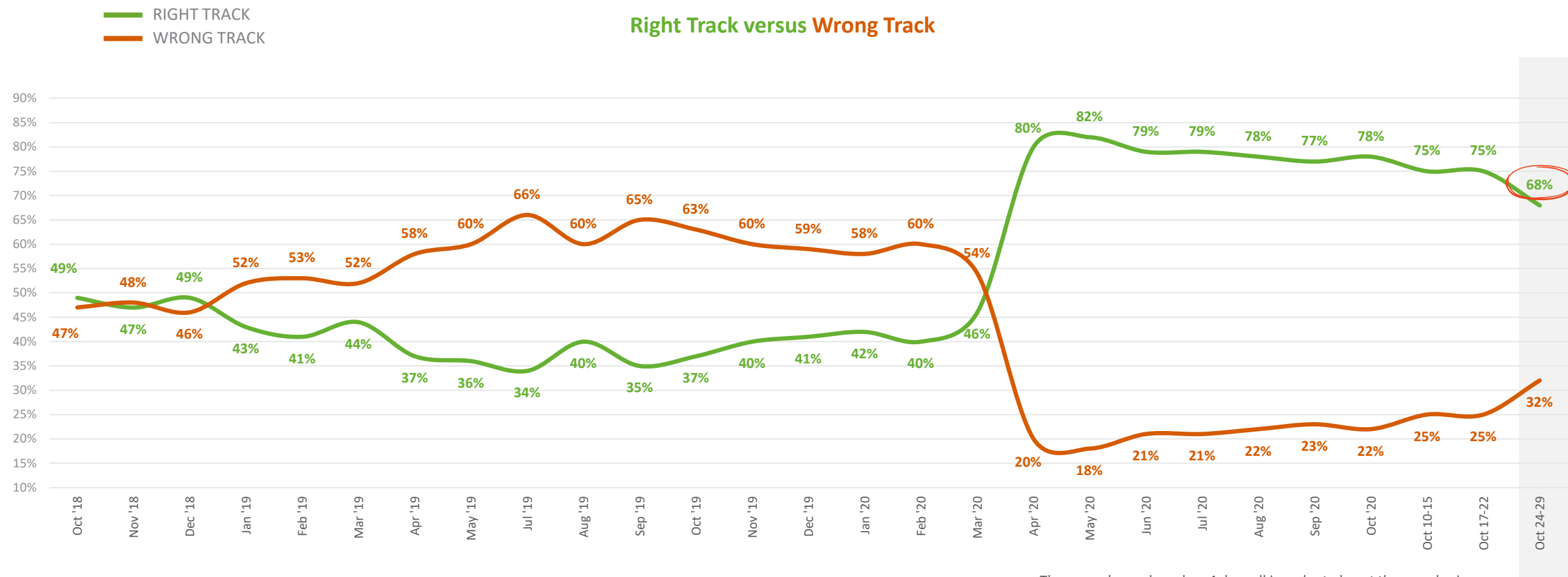
Key Findings

On an upbeat note, the government has made some progress on the education file: positive perceptions on 'ensuring excellent public education' and 'managing the re-opening of schools' have been improving over the past several weeks.

RIGHT TRACK
WRONG TRACK



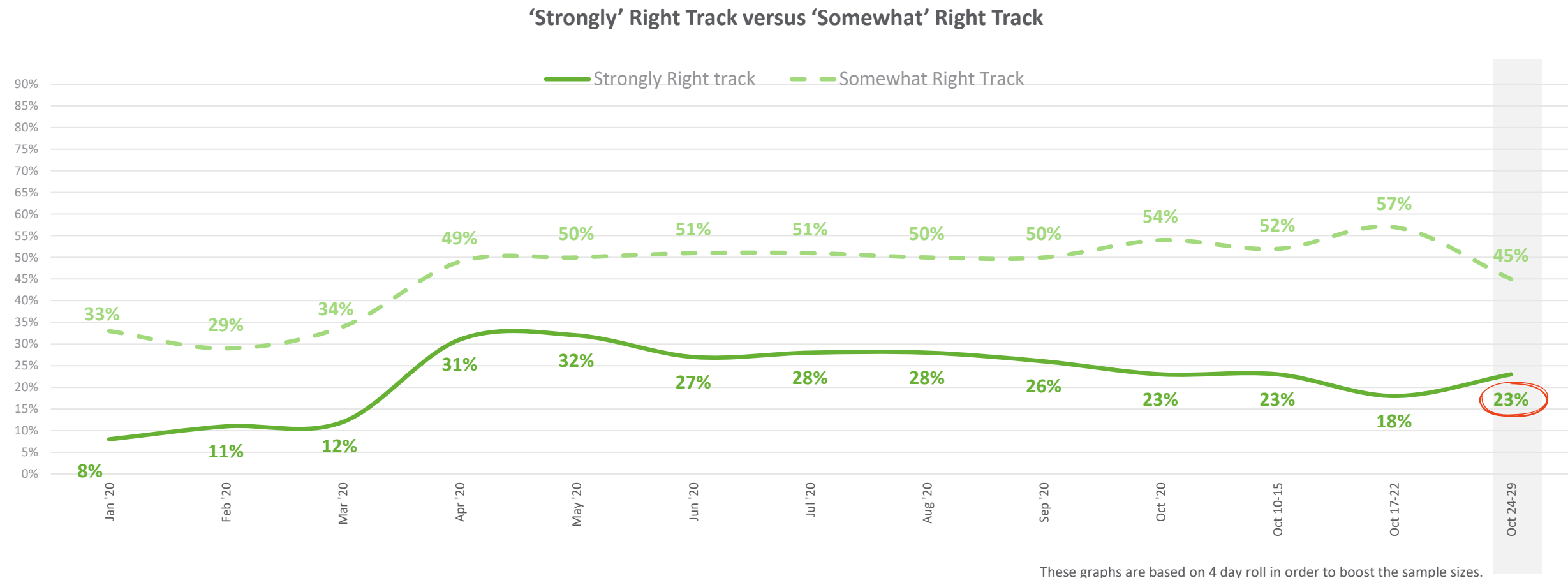
Over the past week, the government’s ‘right track’ scores have slipped to 68%, while ‘wrong track’ is now up to 32%.



These graphs are based on 4 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province? Base: Total sample

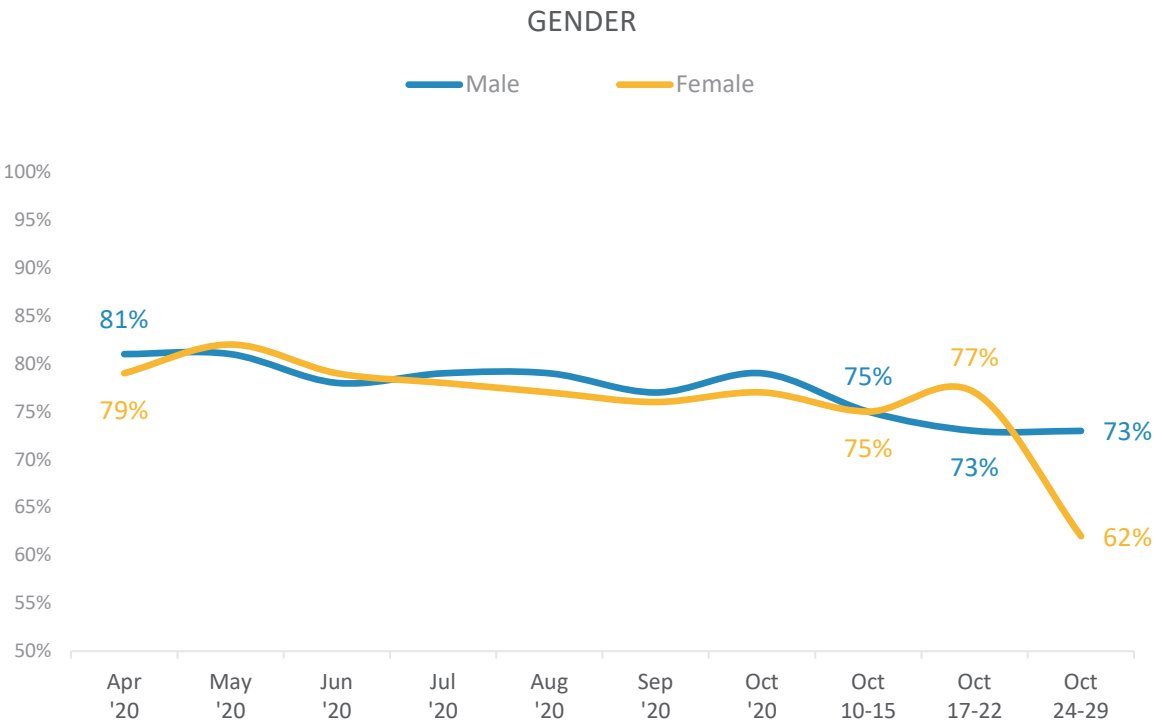
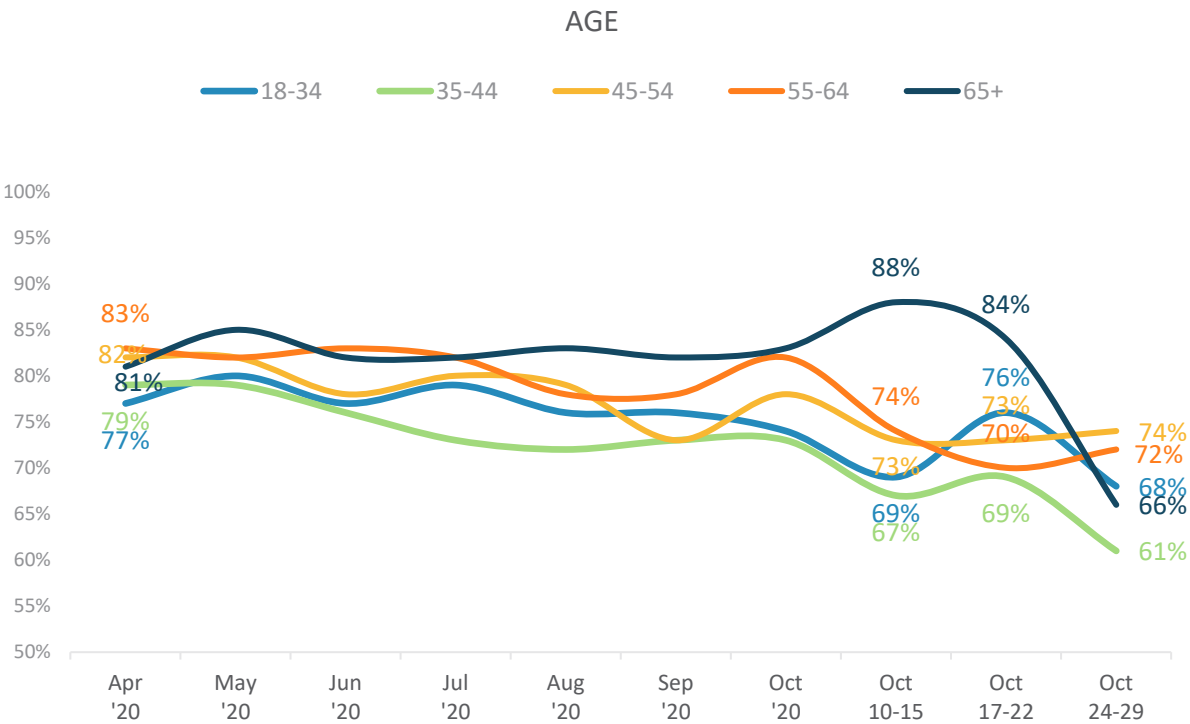
On a positive front, the government’s ‘strongly right track’ scores have moved upward to 23%.



Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province? Base: Total sample

The ‘right track’ scores dropped among women and those aged 65+, 18-34, and 35-44.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

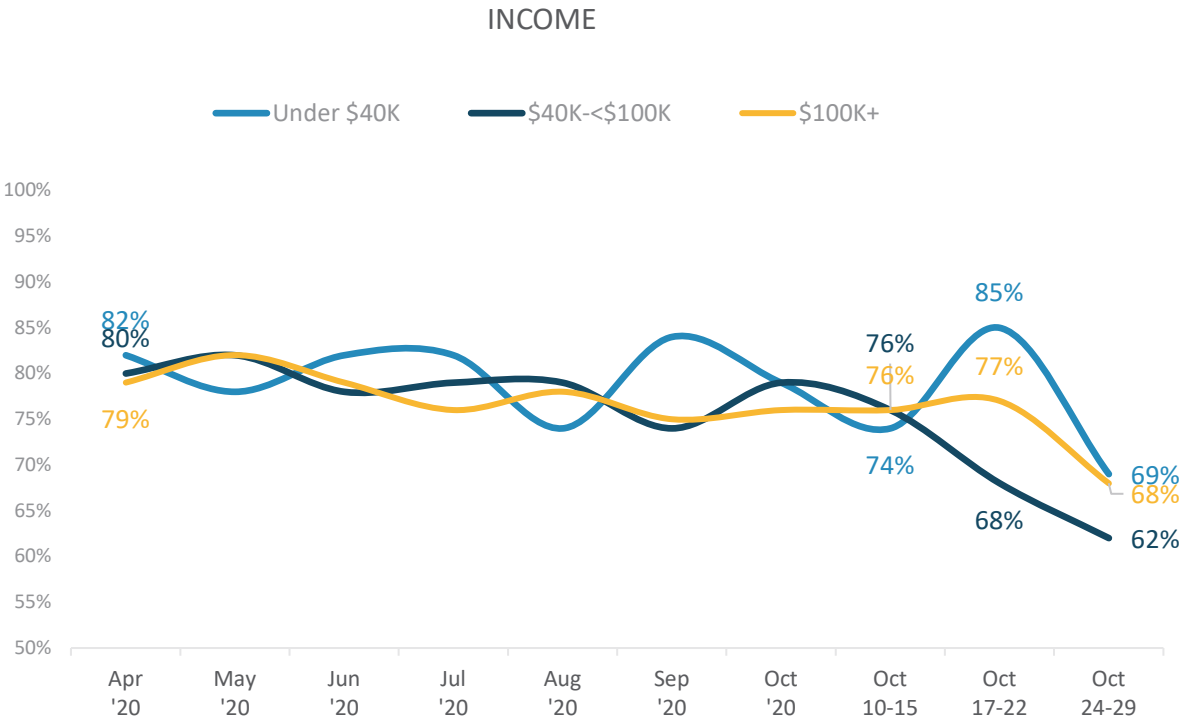
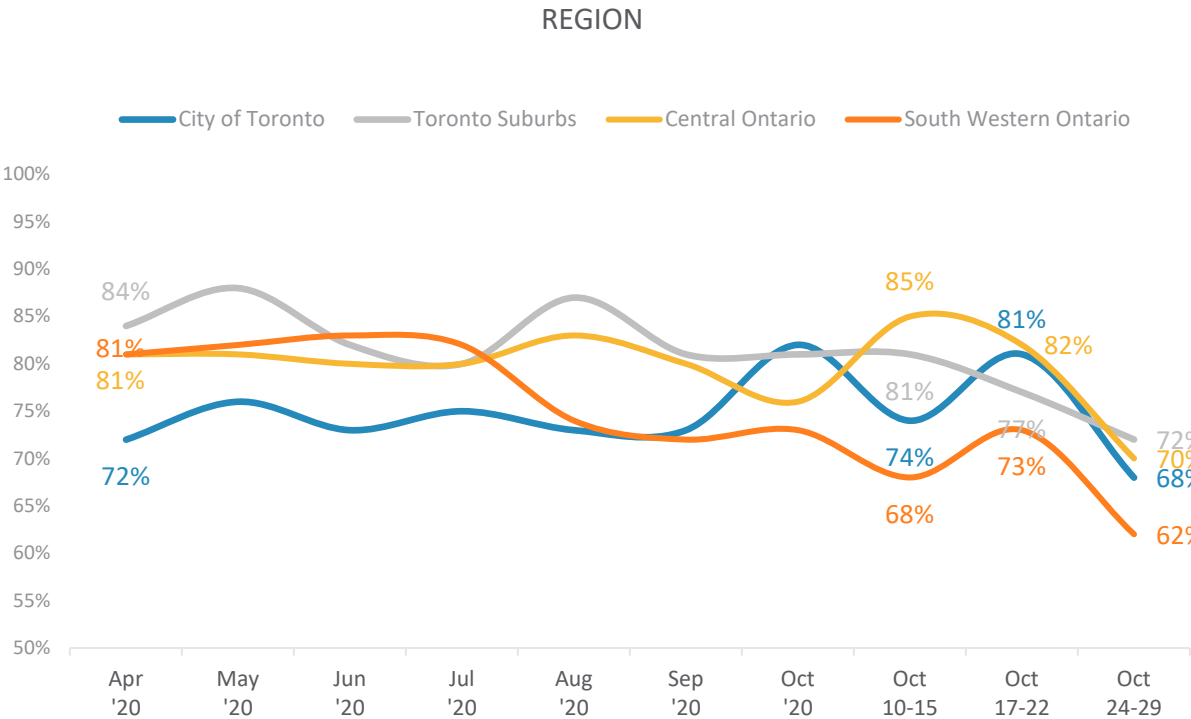


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province? Base: Total sample

The ‘right track’ scores declined across all age groups and incomes levels.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

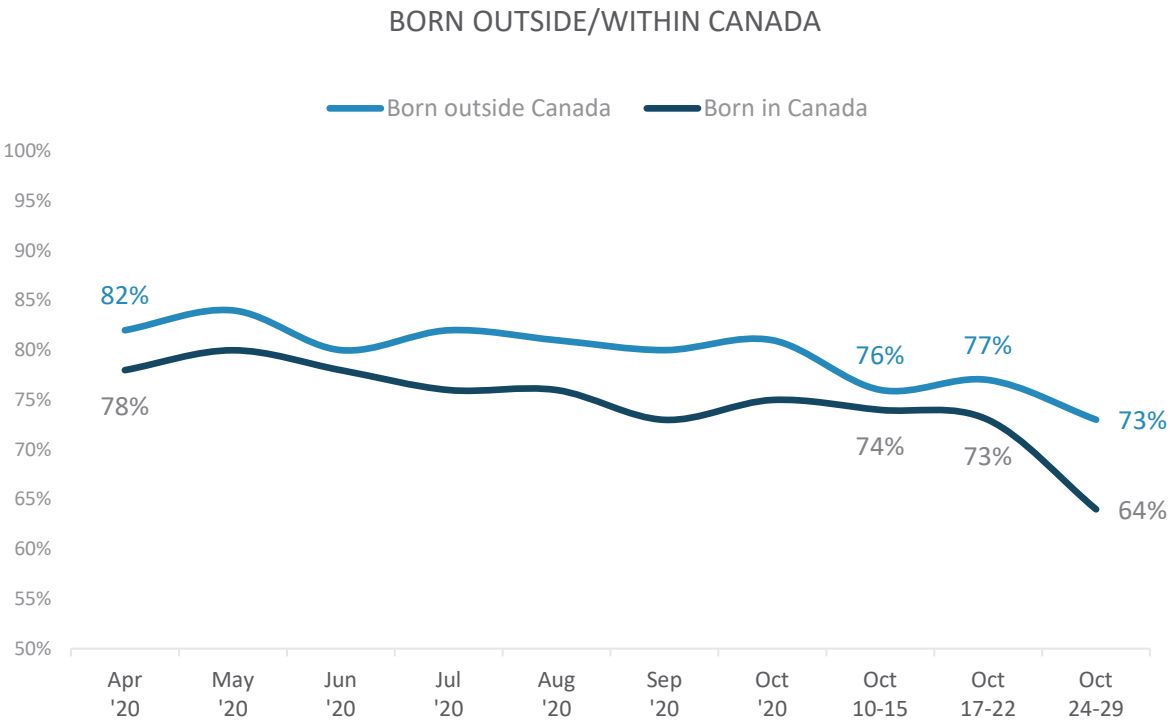
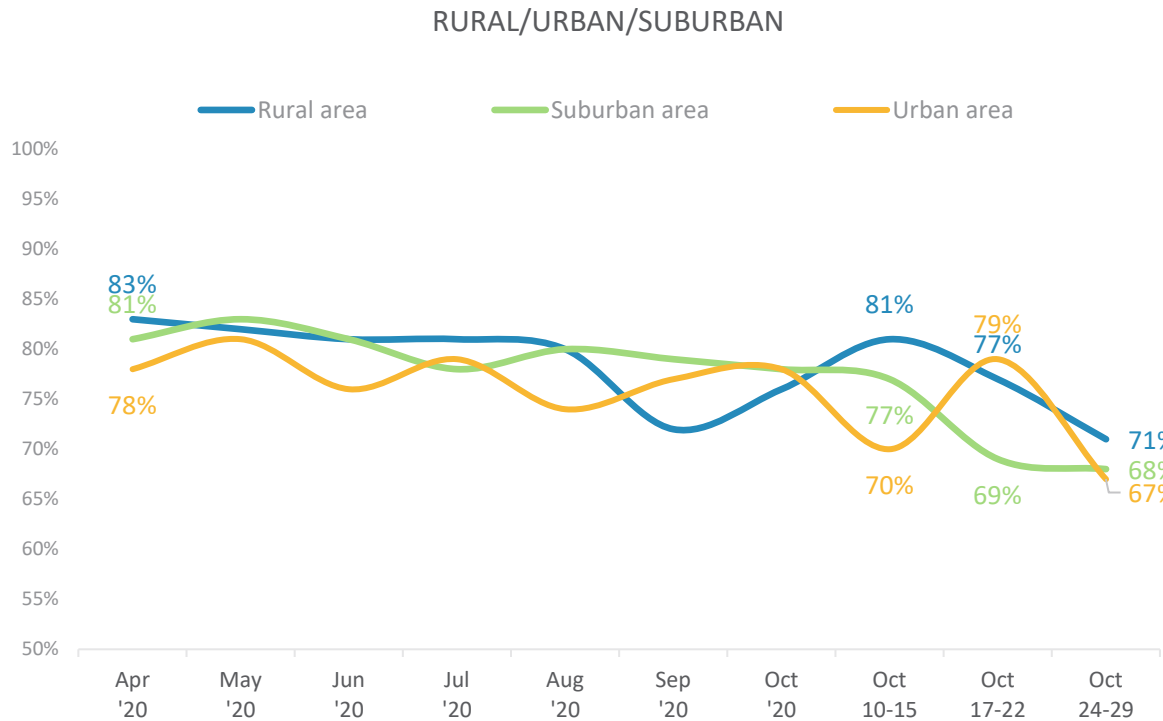


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province? Base: Total sample

The ‘right track’ scores dropped across all types of communities and among those born in or outside of Canada, although those born outside Canada remains well above born in Canada on ‘right track’.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll



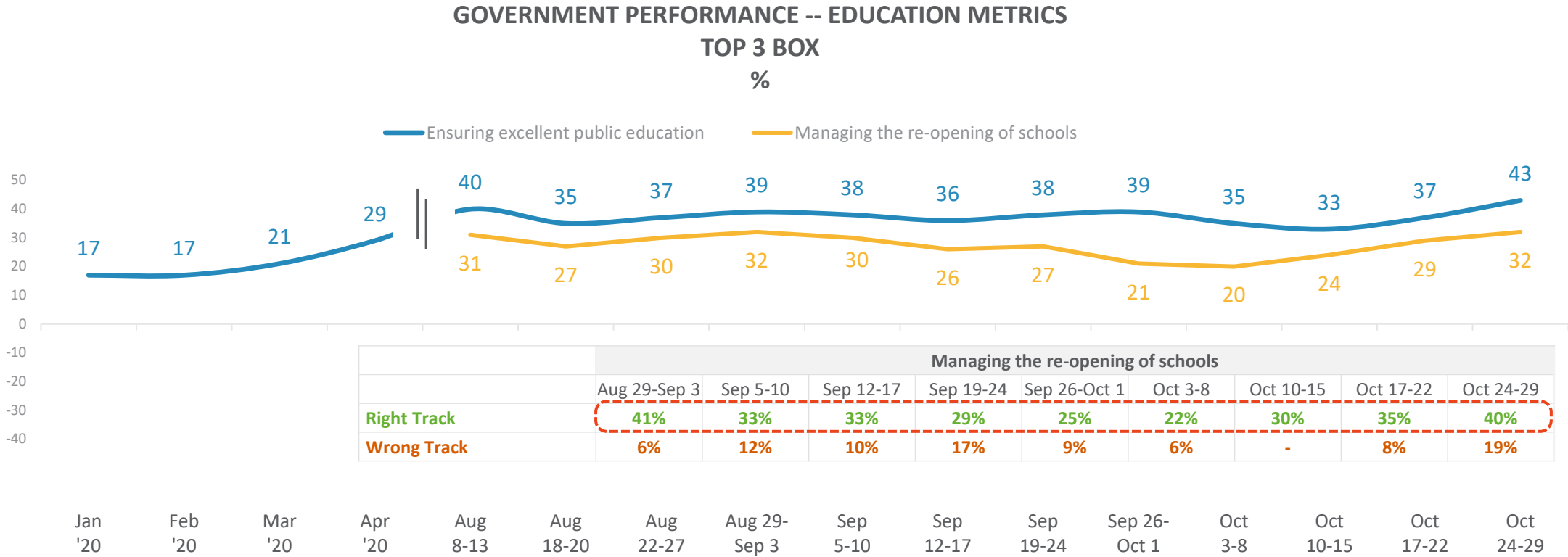
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province? Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

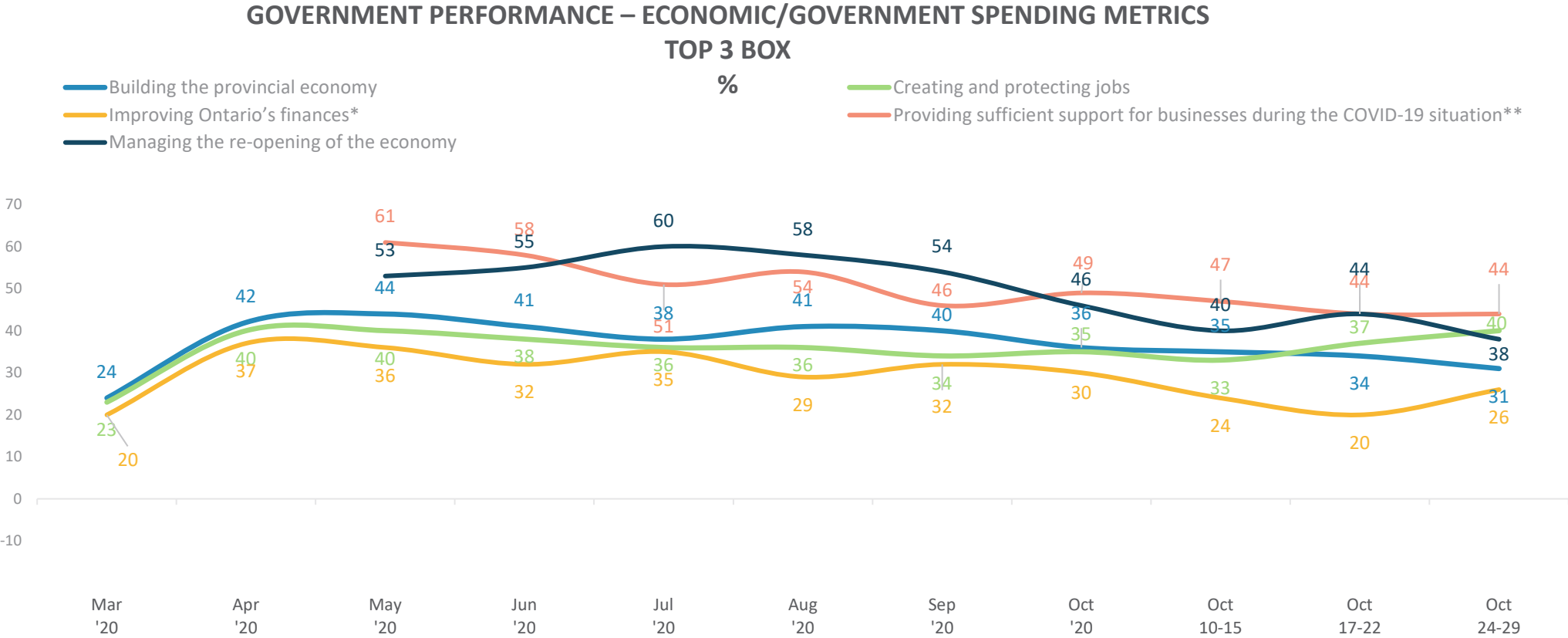


Positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ and ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ have been improving over the past several weeks.



Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following? Bases vary

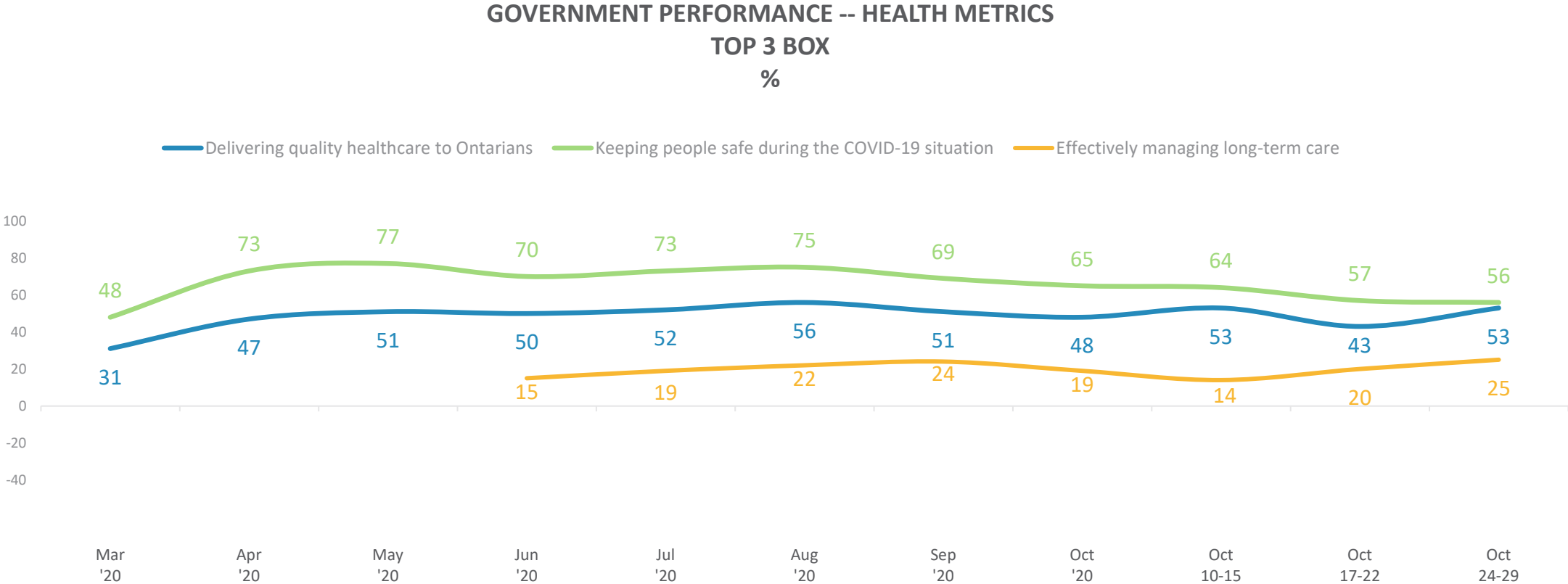
Positive perceptions on key economic metrics remain relatively stable, although ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ has inched upwards.



Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
**Former phrasing: “Sufficient business support during the COVID-19 situation”

Bases vary

Since August, positive perceptions of the government’s performance on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ have been declining steadily. In contrast, positive perceptions toward ‘effectively managing long-term care’ have gradually been improving.

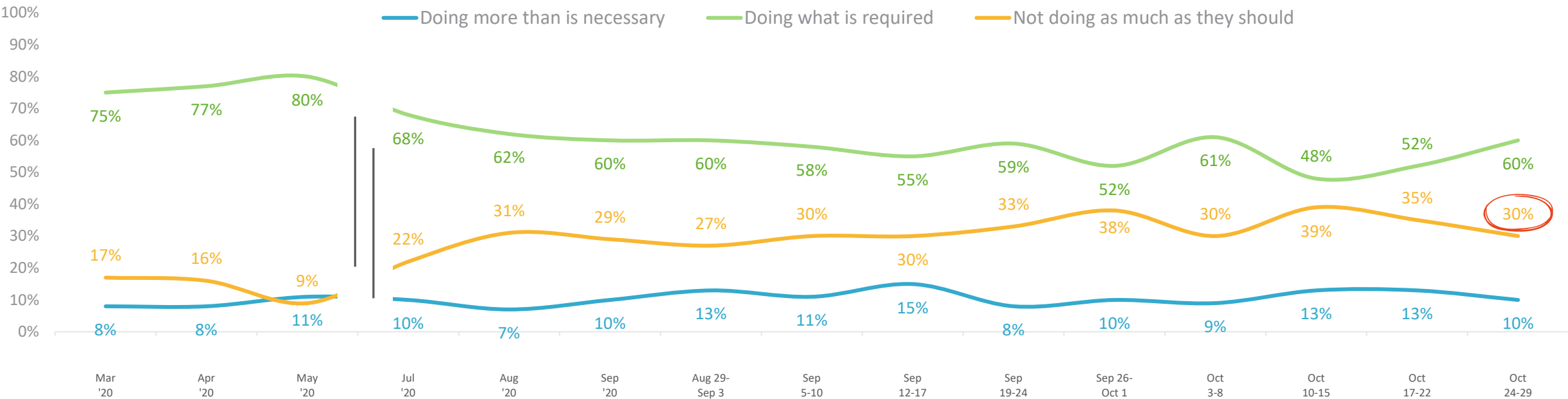


Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following? Bases vary

There continues to be a significant proportion of Ontarians who think the government is ‘not doing as much as they should’, but this percentage is declining from 39% two weeks ago to 30% this past week.

- Those who see the government on the ‘right track’ are much more likely to believe that the government is ‘doing what is required’.

	Doing what is required																Not doing as much as they should															
	Mar '20	Apr '20	May '20	June '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Aug 29-Sep 3	Sep 5-10	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Mar '20	Apr '20	May '20	June '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Aug 29-Sep 3	Sep 5-10	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
Right Track	76%	79%	82%	n/a	75%	70%	68%	67%	66%	67%	70%	59%	69%	60%	65%	73%	15%	13%	8%	n/a	15%	23%	21%	20%	21%	16%	23%	33%	25%	29%	26%	16%
Wrong Track	73%	66%	66%	n/a	42%	33%	35%	35%	30%	23%	27%	29%	22%	16%	19%	26%	21%	26%	19%	n/a	48%	57%	56%	53%	63%	66%	62%	56%	55%	67%	58%	67%



QCV-6. Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including advising the public and businesses about prevention measures, gradually reopening the province, and planning for the return to school in the fall, at this time would you say they are ...
(previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including issuing a Declaration of Emergency, ordering non-essential businesses to close, advising the public and businesses about prevention measures and closing publicly funded schools, at this time would you say they are ... (READ LIST. RANDOMIZE ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE ONLY.) (previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including advising the public and businesses about prevention measures and closing publicly funded schools, at this time would you say they are ...

Base: Total sample, base varies

COVID-19 INFECTIONS



Ontarians continue to pay close attention to the COVID-19 reporting.

	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	265	300	169
	%	%	%
TOTAL CLOSELY	87	83	83
Very closely	45	45	46
Somewhat closely	42	38	37
Not too closely	9	12	13
Not at all closely	4	5	4
TOTAL NOT CLOSELY	13	17	17
Don't know	1	-	-

QCV141. How closely are you following the reporting of COVID 19 infections, very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, not at all closely?

Base: Total sample

A plurality (32%) of Ontarians are following province-wide reporting with one-in-five looking at international statistics.

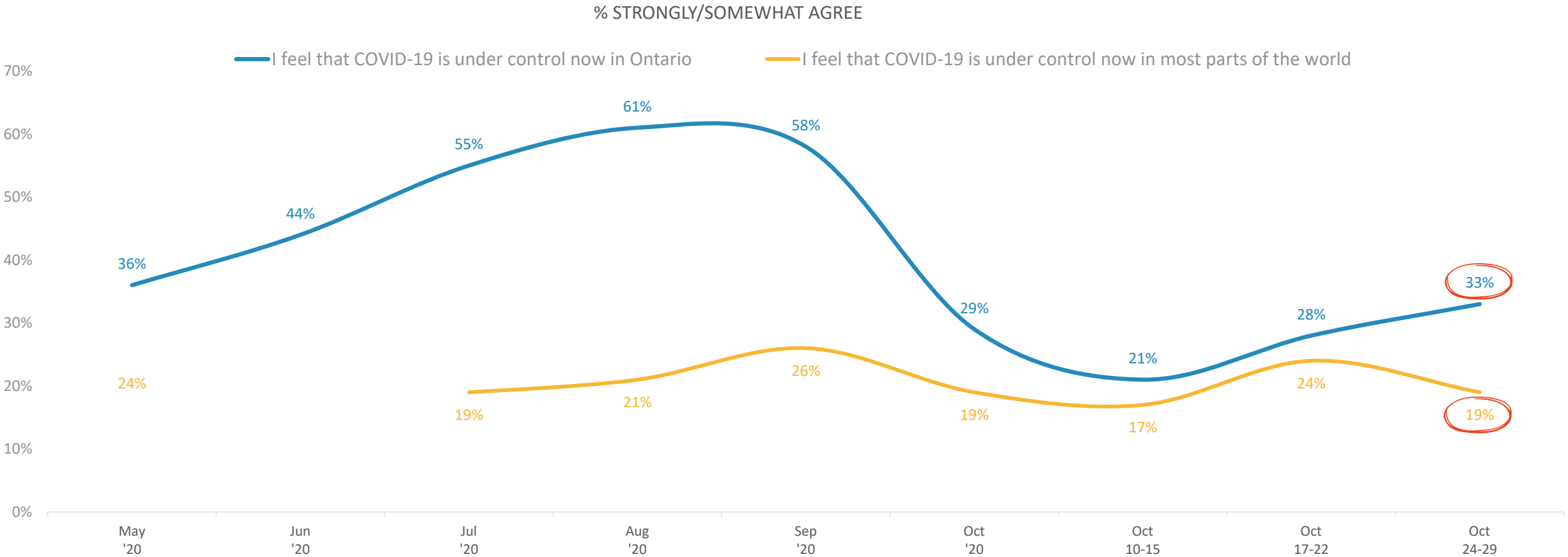
	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	254	285	289
	%	%	%
Your own municipality	12	14	11
Your own region	16	18	19
Ontario overall	38	30	32
Canada overall	9	14	15
The US	4	2	1
Internationally	21	21	20
Don't know/refused	1	1	1

QCV142. And what are you following most closely, the COVID 19 statistics for your own municipality, your own region, Ontario overall, Canada overall, the US, or internationally?

Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS ABOUT WHETHER COVID-19 IS UNDER CONTROL

As infections skyrocket in US and Europe, a gap between Ontario and the rest of the world has widened again. About one-third now feels the Ontario COVID-19 situation is under control, while only 19% say this is true for the rest of the world.



QCV-8B. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the effects of COVID-19. The first is ...
Base: Total sample, bases vary

The early results suggest most Ontarians think it will be more than one year before the pandemic will be over.

	Oct 24-29	
n=	300	
	%	
3 months	3	18%
6 months	7	
9 months	8	
A year	26	78%
A year and a half	17	
Two or more years	20	
It will never be fully over	15	
Don't know/not sure	4	4%

There has been a sharp drop over the past two months (from 71% to 27%) in the proportion of Ontarians who believe the threat of contracting COVID-19 is much less now. With the imposition of more restrictions, there has been a modest increase in those who think the virus threat is less now than a month ago.

- There has also been a drop in the proportion of Ontarians who are trying to get back to living a normal pre-COVID-19 life.

% STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT AGREE	June 10-14	June 11-15	June 13-16	June 14-17	June 15-18	June 16-20	June 17-21	June 18-22	June 20-23	June 21-24	June 22-25	June 23-27	June 24-28	June 25-29	June 27-30	June 28-July 2	Jul 4-9	Jul 11-16	Jul 18-23	Jul 28-30	Aug 1-6	Aug 8-13	Aug 18-20	Aug 22-27	Aug 29-Sep 3	Sep 5-10	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	varies																																
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
I think the threat of contracting COVID-19 is much less now than it was a month ago	54	54	57	60	61	65	63	62	59	60	60	61	63	59	60	58	64	64	67	56	60	71	58	57	52	43	25	28	25	21	16	22	27
I am doing my best to get <u>back</u> to living a normal pre-COVID-19 life	70	71	72	70	69	67	69	72	74	71	70	70	69	71	73	72	76	70	78	72	78	79	75	76	82	72	75	65	61	71	60	64	64
I see people everyday not following the social distancing guidelines	72	75	75	76	78	79	81	81	83	82	79	78	77	78	77	77	84	76	77	71	67	73	68	72	70	66	68	70	72	75	68	69	69

About two-thirds of Ontarians believe they could catch the COVID-19 virus. The intensity of this view has also increased since the spring.

I don't think someone like me will get COVID-19

	Apr '20	May '20	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	25	22	16	11	17	17	20
Strongly agree	8	8	6	5	7	6	6
Somewhat agree	16	15	9	6	10	12	15
Neither agree nor disagree	13	10	8	9	9	8	11
Somewhat disagree	22	25	19	25	28	21	21
Strongly disagree	38	40	56	55	45	52	46
TOTAL DISAGREE	60	64	74	81	73	73	67
Not applicable	-	-	-	-	<1	-	-
Don't know	-	-	-	-	<1	2	2

I don't think someone like me will get COVID-19

AGE:	18-34				35-44				45-54				55-64				65+			
	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
% AGREE	8%	19%	11%	19%	11%	13%	30%	20%	14%	18%	14%	16%	9%	16%	10%	27%	15%	15%	24%	19%
% DISAGREE	83%	72%	75%	66%	83%	81%	65%	64%	76%	67%	82%	72%	83%	68%	73%	62%	79%	81%	69%	72%

QCV-14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Base: Total sample

IS ONTARIO READY
FOR THE SECOND
WAVE?



Ontarians continue to perceive the government is ready for COVID-19’s Second Wave. As reported previously, it is important to note the level of intensity is not particularly high.

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL PREPARED	75	78	75	73	73
Very prepared	16	13	17	17	16
Somewhat prepared	59	64	58	56	57
Not too prepared	15	14	18	16	17
Not at all prepared	8	6	5	10	8
TOTAL NOT PREPARED	22	20	23	26	26
Don’t know/not sure	3	2	2	2	2

QCV127. Considering the increasing rate of infection, how prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a second wave of infections this fall? Would you say the Ontario government is . . .
Base: Total sample

DID ALL IT COULD OR COULD HAVE ACTED DIFFERENTLY

A slight majority of Ontarians think that the government ‘could have acted differently’ in response to the rising number of cases. However, there is large group who think that they did ‘all it could reasonably be expected to do.’

- Importantly, those who see the government on the ‘right track’ are much more likely this week to think that the government has done ‘all it could reasonably be expected to do.’ In contrast, those who see the government on the ‘wrong track’ are much more likely this week to think the government ‘could have acted differently’.

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%
All it could reasonably be expected to do	44	52	47	44	43
Could have acted differently	55	47	53	55	56
Don’t know/Not sure	1	1	<1	2	1

	All it could reasonably be expected to do					Could have acted differently				
	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
Right Track	52%	61%	55%	49%	56%	46%	37%	44%	49%	44%
Wrong Track	12%	14%	22%	27%	17%	88%	86%	78%	72%	81%

Q130 Overall, given the recent increases in reported cases, do you believe the Ontario Government has done all it can reasonably be expected to do or could it have acted differently?
Base: Total sample

Most Ontarians continue to strongly reject the idea that recent ‘increases in COVID-19 infections are not serious illnesses and the Ontario government is overreacting to the problem’.

*Most of the reported increases in COVID-19 infections are not serious illnesses
and the Ontario government is overreacting to the problem*

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	varies				
	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	16	21	21	24	24
Strongly agree	5	8	7	12	12
Somewhat agree	11	14	13	12	12
Neither agree nor disagree	4	7	5	5	6
Somewhat disagree	21	24	24	20	21
Strongly disagree	58	47	50	49	47
TOTAL DISAGREE	79	71	73	70	68
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1

Over the past week, there appears to be a slight increase in the proportion of Ontarians think they will not become seriously ill if they contract the virus.

Even if I did get COVID-19, I don't think I would be seriously ill

	Apr '20	May '20	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	39	36	28	30	30	29	37
Strongly agree	14	14	12	14	11	12	16
Somewhat agree	25	23	16	15	19	17	21
Neither agree nor disagree	10	9	6	12	8	13	11
Somewhat disagree	19	19	17	19	26	15	17
Strongly disagree	27	31	44	36	33	41	31
TOTAL DISAGREE	46	50	61	55	58	56	48
Don't know	-	-	-	-	2	1	4

Even if I did get COVID-19, I don't think I would be seriously ill																				
AGE:	18-34				35-44				45-54				55-64				65+			
	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
% AGREE	39%	40%	41%	47%	41%	53%	33%	38%	27%	25%	29%	31%	21%	21%	19%	42%	18%	11%	16%	21%
% DISAGREE	42%	51%	44%	43%	36%	40%	42%	45%	55%	59%	54%	49%	71%	64%	73%	42%	75%	78%	76%	66%

QCV-14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

IMPOSE SEVERE LOCKDOWN OR REGIONAL LOCKDOWNS

Ontarians continue to lean against another severe lockdown and prefer a more focussed approach in dealing with outbreaks in affected regions even if this means a higher level of infections.

- Those who think the government is on the ‘right track’ are more likely to prefer a regional approach.

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Some people say that Ontario will have to go back to a severe lockdown in all regions, even if this significantly damages the economy/Some people say that Ontario will have to go back to a severe lockdown, even if this significantly damages the economy.	33	29	29	32	34
Other people say, we should deal with it by outbreak and by region, and not province wide so the economic recovery can continue, even if there is a risk of more infections.	64	69	71	63	63
Don't know/Not sure	2	1	<1	5	3

	Ontario will have to go back to a severe lockdown					Should deal with it by outbreak and by region				
	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
Right Track	32%	28%	24%	31%	30%	66%	70%	75%	66%	68%
Wrong Track	36%	36%	42%	35%	41%	57%	64%	58%	56%	54%

Q132 If the increase in COVID 19 infections continues, thinking of these two points of view, which one best reflects your own?
Base: Total sample

Given the recent rise of infections, Ontarians are much more likely to indicate that they paying attention to news or information related to COVID-19 now compared to mid-July. Moreover, fewer Ontarians are saying they don’t need to hear any more news about COVID-19.

% STRONGLY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE	June 10-14	June 11-15	June 13-16	June 14-17	June 15-18	June 16-20	June 17-21	June 18-22	June 20-23	June 21-24	June 22-25	June 23-27	June 24-28	June 25-29	June 27-30	June 28- July 2	Jul 4-9	Jul 11-16	Jul 18-23	Jul 28-30	Aug 1-6	Aug 8-13	Aug 18-20	Aug 22-27	Aug 29- Sep 3	Sep 5-10	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26- Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	varies																																
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
I'm paying less attention to news or information about COVID-19	50	53	51	51	50	47	47	52	53	51	53	51	50	52	48	49	52	39	60	38	44	47	47	50	50	49	45	49	34	40	43	36	45
I feel that I don't <u>need</u> to hear any more news about COVID-19	24	26	24	22	23	20	22	23	21	23	20	20	21	19	22	20	22	20	24	21	22	27	30	21	28	29	21	20	16	22	21	23	19

QCV-14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS



A plurality of Ontarians believe that the restrictions are being re-introduced at the right pace. However, there has been a slight increase in the view that the province moved too slowly.

- Those who see the government on the ‘right track’ continue to be much more likely to believe that the re-introduction of these restrictions is occurring at the right pace. And, they are less likely to think the government is moving too slowly.

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%
Moving too quickly	12	13	16	20	16
At the right pace	43	46	50	46	44
Moving too slowly	44	39	32	33	38
Prefer not to answer/Don't know	1	3	2	1	3

	At the right pace					Moving too slowly				
	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
Right Track	50%	53%	58%	55%	56%	38%	35%	26%	29%	27%
Wrong Track	17%	16%	26%	18%	18%	63%	54%	51%	42%	63%

QCV125B. As you may know, the number of reported cases of COVID infection has increased steadily over the past number of weeks, especially in Ottawa, Toronto and Peel Region. Because of this, the government of Ontario introduced new restrictions in those regions, including closing indoor dining, bars, gyms, casinos and movie theatres, among others. Do you believe the government is moving too quickly, at the right pace, or moving too slowly in reintroducing changes to control the spread of COVID in Ontario this fall? (Previous phrasing) As you may know, the number of reported cases of COVID infection has increased steadily over the past two weeks. Because of this, the government of Ontario introduced new regulations such as limiting the number of people at an indoor and outdoor gathering at a private residence. Do you believe the government is moving too quickly, at the right pace, or moving too slowly in reintroducing changes to control the spread of COVID in Ontario this fall?

There continues to be very strong support for the imposition of increased restrictions in Toronto, Peel/York regions, and Ottawa. The intensity of support remains very high.

	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	265	201	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORTIVE	83	82	86
Very supportive	53	48	53
Somewhat supportive	31	33	33
Somewhat opposed	7	9	8
Very opposed	7	9	3
TOTAL OPPOSED	15	18	11
Don't know/not sure	2	<1	3

QCV143. As you may know, the Ontario government has imposed greater restrictions in Ottawa, Toronto, York and Peel regions as a result of rising COVID 19 infections in these areas But it has not placed further restrictions in the rest of the province, as there are fewer cases outside of these areas. Overall, how supportive or opposed are you of this approach in which restrictions would only be reimposed in a region if the number of cases justify such actions. Are you...to this approach? (Previous phrasing) As you may know, the Ontario government has imposed greater restrictions in Ottawa, Peel region and the City of Toronto as a result of rising COVID 19 infections in these areas, but has not placed further restrictions in the rest of the province, as there are fewer cases outside of these areas. Overall, how supportive or opposed are you of this approach in which restrictions would only be reimposed in a region if the number of cases justify such actions. Are you...to this approach?

Base: Total sample

Support for increasing restrictions remains highest for indoor bars, casinos, weddings, and working out gyms while is lowest for restaurant patios.

% Yes	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	
n=	265	204	148	
	%	%	%	Tiers
Casinos	76	77	75	Highest
Indoor bars	76	76	77	
Working out gyms	66	61	68	Higher
Weddings	61	58	69	
Indoor restaurants	59	55	66	
Schools	39	43	47	Medium
Shopping malls	31	40	43	
Daycare centres	39	38	36	
Offices	34	32	40	Low
Restaurant patios	22	23	30	

QCV136. Given the number of infections in your region, which types of activities, if any, should be closed for a short period of time, recognizing that there may be a risk that some will be forced out of business by any closure?

Base: Total sample

WILLINGNESS TO DRIVE TO REGION WHERE THERE ARE FEWER COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

A slight majority of Ontarians are not willing to drive out of region where they live. About 38% are willing to drive from 30 to 60 minutes to a different region where there are fewer COVID-19 restrictions.

	Jun '20	Oct 24-29
n=	735	300
	%	%
I would not drive out of my region	47	53
Up to half an hour	24	21
Up to one hour	18	17
Up to two hours	4	3
More than 2 hours	4	3
Don't have access to a car/Don't know how to drive	1	3
Don't know/Not sure	1	1

QCV-89. If you live in a region where COVID-19 restrictions have been re-imposed and the majority of businesses and services remain closed, how far, if at all, would you be prepared to drive outside your region to access similar businesses or services?
(Previous phrasing) If you live in a region where COVID-19 restrictions have not been relaxed and the majority of businesses and services remain closed, how far, if at all, would you be prepared to drive outside your region to access similar businesses or services?

Base: Total sample

The early findings suggest that about two-thirds of Ontarians believe restaurants refusing to serve people from outside their region is a good idea.

	Oct 24-29
n=	300
	%
Some people say this is a good idea because it may potentially reduce the spread of COVID-19 in their part of Ontario.	67
Other people say this is a poor idea because it is discriminatory and people should have the right to eat where they choose.	30
Don't know	3

Q148. As you may know restaurants have been closed in some parts of Ontario hit hardest by the rise in COVID 19 reported infections. In response, some restaurants adjacent to these areas are refusing to serve people living outside of their community. Thinking of these two points of view, which pone best reflects your own point of view?

The preliminary results indicate that there is very strong support for increasing enforcement and having more inspections.

	Oct 24-29
n=	300
	%
TOTAL SUPPORT	85
Strongly support	57
Somewhat support	28
Somewhat oppose	7
Strongly oppose	7
TOTAL OPPOSE	14
Don't know/not sure	1

Q149. With COVID cases increasing, to what extent do you support or oppose the government increasing enforcement and having more inspection blitz's to ensure individuals and businesses follow the public health guidelines?

There has been an increase in the proportion of Ontarians who are getting very tired of the COVID-19 control measures.

I am getting very tired of all the COVID-19 control measures, such as mask wearing and social distancing

	Aug 18-20	Aug 22-27	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	37	26	30	25	18	38	24	33	38
Strongly agree	21	16	15	16	6	23	12	14	20
Somewhat agree	16	10	15	9	12	15	11	19	17
Neither agree nor disagree	4	3	5	5	6	4	8	7	8
Somewhat disagree	15	21	21	19	18	14	15	13	14
Strongly disagree	44	49	44	50	58	41	53	46	41
TOTAL DISAGREE	59	70	65	69	76	56	68	59	54
Don't know	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	-

RECENT COVID-19 INITIATIVES



Enhanced testing/tracing/isolating, a system to manage outbreaks, flu immunization, and increasing the number of frontline health care workers are the initiatives with the highest recall.

	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	265	300	300
	%	%	%
Enhancing and expanding efforts to test, trace and isolate new cases of COVID-19.	70	70	62
Increasing the number of frontline health care workers and caregivers to ensure the health care system can meet any surge in demand	61	52	58
Putting in place a system to quickly identify, manage and prevent COVID-19 outbreaks	62	56	55
Ensuring that the health system is prepared to respond to any waves or surges of COVID-19 without interrupting routine health services.	53	49	54
Implementing the largest flu immunization campaign in Ontario's history	48	55	50
Reducing surgery backlogs	47	50	48
None of these	5	10	7

QCV138. Which of the following Ontario government initiatives, if any, have you seen, read or heard about related to how the province is responding to COVID-19?

Base: Total sample

Most Ontarians overwhelmingly believe that these initiatives will be effective.

	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	265	300	300
	%	%	%
Yes	94	90	85
No	5	8	10
Don't know	1	2	4

QCV139. Overall, are these the kinds of steps the Ontario government should be taking to minimize the health impacts of COVID 19 this fall?

Base: Total sample

MASK WEARING PERCEPTIONS



FREQUENCY OF FACE MASK WEARING

Most Ontarians continue to say they are wearing masks or face coverings ‘all of the time’ or ‘most of the time’.

	June 18-22	June 20-23	June 21-24	June 22-25	June 23-27	June 24-28	June 25-29	June 27-30	June 28-July 2	Jul 4-9	Jul 11-16	Jul 18-23	Jul 28-30	Aug 1-6	Aug 8-13	Aug 18-20	Aug 22-27	Aug 29-Sep 3	Sep 5-10	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29
n=	313	400	400	410	410	410	410	410	410	300	300	300	300	260	310	300	310	310	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	52	52	52	52	54	55	58	58	60	60	72	76	77	73	81	80	84	81	87	87	86	88	88	86	88	88
All of the time	26	27	27	23	25	25	25	29	29	22	45	42	47	48	56	49	55	54	61	61	64	63	66	61	71	65
Most of the time	26	25	26	29	29	31	33	29	32	38	27	34	29	24	25	30	29	28	26	26	22	25	23	25	17	23
Some of the time	26	26	28	28	26	25	24	26	24	20	20	17	15	17	13	14	11	12	12	9	10	8	8	11	8	8
Rarely	19	18	15	17	17	16	15	12	13	18	5	7	7	9	5	4	4	5	1	3	4	3	3	2	3	3
Never	4	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	<1	1	1	1	<1	<1	1	1
RARELY/NEVER	23	21	20	20	20	20	18	15	16	21	7	8	8	10	6	6	5	6	1	4	5	4	3	2	4	4

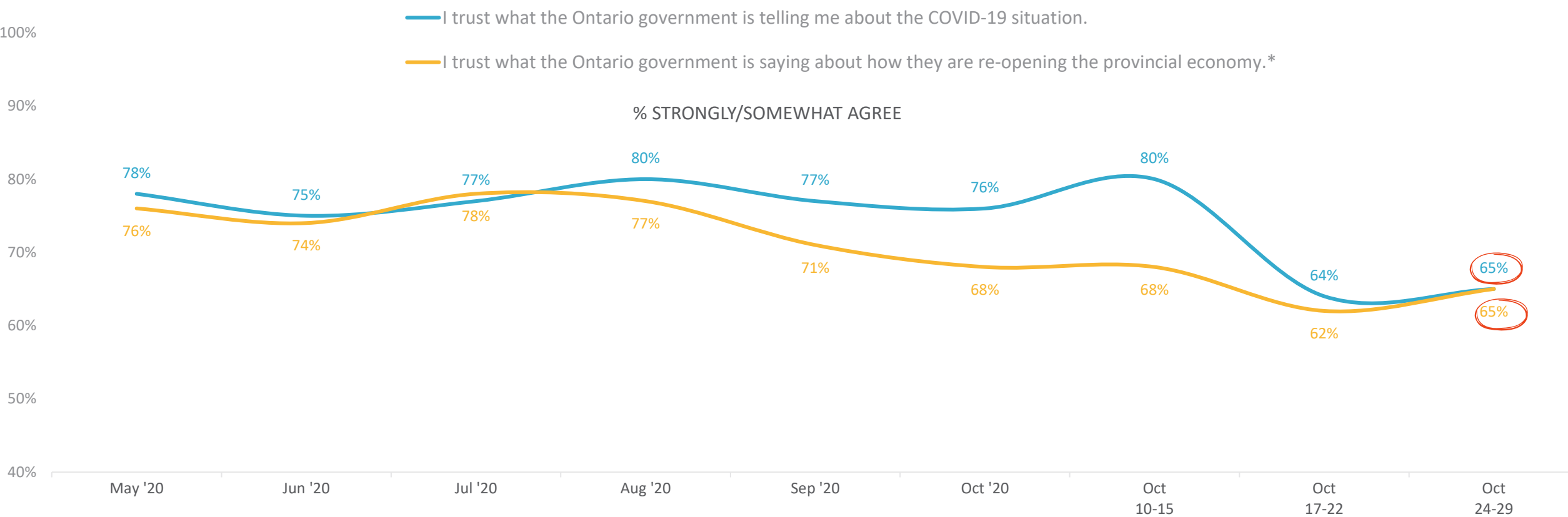
QD1B. As a result of COVID-19 and thinking about your daily activities when you are away from home, how often do you wear a face mask or covering?
Base: Total sample

CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



TRUST IN THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COVID-19

Over the past two weeks, Ontarians expressed much lower levels of trust in the government’s communications regarding messages about the COVID-19 situation and re-opening of the provincial economy compared to previous months.



QCV-8B. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the effects of COVID-19. The first is ...
Base: Total sample, base varies * Previous phrasing: I trust what the Ontario government is saying about how they plan to re-open the provincial economy
CONFIDENTIAL

The preliminary results indicate Ontarians look to the news media as the first source to get information on COVID-19. This is followed by social media and the provincial government.

Where are you getting information about the coronavirus or COVID-19?

	Mar '20	Apr '20
n=	317	667
	%	%
News media	81	89
Federal Government	49	72
Provincial Government	47	68
Social media	53	58
Friends, family, colleagues	38	51
Municipal Government	32	49
Health professionals	35	49
Your employer	31	42
Don't know/not sure	-	-

Where do you typically go first to get information about the coronavirus or COVID-19?

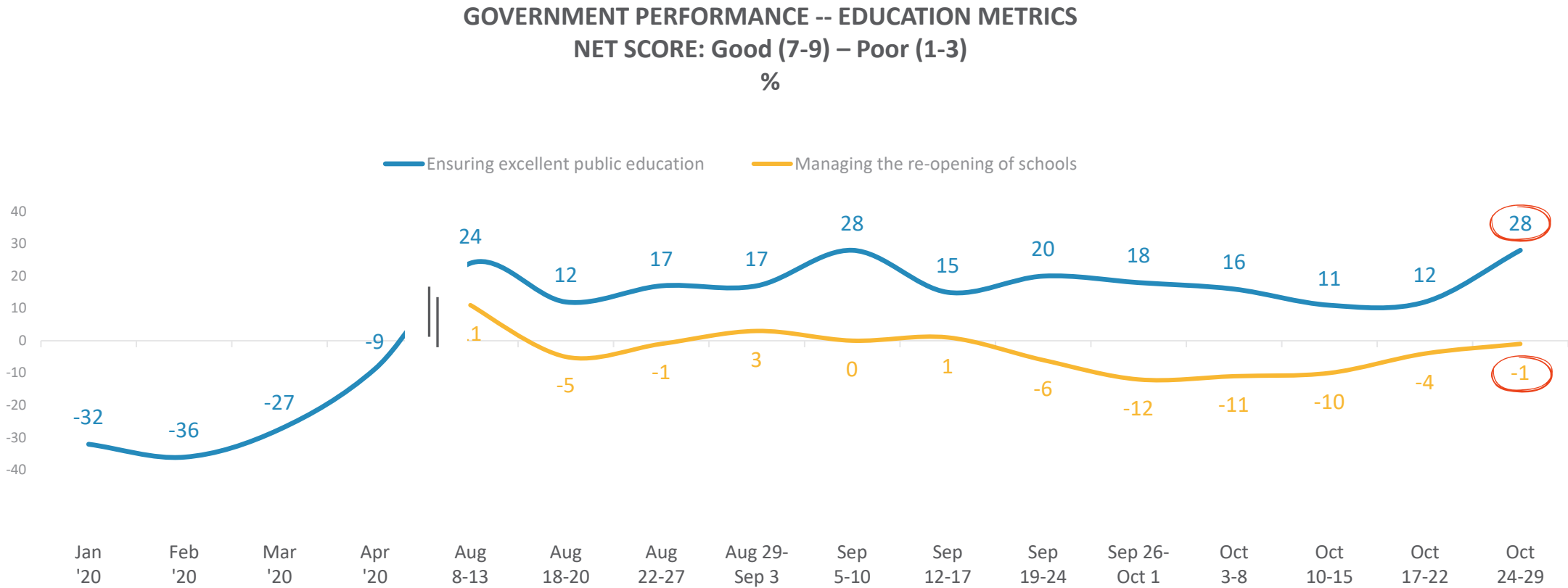
	Oct 24-29
n=	300
	%
News media	61
Social media	28
Provincial Government	22
Health professionals	19
Federal Government	17
Municipal Government	15
Friends, family, colleagues	13
Your employer	11
Don't know/not sure	1

Q147. Where do you typically go first to get information about the coronavirus or COVID-19? (Previous phrasing QCV-2) Where are you getting information about the coronavirus or COVID-19? (READ LIST. RANDOMIZE. ACCEPT ALL RESPONSES)

APPENDIX

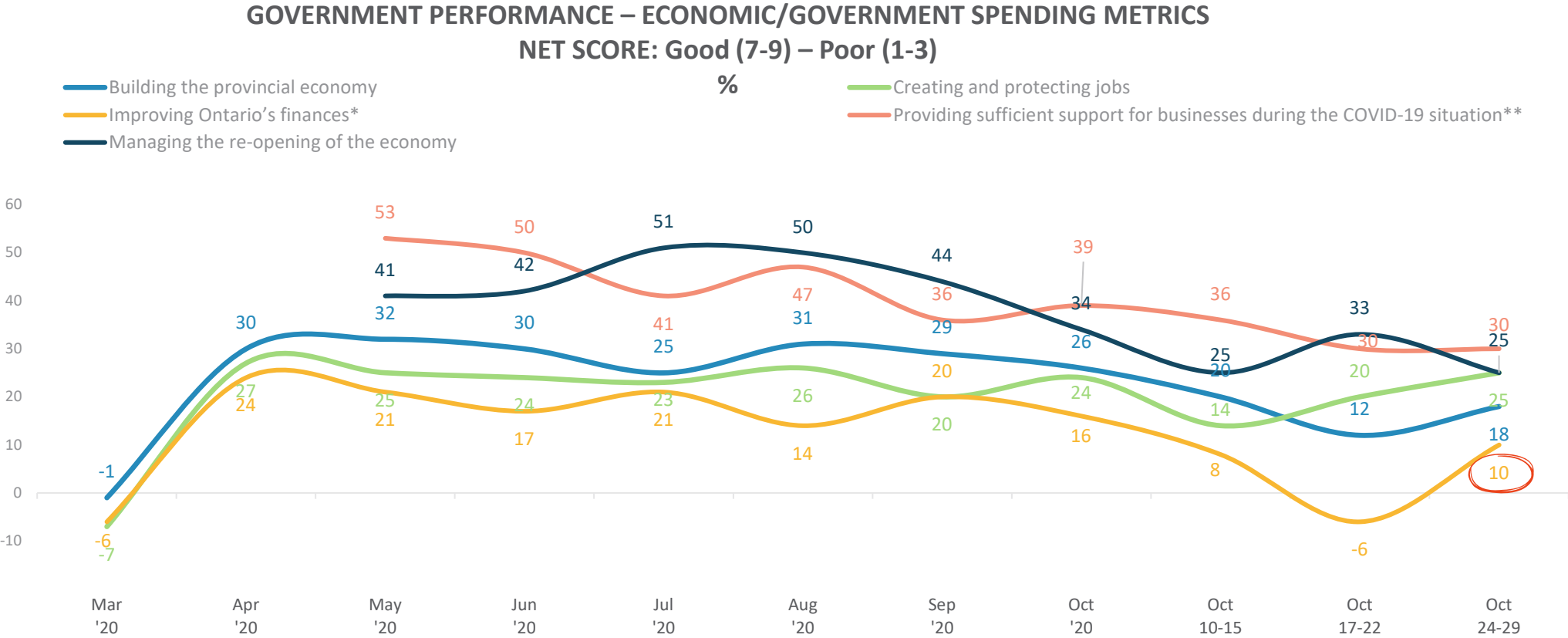


Considering both positive/negative ratings, perceptions toward the government’s performance on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ and ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ scores have improved.



Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following? Bases vary

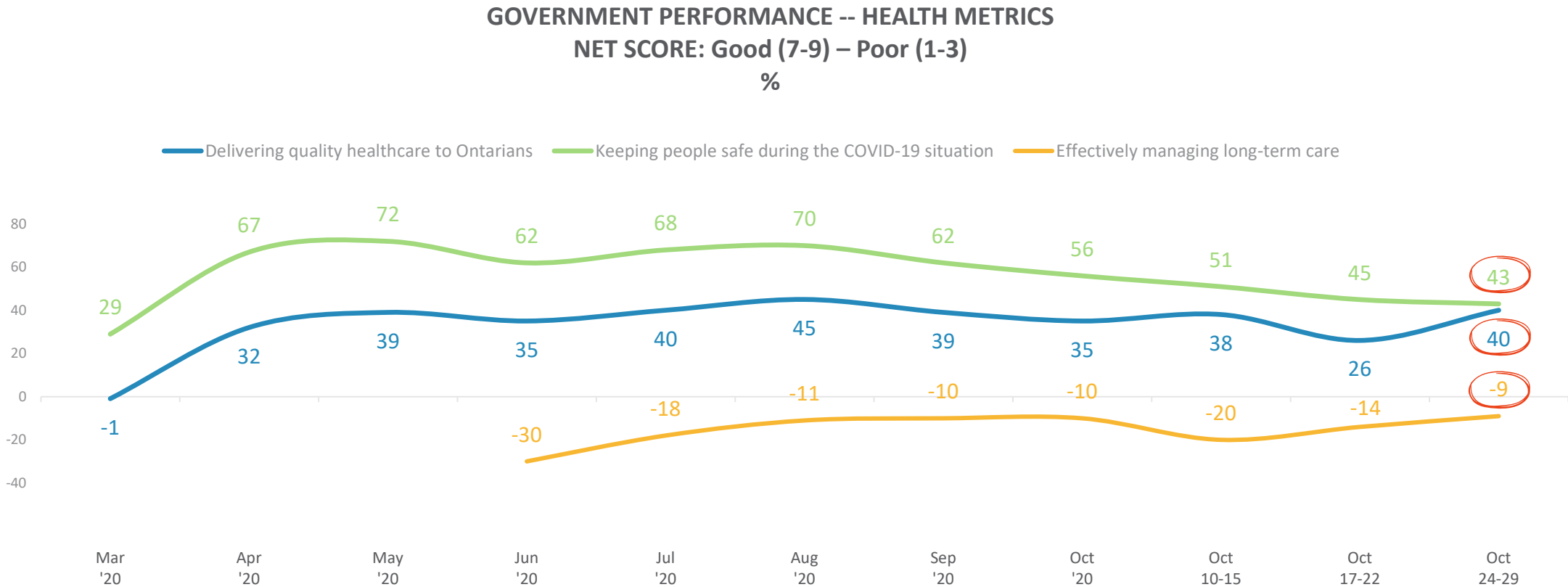
When considering both positive/negative ratings, perceptions of the government’s performance on ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ have rebounded after the announcement of a forthcoming budget on November 5th.



Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
**Former phrasing: “Sufficient business support during the COVID-19 situation”

Bases vary

Again, when considering both positive/negative scores, there continues to be a steady erosion in the government’s performance on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ in recent weeks.



Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following? Bases vary