

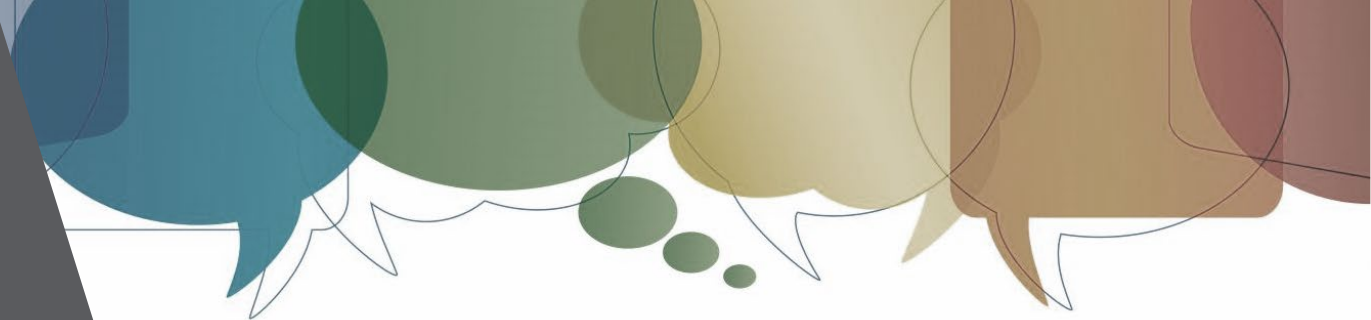


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NOVEMBER 2020 RESEARCH

PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #55

CABINET OFFICE

November 6th 2020



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 Over the past week, the government's 'right track' scores have rebounded to 74%, while 'wrong track' has declined back to 26%.

The 'right track' rebounded across most demographic groups.

2 After dipping over a two week period, Ontarians express much higher 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.

Early results suggest that there is a high degree of trust the government's restrictions will be measured and appropriate.

3 Paralleling this trend, positive perceptions of the government's performance on 'keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation' have rebounded over the past week.

Mirroring this change is a declining number of Ontarians (39% three weeks ago to 26% this past week) who think the government is 'not doing as much as they should'.

4 Positive perceptions on 'improving Ontario's finances' have improved over the past two weeks on the eve of the release of the provincial budget.

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

Early results suggest that Ontarians may think the government's management of the response to the Second Wave has been reasonably good. But, the positive scores are not intensive.

6 The gap in perceptions on whether COVID-19 is under control in Ontario versus the rest of the world narrowed this past week. About 22% now feel the Ontario COVID-19 situation is under control, while only 17% say this is true for the rest of the world.

Key Findings

7 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.

The early results suggest that Ontarians also reject the idea that government acted too quickly to restrict indoor dining in restaurants and bars. The early results suggest that Ontarians think these businesses are virus hotspots.

8 About 74% of Ontarians believe they could catch the COVID-19 virus. The intensity of this view has also increased since the spring.

The preliminary results suggest that most Ontarians reject the idea that public health is still trying to scare people unnecessarily into compliance. The intensity of the rejection is strong.

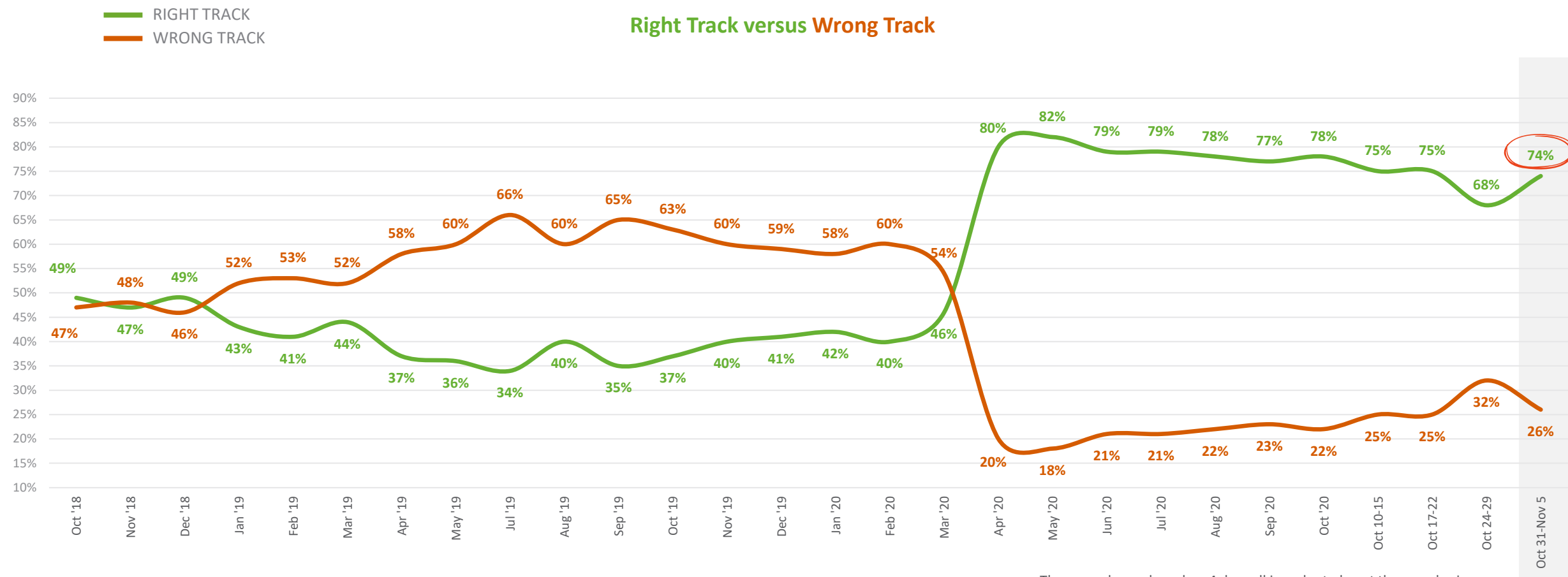
The early results indicate that Ontarians have a lot of confidence in public health leaders.

9 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



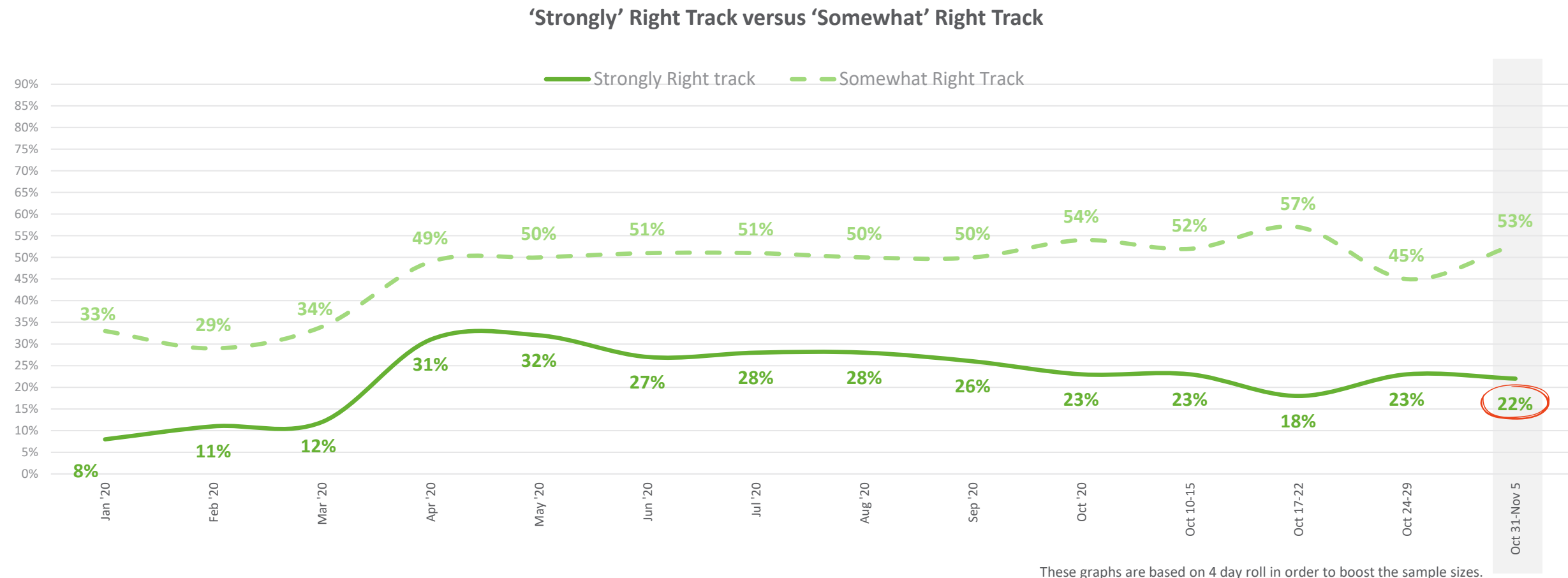
Over the past week, the government’s ‘right track’ scores have rebounded to 74%, while ‘wrong track’ has declined back to 26%.



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

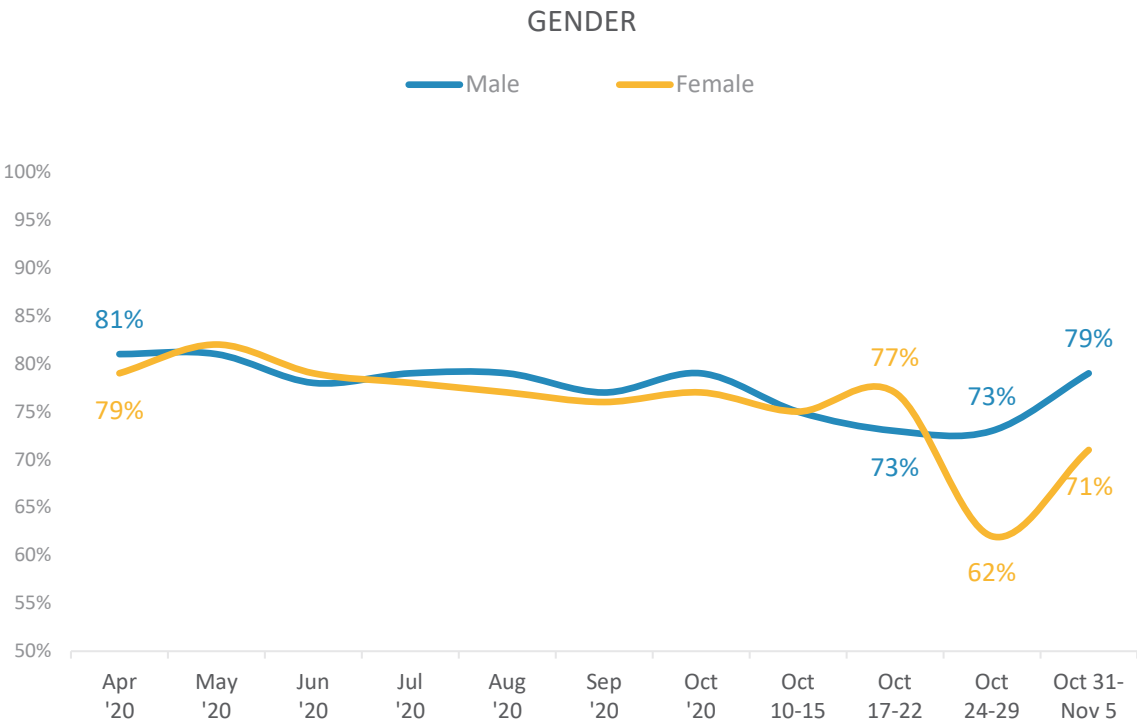
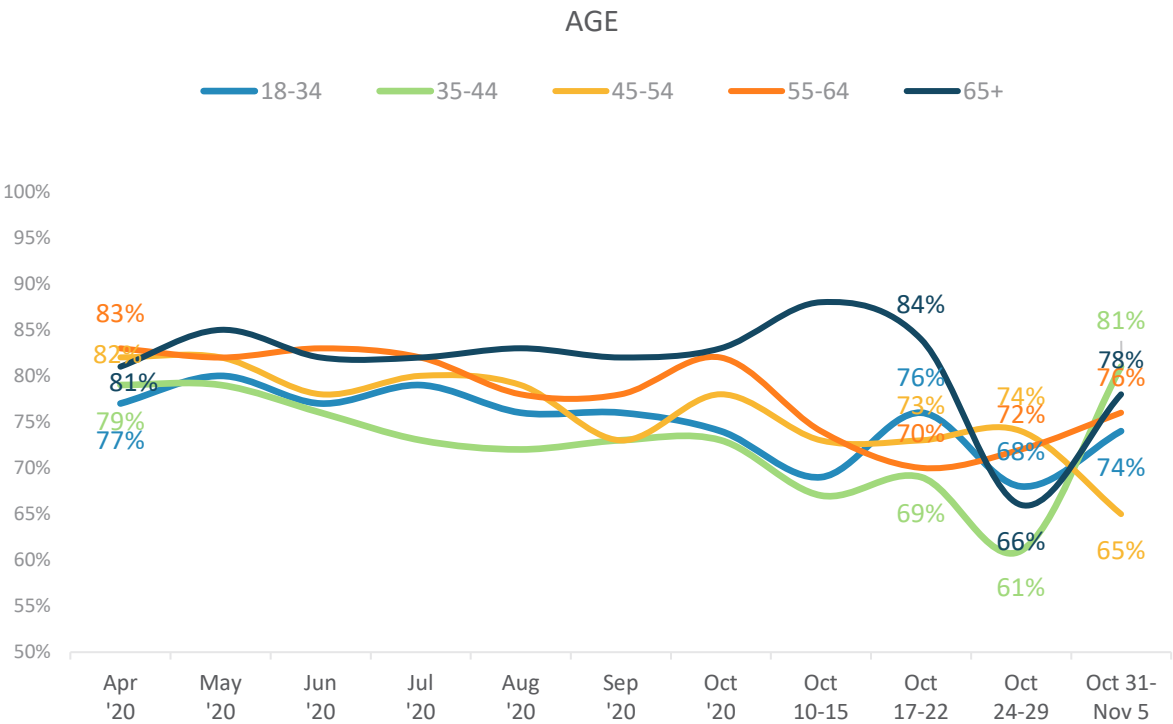
The government’s ‘strongly right track’ scores remain unchanged at 22%.



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 have rebounded among both men and women and most age groups, with the exception of those aged 45-54.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

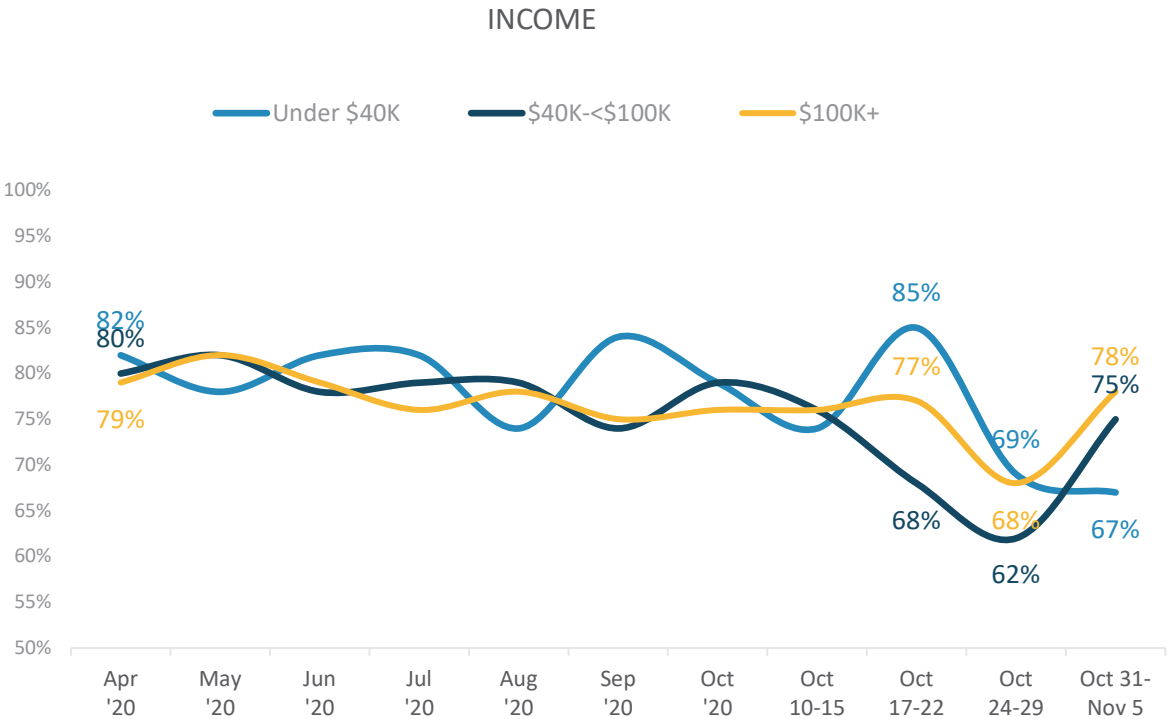
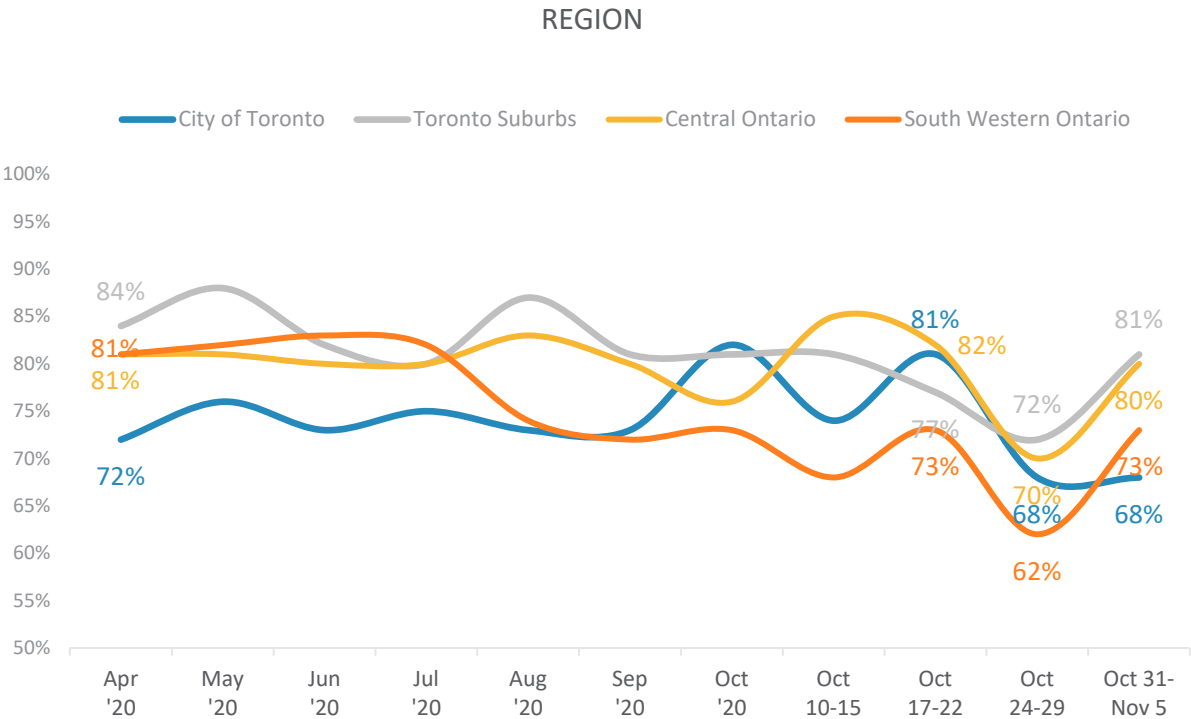


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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 have bounced back in all regions (except in the City of Toronto) and income groups (except those earning <\$40k).

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll



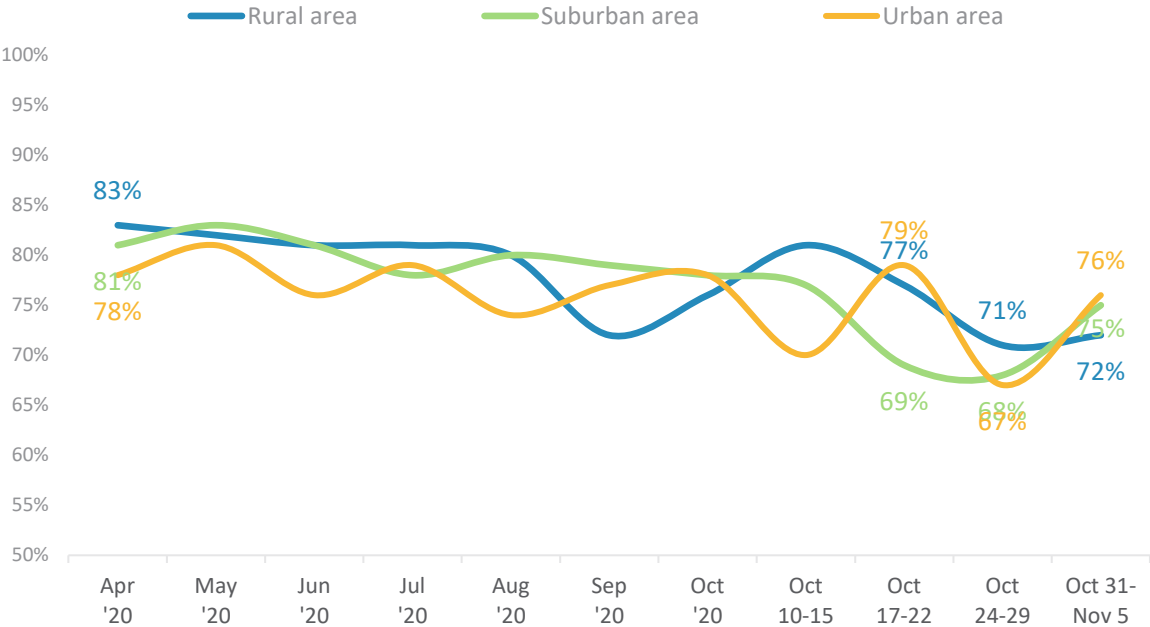
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

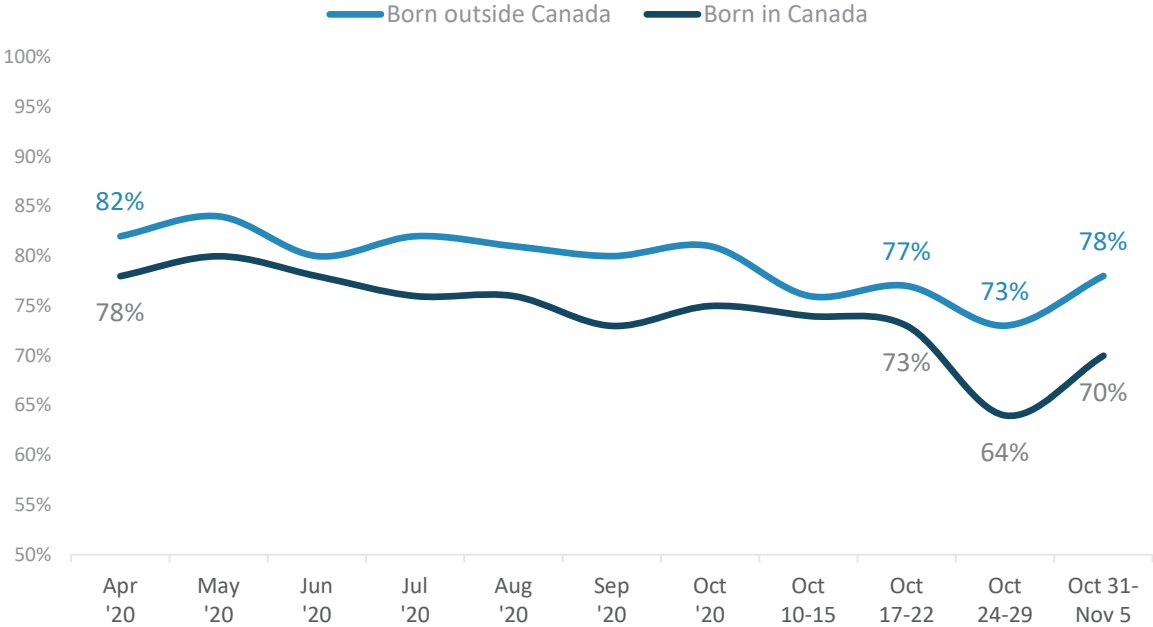
The ‘right track’ scores increased this week in urban and suburban areas and among those born in and outside of Canada.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



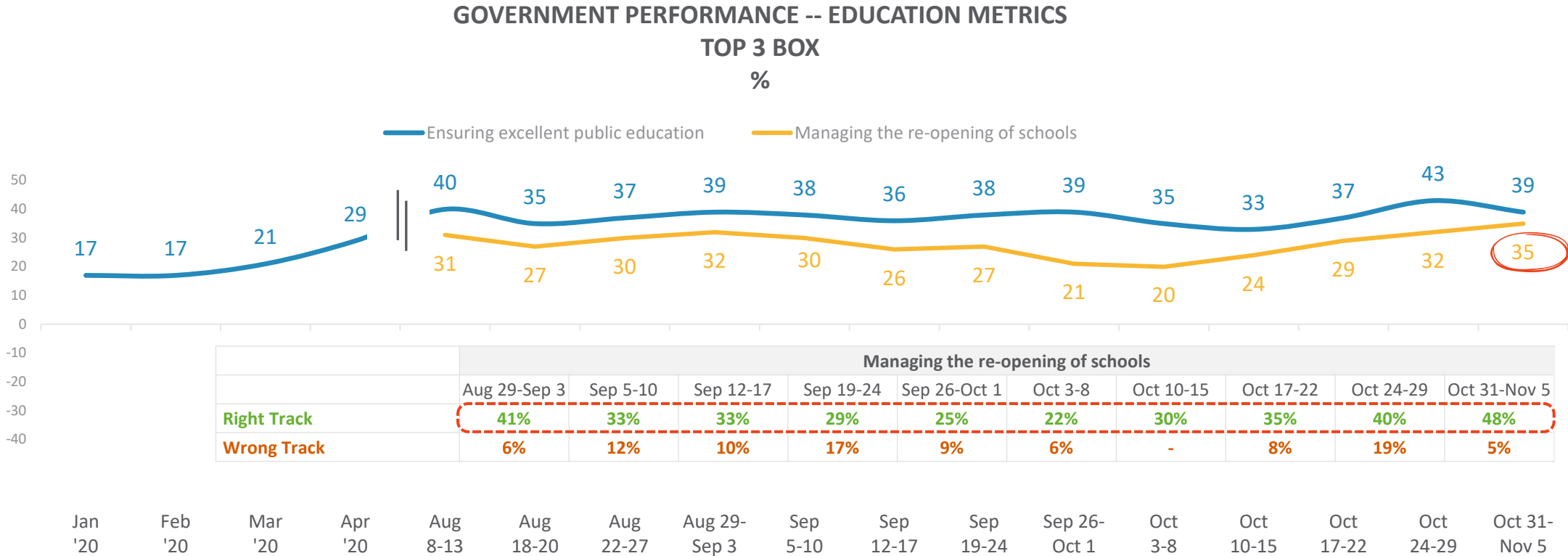
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

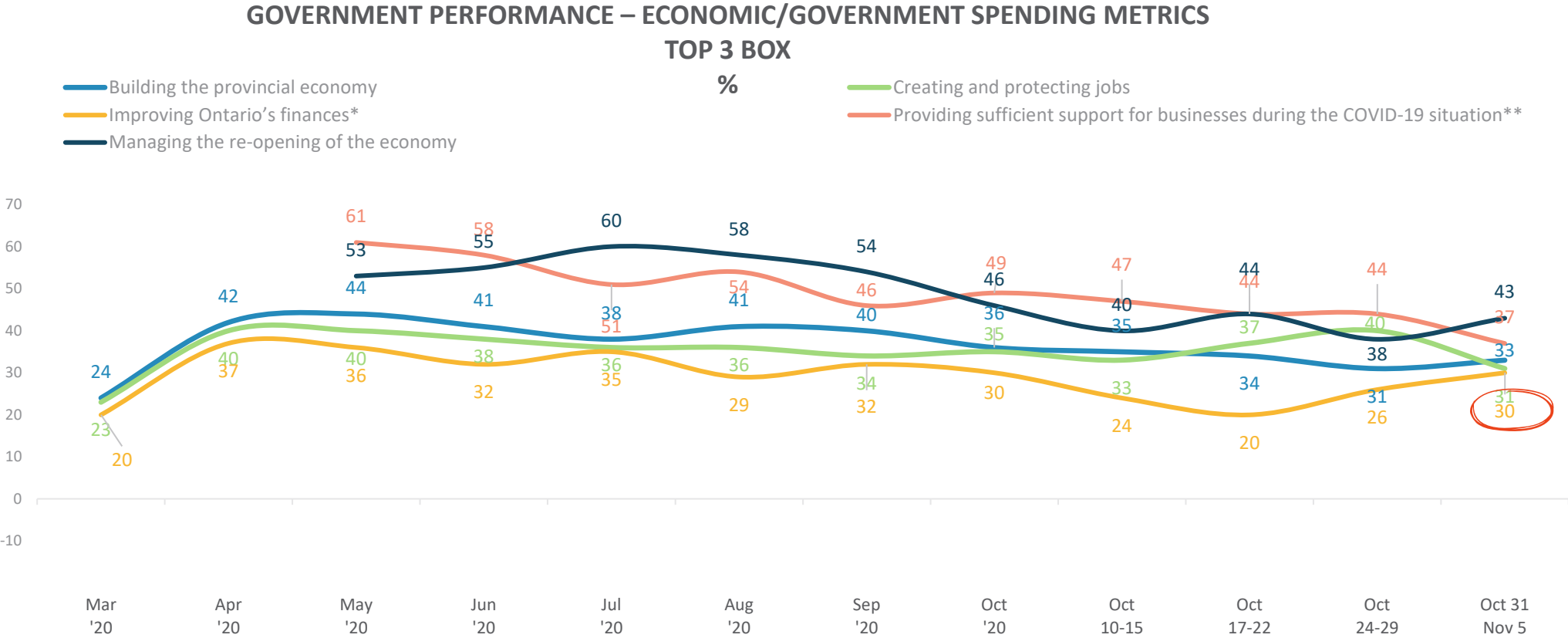


Positive perceptions toward ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ continue to increase this week, particularly among those who see the government on the ‘right track’.



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

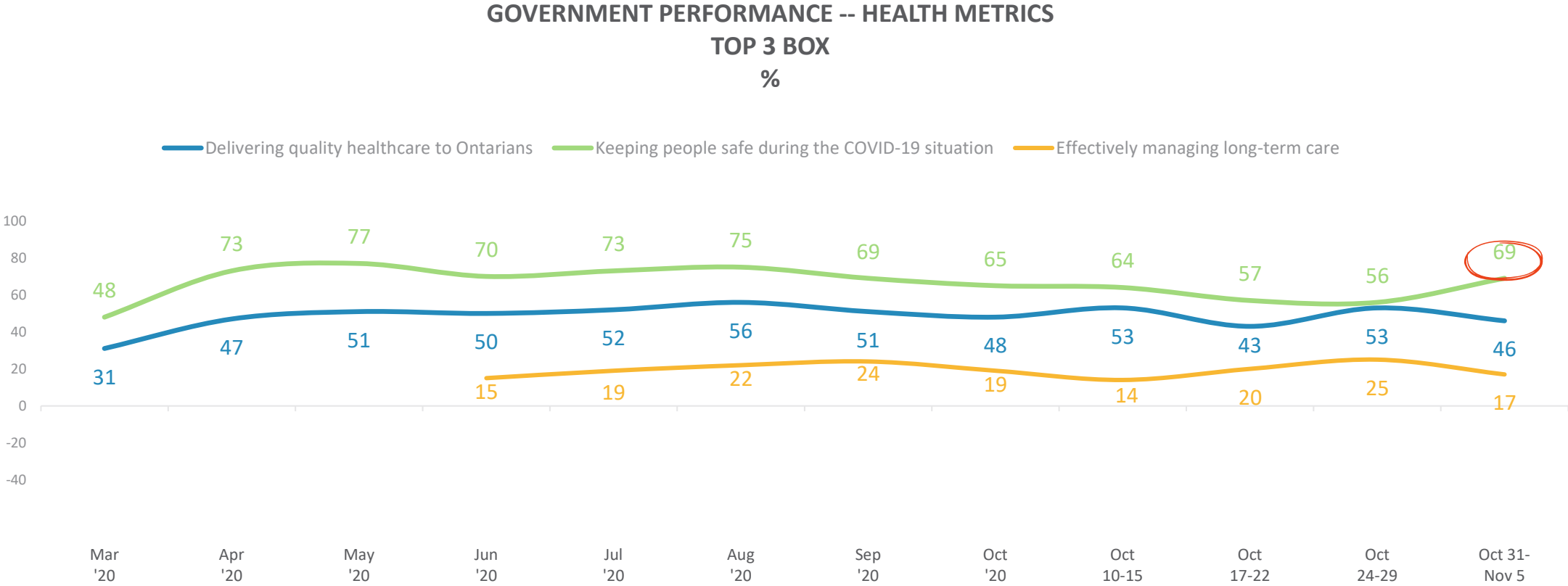
Positive perceptions on ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ have improved over the past two weeks on the eve of the release of the provincial budget. There has been an ebbing in the positive perceptions on its performance providing support for businesses during the COVID-19 situation.



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”

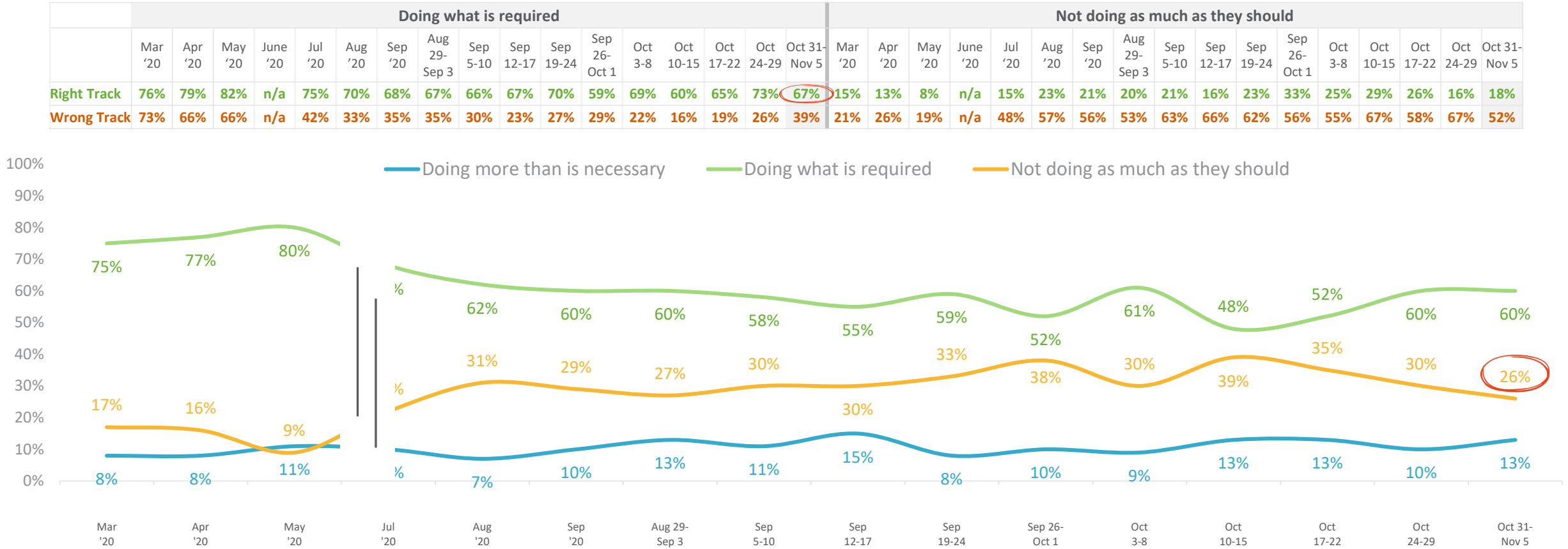
Bases vary

This week, positive perceptions of the government’s performance on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ have rebounded after several weeks of decline.



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

Mirroring this change is a declining number of Ontarians (39% three weeks ago to 26% this past week) who think the government is ‘not doing as much as they should’.



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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	265	300	169	180
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CLOSELY	87	83	83	80
Very closely	45	45	46	40
Somewhat closely	42	38	37	40
Not too closely	9	12	13	11
Not at all closely	4	5	4	8
TOTAL NOT CLOSELY	13	17	17	19
Don't know	1	-	-	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

This past week, 28% of Ontarians followed province-wide reporting with just 1-in-5 looking at their municipal statistics.

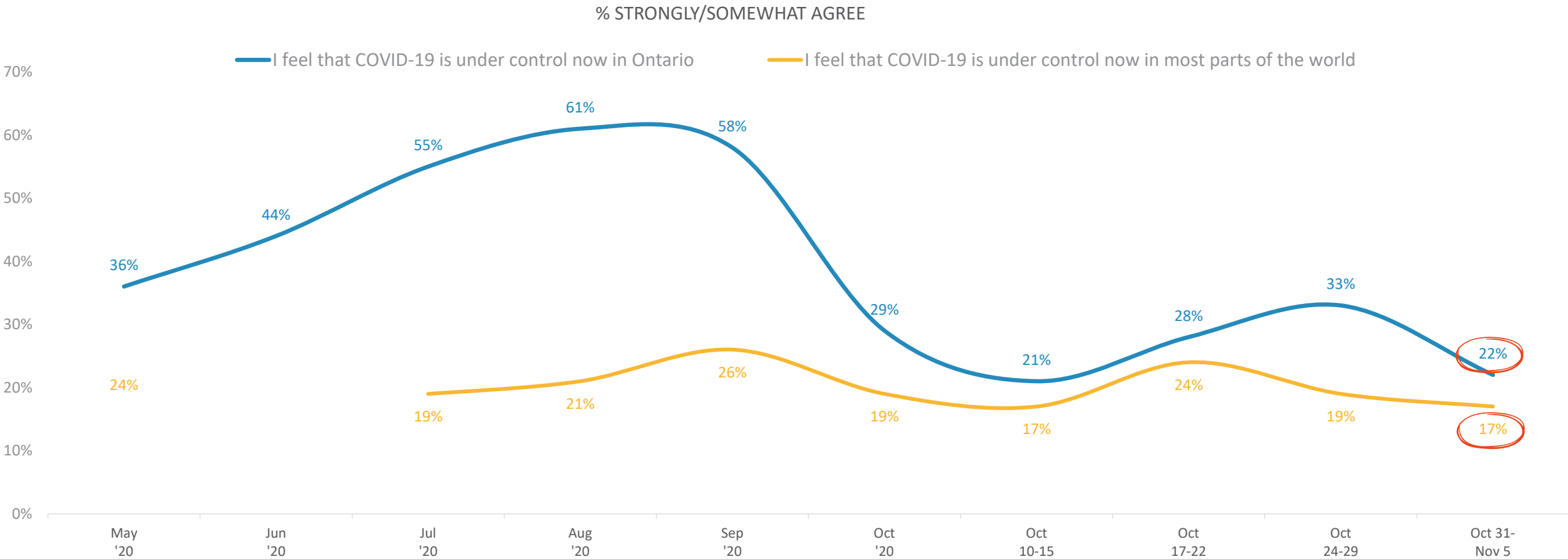
	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	Varies			
	%	%	%	%
Your own municipality	12	14	11	22
Your own region	16	18	19	15
Ontario overall	38	30	32	28
Canada overall	9	14	15	16
The US	4	2	1	<1
Internationally	21	21	20	18
Don't know/refused	1	1	1	1

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

The gap in perceptions on whether COVID-19 is under control in Ontario versus the rest of the world narrowed this past week. About 22% now feel the Ontario COVID-19 situation is under control, while only 17% 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

TIMING OF WHEN THE PANDEMIC WILL BE OVER

Most Ontarians think it will be more than one year before the pandemic will be over, with 46% thinking it will be over in two years or more.

	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	
n=	300	300	
	%	%	
3 months	3	3	18%
6 months	7	5	
9 months	8	8	
A year	26	18	78%
A year and a half	17	14	
Two or more years	20	23	
It will never be fully over	15	23	
Don't know/not sure	4	7	4%

There has been a sharp drop over the past two months (from 71% to 20%) in the proportion of Ontarians who believe the threat of contracting COVID-19 is much less now.

% 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-Jul 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	Oct 31-Nov 5
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	20
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	65
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	72

About 74% 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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies							
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	25	22	16	11	17	17	20	17
Strongly agree	8	8	6	5	7	6	6	8
Somewhat agree	16	15	9	6	10	12	15	9
Neither agree nor disagree	13	10	8	9	9	8	11	8
Somewhat disagree	22	25	19	25	28	21	21	24
Strongly disagree	38	40	56	55	45	52	46	50
TOTAL DISAGREE	60	64	74	81	73	73	67	74
Not applicable	-	-	-	-	<1	-	-	-
Don't know	-	-	-	-	<1	2	2	1

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 31-Nov 5	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
% AGREE	8%	19%	11%	19%	16%	11%	13%	30%	20%	-	14%	18%	14%	16%	16%	9%	16%	10%	27%	19%	15%	15%	24%	19%	23%
% DISAGREE	83%	72%	75%	66%	77%	83%	81%	65%	64%	93%	76%	67%	82%	72%	65%	83%	68%	73%	62%	70%	79%	81%	69%	72%	73%

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

The preliminary results suggest that most Ontarians reject the idea that public health is still trying to scare people unnecessarily into compliance. The intensity of the rejection is strong.

The number of deaths and serious illnesses from COVID 19 in Ontario is quite low, but the public health authorities are still trying to scare people unnecessarily into compliance.

	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	26
Strongly agree	14
Somewhat agree	12
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Somewhat disagree	16
Strongly disagree	55
TOTAL DISAGREE	71
Don't know	1

Similarly, the early results suggest that Ontarians strongly disagree with the idea that COVID-19 is not a serious public health issue. The intensity of the rejection is strong.

I don't believe COVID 19 is as serious a pandemic as it has been made out to be

	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	21
Strongly agree	12
Somewhat agree	9
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Somewhat disagree	12
Strongly disagree	63
TOTAL DISAGREE	75
Don't know	1

Again, the preliminary results indicate that Ontarians reject the idea they have lost faith in the decisions made about COVID-19 by public health leaders. The intensity of the rejection is strong.

I have lost faith in the decisions made about COVID by public health leaders

	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	27
Strongly agree	12
Somewhat agree	15
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Somewhat disagree	27
Strongly disagree	41
TOTAL DISAGREE	68
Not applicable	1
Don't know	2

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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	300	300	300	300	300	180
	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL PREPARED	75	78	75	73	73	79
Very prepared	16	13	17	17	16	19
Somewhat prepared	59	64	58	56	57	60
Not too prepared	15	14	18	16	17	15
Not at all prepared	8	6	5	10	8	5
TOTAL NOT PREPARED	22	20	23	26	26	20
Don't know/not sure	3	2	2	2	2	1

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

CONFIDENTIAL

Early results suggest that Ontarians may think the government’s management of the response to the Second Wave has been reasonably good.

	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	Varies
	%
TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD	51
Excellent	4
Good	47
Fair	33
Poor	12
Very poor	5
TOTAL POOR/VERY POOR	16

QCV127. Overall how good or poor a job has the Ontario Government done in handling the second wave of COVID 19? Has it done an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job?

DID ALL IT COULD OR COULD HAVE ACTED DIFFERENTLY

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

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	300	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%
All it could reasonably be expected to do	44	52	47	44	43	45
Could have acted differently	55	47	53	55	56	52
Don't know/Not sure	1	1	<1	2	1	2

	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	Oct 31-Nov 5	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
Right Track	52%	61%	55%	49%	56%	54%	46%	37%	44%	49%	44%	43%
Wrong Track	12%	14%	22%	27%	17%	19%	88%	86%	78%	72%	81%	80%

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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies					
	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	16	21	21	24	24	22
Strongly agree	5	8	7	12	12	11
Somewhat agree	11	14	13	12	12	12
Neither agree nor disagree	4	7	5	5	6	4
Somewhat disagree	21	24	24	20	21	21
Strongly disagree	58	47	50	49	47	52
TOTAL DISAGREE	79	71	73	70	68	72
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1

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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	300	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	24
Other people say, we should deal with it by outbreak on a community by community basis, and not province wide so the economic recovery can continue, even if there is a risk of more infections. /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	71
Don't know/Not sure	2	1	<1	5	3	5

	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	Oct 31-Nov 5	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
Right Track	32%	28%	24%	31%	30%	21%	66%	70%	75%	66%	68%	74%
Wrong Track	36%	36%	42%	35%	41%	31%	57%	64%	58%	56%	54%	61%

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

CONFIDENTIAL

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS



A plurality of Ontarians believe that the restrictions are being re-introduced at the right pace.

- Those who see the government on the ‘right track’ are slightly less likely this week to believe that the re-introduction of these restrictions is occurring at the right pace.

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	300	300	300	300	300	180
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Moving too quickly	12	13	16	20	16	19
At the right pace	43	46	50	46	44	43
Moving too slowly	44	39	32	33	38	35
Prefer not to answer/Don't know	1	3	2	1	3	3

	At the right pace						Moving too slowly					
	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
Right Track	50%	53%	58%	55%	56%	46%	38%	35%	26%	29%	27%	30%
Wrong Track	17%	16%	26%	18%	18%	31%	63%	54%	51%	42%	63%	49%

QCV125B. As you may know, the number of reported cases of COVID infections have increased in recent weeks, especially in Ottawa, Toronto, York and Peel Regions and the province ordered restaurants, bars and gyms closed in these areas. The government of Ontario recently introduced a new focussed approach to restrictions in those regions, which allows restaurants and gyms to stay open, but with strict limits on the number of people allowed inside and the hours they can be open. Thinking of the new approach announced this week, how supportive or opposed are you of this focussed approach. Are you

(Previous phrasing) 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?

The preliminary results suggest that Ontarians appear to be divided over whether job losses, business closures, and mental health issues are worse than virus illness and deaths.

*The overall public health approach taken to COVID 19 has led to jobs lost, companies going out of business and a mental-health impact due to stress.
This is worse than the number of deaths and serious illness caused by COVID 19.*

	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	40
Strongly agree	20
Somewhat agree	20
Neither agree nor disagree	10
Somewhat disagree	26
Strongly disagree	23
TOTAL DISAGREE	49
Not applicable	1
Don't know	1

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

Base: Total sample

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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	265	201	300	300
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORTIVE	83	82	86	84
Very supportive	53	48	53	51
Somewhat supportive	31	33	33	33
Somewhat opposed	7	9	8	8
Very opposed	7	9	3	7
TOTAL OPPOSED	15	18	11	15
Don't know/not sure	2	<1	3	1

QCV143. As you may know, the Ontario government has imposed certain restrictions in Ottawa, Toronto, York and Peel regions' because of high rates of COVID 19 infection. It has not placed these restrictions in the rest of the province. Overall, how supportive or opposed are you of this approach, which is a very region specific approach and based on the number of cases in a community? (Previous phrasing) 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

Similarly, the early results suggest that Ontarians also reject the idea that the government acted too quickly to restrict indoor dining in restaurants and bars.

I believe the government acted too quickly to restrict indoor dining in restaurants and bars

	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	21
Strongly agree	10
Somewhat agree	11
Neither agree nor disagree	5
Somewhat disagree	27
Strongly disagree	46
TOTAL DISAGREE	72
Don't know	3

The early results suggest that a majority of Ontarians think that indoor restaurants/bars and gyms might be hotspots because of poor ventilation and the fact that people take their face coverings off.

	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	Varies
	%
Some people say because restaurants and gyms are inside, they may not be well ventilated and people take off their masks, they are unsafe and more likely to be hot spots and should remain closed	57
Other people say restaurants, bars and gyms are not a major source of COVID-19 infections and should be allowed to reopen and resume indoor dining.	34
Don't know	9

QCV-150. There has been some discussion in the media lately about the decision to close bars, restaurants clubs and gyms in Toronto, other parts of the GTA and Ottawa as result of COVID 19. Thinking of these two points of view, which one best reflects your own thinking

Base: Total sample

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

An increasing majority of Ontarians are not willing to drive out of the region where they live. About 30% 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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	735	300	300
	%	%	%
I would not drive out of my region	47	53	60
Up to half an hour	24	21	20
Up to one hour	18	17	10
Up to two hours	4	3	3
More than 2 hours	4	3	3
Don't have access to a car/Don't know how to drive	1	3	2
Don't know/Not sure	1	1	2

QCV-89. If the easing up of restrictions in Ottawa, Toronto, York and Peel regions still allow only a small number of people in your gym, or at your favourite restaurant, and when you get there the limit has been reached, 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 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

There is very strong support for increasing enforcement and having more inspections.

	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	300	180
	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORT	85	81
Strongly support	57	56
Somewhat support	28	25
Somewhat oppose	7	11
Strongly oppose	7	8
TOTAL OPPOSE	14	19
Don't know/not sure	1	<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?

Since late September, 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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	37	26	30	25	18	38	24	33	38	36
Strongly agree	21	16	15	16	6	23	12	14	20	24
Somewhat agree	16	10	15	9	12	15	11	19	17	12
Neither agree nor disagree	4	3	5	5	6	4	8	7	8	4
Somewhat disagree	15	21	21	19	18	14	15	13	14	19
Strongly disagree	44	49	44	50	58	41	53	46	41	40
TOTAL DISAGREE	59	70	65	69	76	56	68	59	54	59
Don't know	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	1

RECENT COVID-19 INITIATIVES



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

	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	265	300	300	180
	%	%	%	%
Enhancing and expanding efforts to test, trace and isolate new cases of COVID-19.	70	70	62	64
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	60
Putting in place a system to quickly identify, manage and prevent COVID-19 outbreaks	62	56	55	58
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	56
Implementing the largest flu immunization campaign in Ontario's history	48	55	50	55
Reducing surgery backlogs	47	50	48	38
None of these	5	10	7	10

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	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	265	300	300	180
	%	%	%	%
Yes	94	90	85	90
No	5	8	10	8
Don't know	1	2	4	2

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

Just over two-thirds of Ontarians believe restaurants refusing to serve people from outside their region is a good idea.

	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	300	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	69
Other people say this is a poor idea because it is discriminatory and people should have the right to eat where they choose.	30	28
Don't know	3	3

Q148. (Q149) As you may know restaurants have been closed or face restrictions in some parts of Ontario hit hardest by the rise in COVID 19. In response, some restaurants adjacent to these areas, are refusing to serve people living outside of their community. (Previous phrasing) 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?

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	Oct 31- Nov 5
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	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	87
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	66
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	20
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	10
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	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	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	3

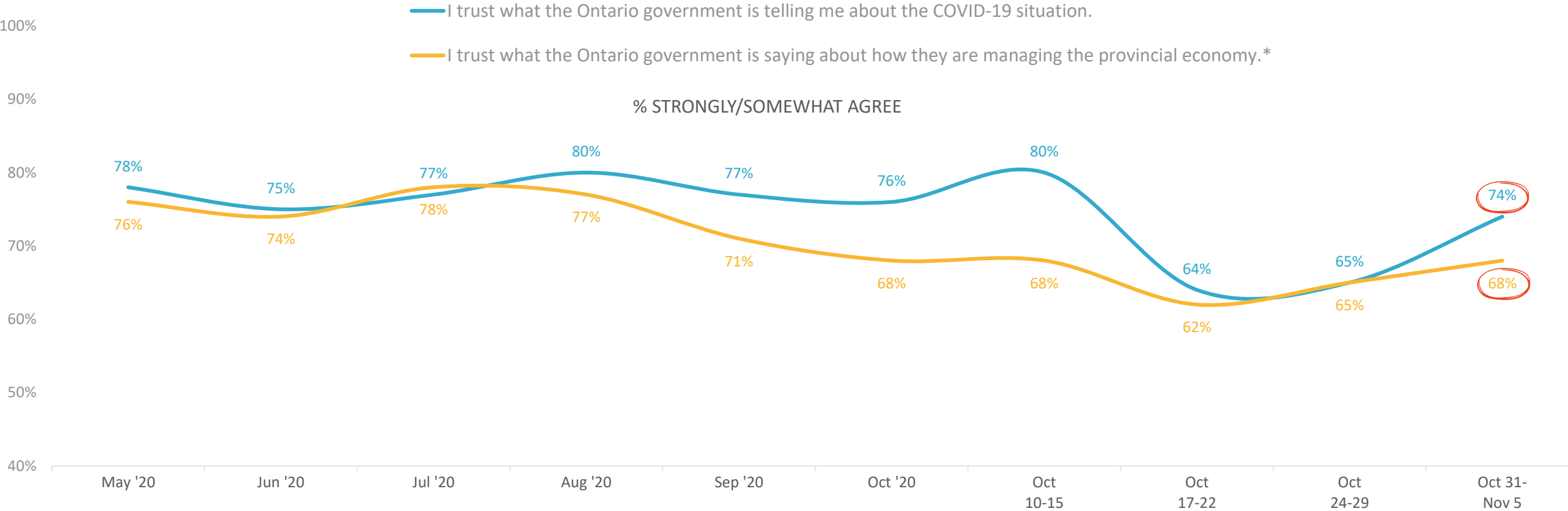
QD1B. As a result of COVID-19 and thinking about your daily activities when you are away from home, how often do you wear a face mask or covering?
Base: Total sample

CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



TRUST IN THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COVID-19

Over the past week, Ontarians’ trust in the government’s communications regarding messages about the COVID-19 situation and re-opening of the provincial economy have rebounded somewhat.



Preliminary results indicate that there is reasonably high trust in the government being measured when it imposes restrictions.

I trust that the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured and appropriate

	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	67
Strongly agree	31
Somewhat agree	36
Neither agree nor disagree	2
Somewhat disagree	19
Strongly disagree	10
TOTAL DISAGREE	29
Don't know	3

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?

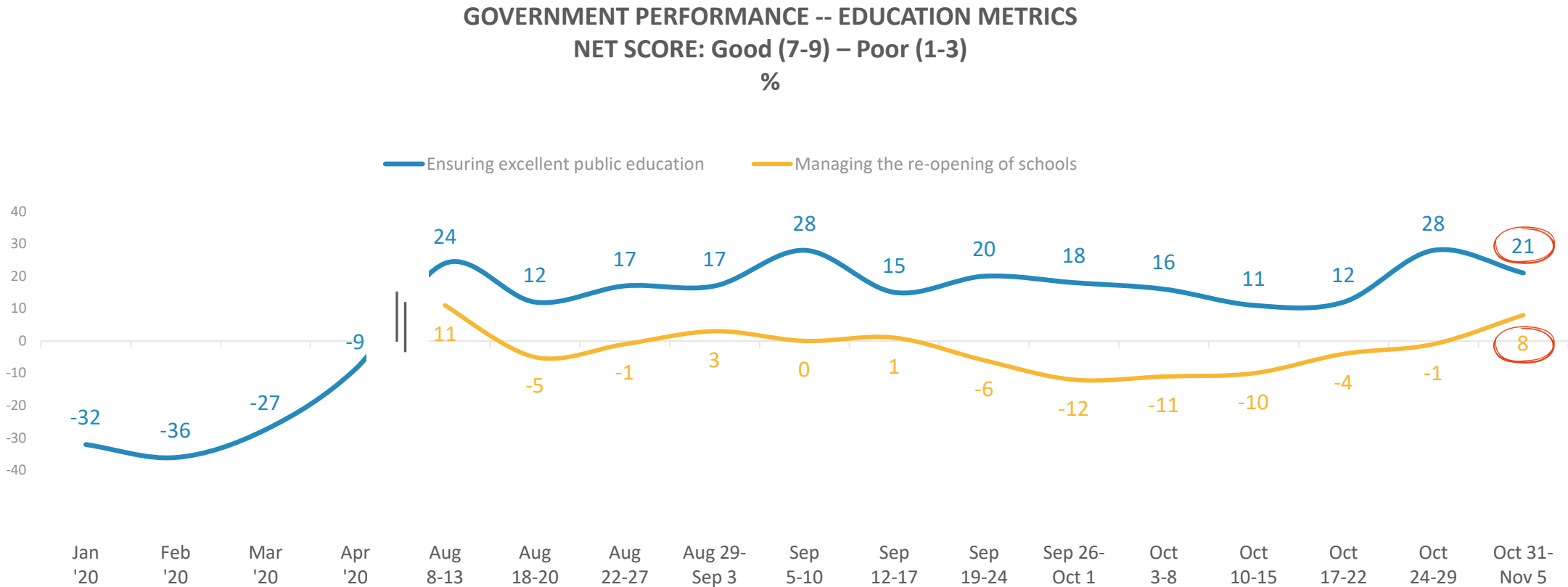
	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5
n=	300	300
	%	%
News media	61	58
Social media	28	28
Provincial Government	22	17
Health professionals	19	16
Federal Government	17	14
Municipal Government	15	7
Friends, family, colleagues	13	14
Your employer	11	8
Don't know/not sure	1	3

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

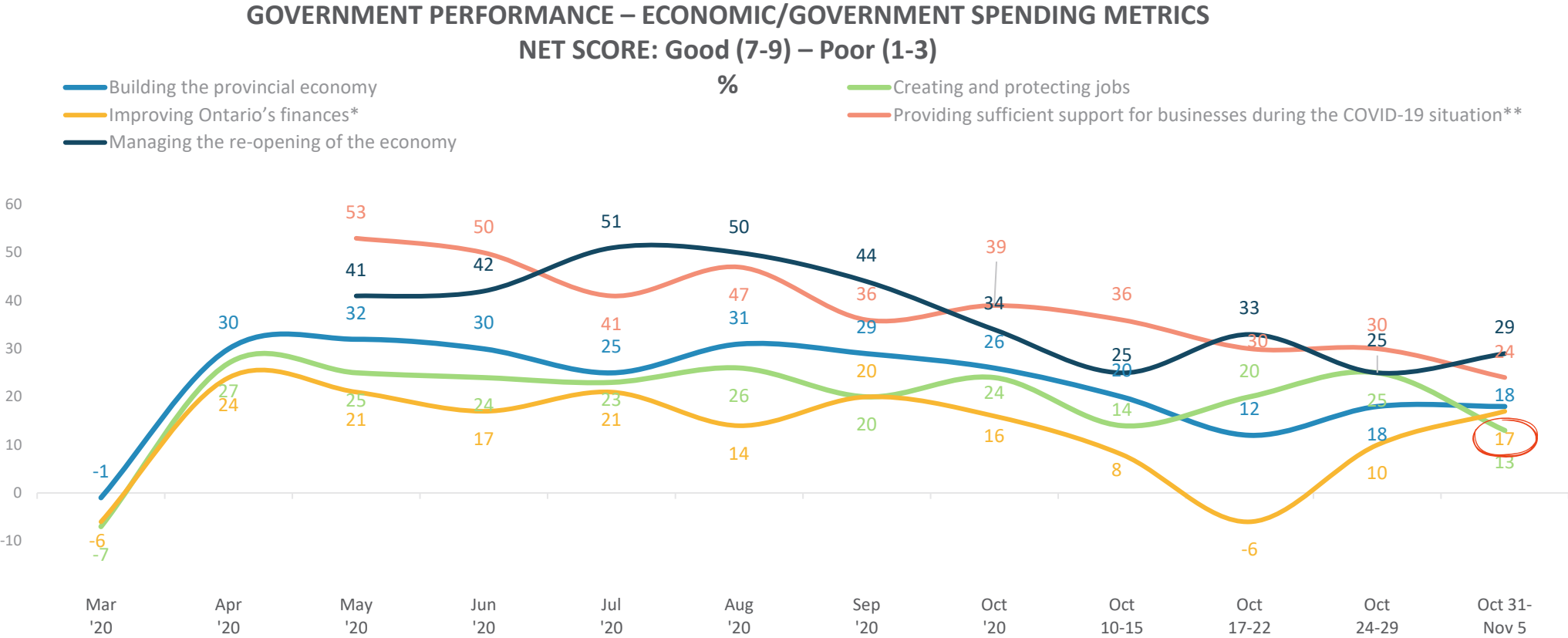


Considering both positive/negative ratings, perceptions toward the government’s performance on ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ scores continues to improve and the net scores is now +8.



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

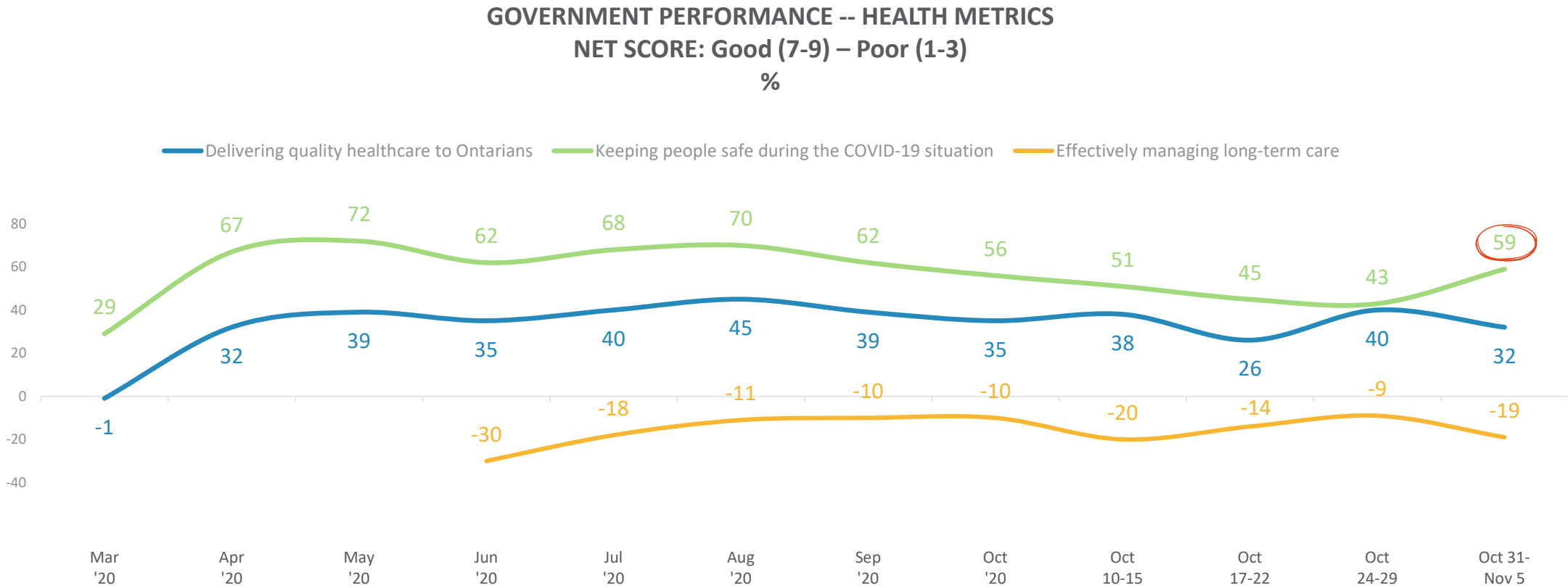
When considering both positive/negative ratings, perceptions of the government’s performance on ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ have rebounded in advance of the provincial budget.



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 an improvement in the perceptions in the government’s performance on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ after steadily declining performance.



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