

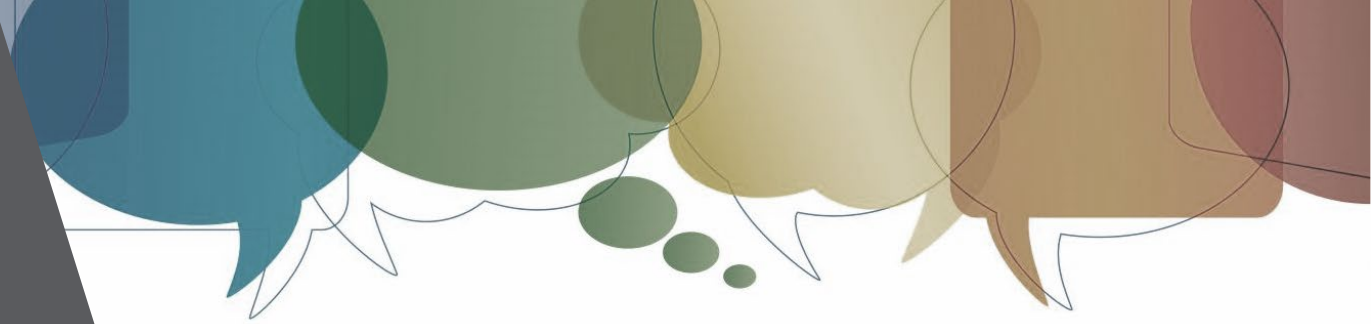


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NOVEMBER 2020 RESEARCH

PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #56

CABINET OFFICE

November 13th 2020



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 The government's 'right track' scores have rebounded to 78%, while 'wrong track' has declined back to 22%.

The 'right track' rebounded due to increases in these groups: aged 35-44, 45-54, 65+, SW Ontario residents, those born in Canada, and rural/suburban residents.

The government's 'strongly right track' scores have moved upward to 29% over the past week.

4 Positive perceptions on 'building the provincial economy' and 'improving Ontario's finances' have improved over the past week since the recent provincial budget.

2 Not surprisingly, the 'COVID-19' issue continues to dwarf all the other priorities. The 'economy' remains as a secondary priority.

'Education' continues to drop as a priority.

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

At the same time, 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.

3 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 been relatively stable, but remain lower than previous highs.

There is a high degree of trust the government's restrictions will be measured and appropriate.

6 The gap in perceptions on whether COVID-19 is under control in Ontario versus the rest of the world widened this past week given the skyrocketing infection cases in other parts of the world, particularly in the US.

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.

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

8 About 70% of Ontarians believe they could catch the COVID-19 virus. The intensity of this view has also increased since the spring.

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

Ontarians have a lot of confidence in public health leaders.

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

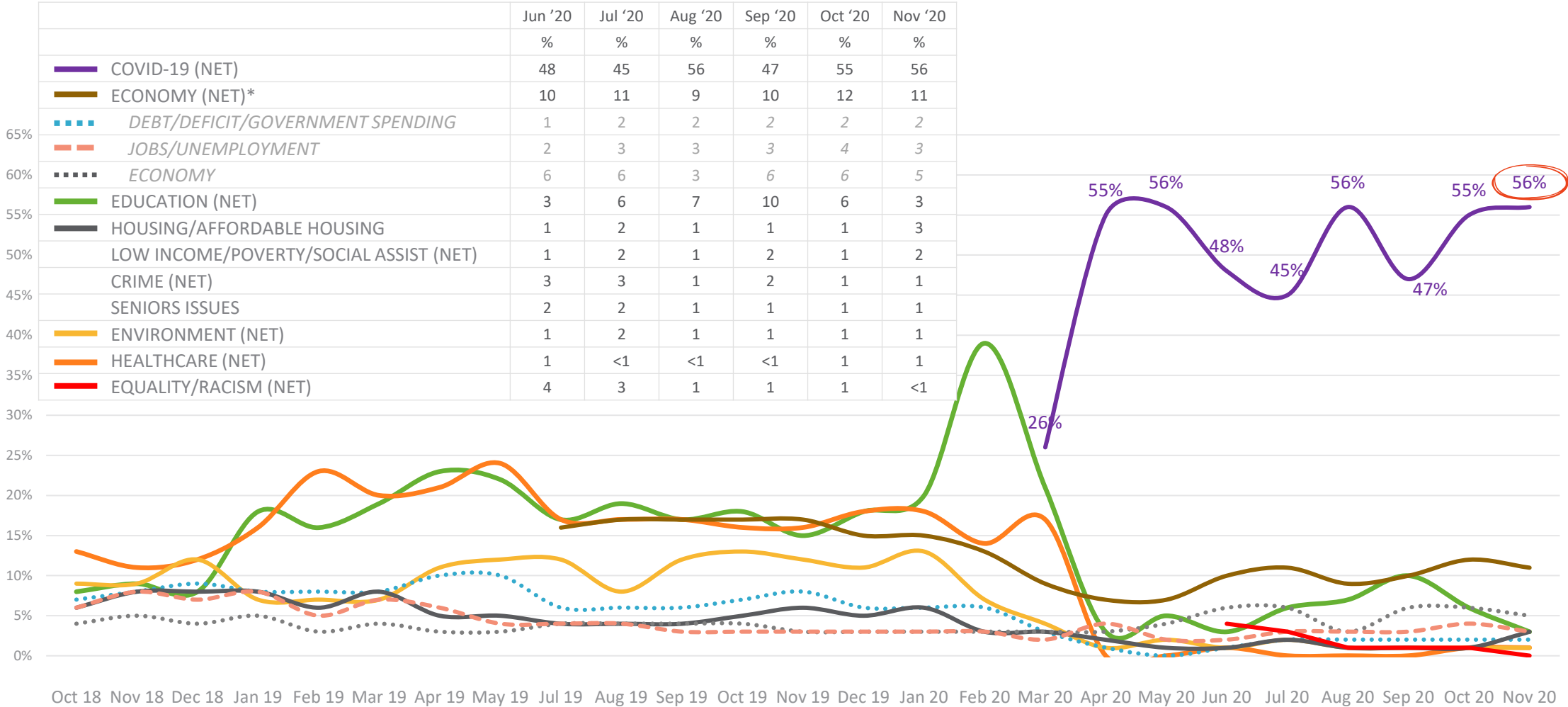
10 Most Ontarians continue to say they are wearing masks or face coverings 'all of the time' or 'most of the time'. This pattern is evident across all regions with Central Ontario being the weakest region. Those who feel the government is on the 'right track' are more likely to be wearing face coverings/masks than those who think the government is on the 'wrong track'.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



ONTARIANS' TOP PRIORITIES REQUIRING ATTENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT

Not surprisingly, the 'COVID-19' issue continues to dwarf all the other priorities. The 'economy' remains as a secondary priority. 'Education' continues to drop as a priority.



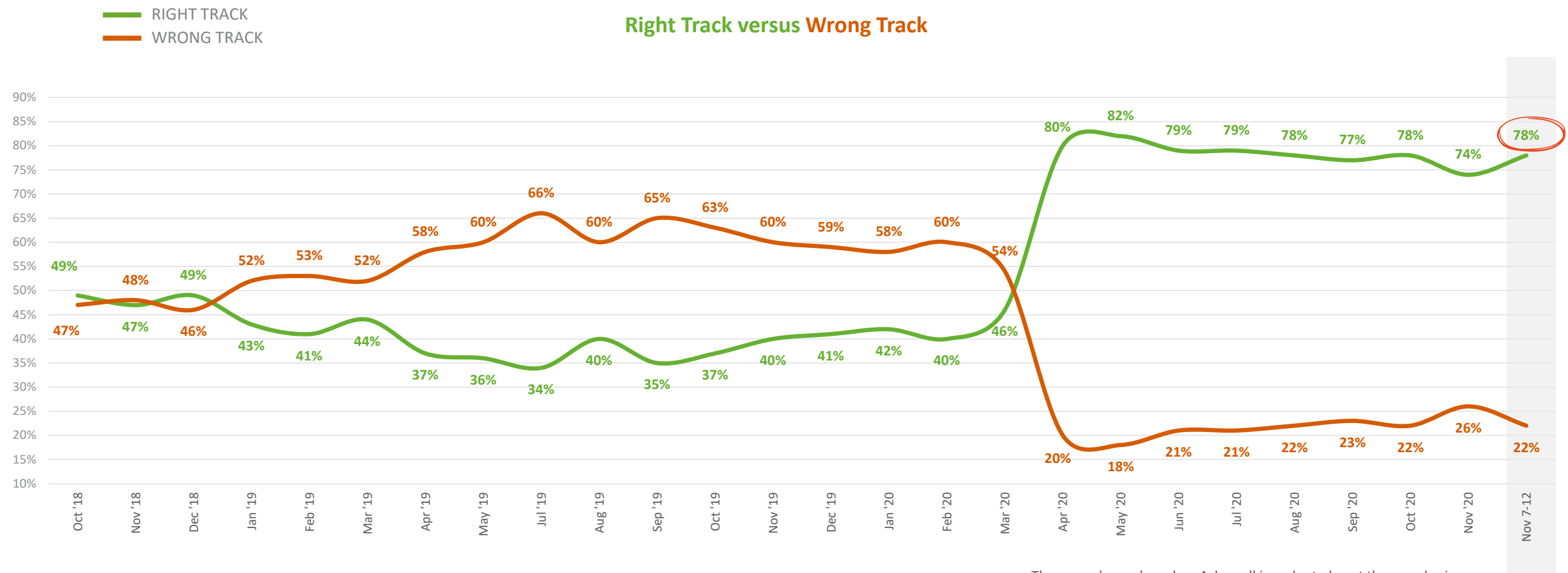
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

Q1. Thinking about the issues presently facing Ontario, which ONE do you feel should receive the GREATEST attention from the Ontario provincial government? That is, what should be the top priority?

RIGHT TRACK
WRONG TRACK



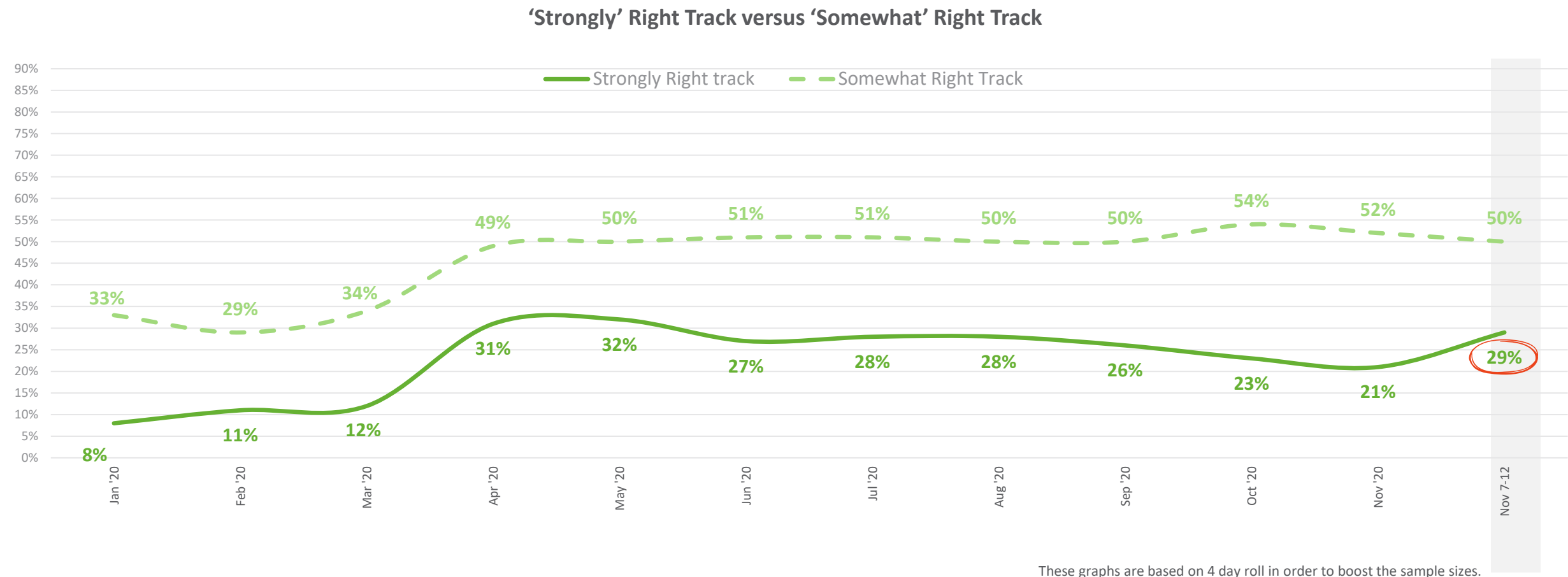
The government’s ‘right track’ scores have rebounded to 78%, while ‘wrong track’ has declined back to 22%.



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

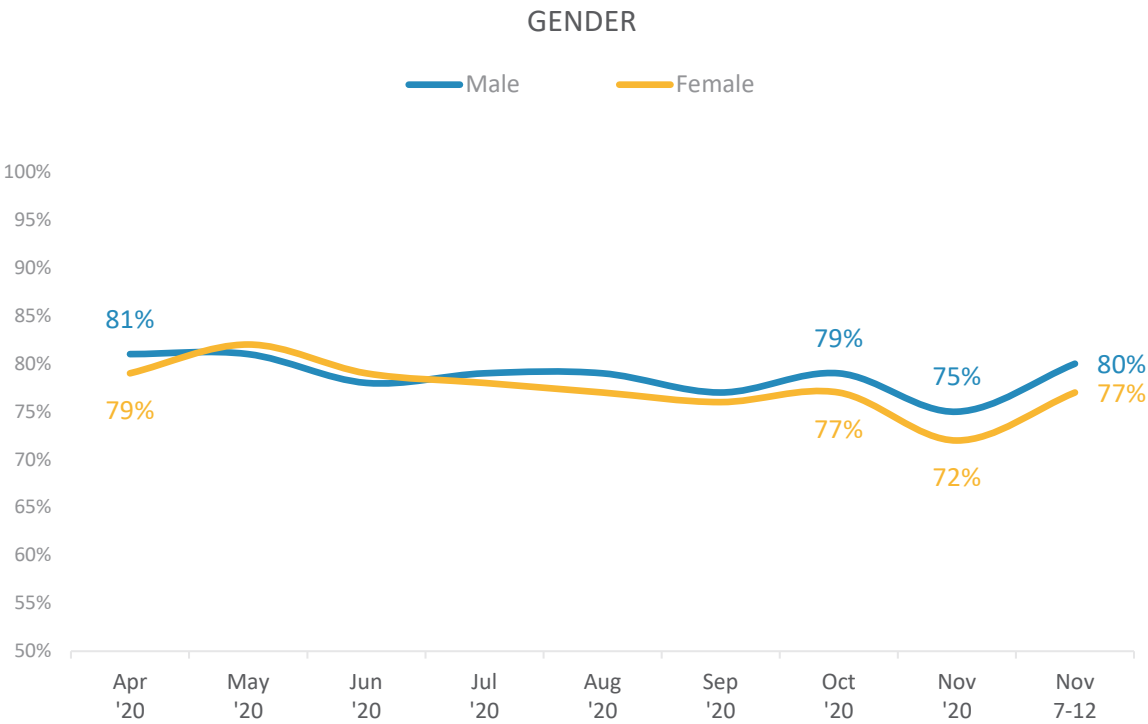
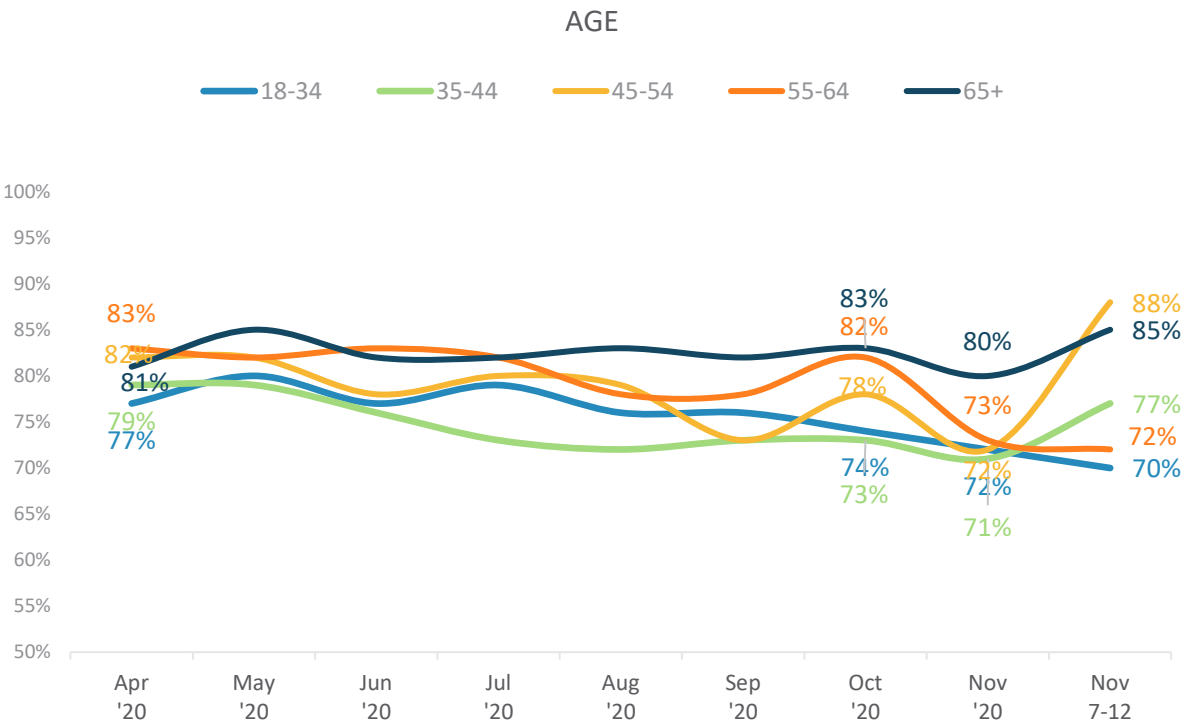
The government’s ‘strongly right track’ scores have moved upward to 29% over the past week.



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 18-34 and 55-64.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

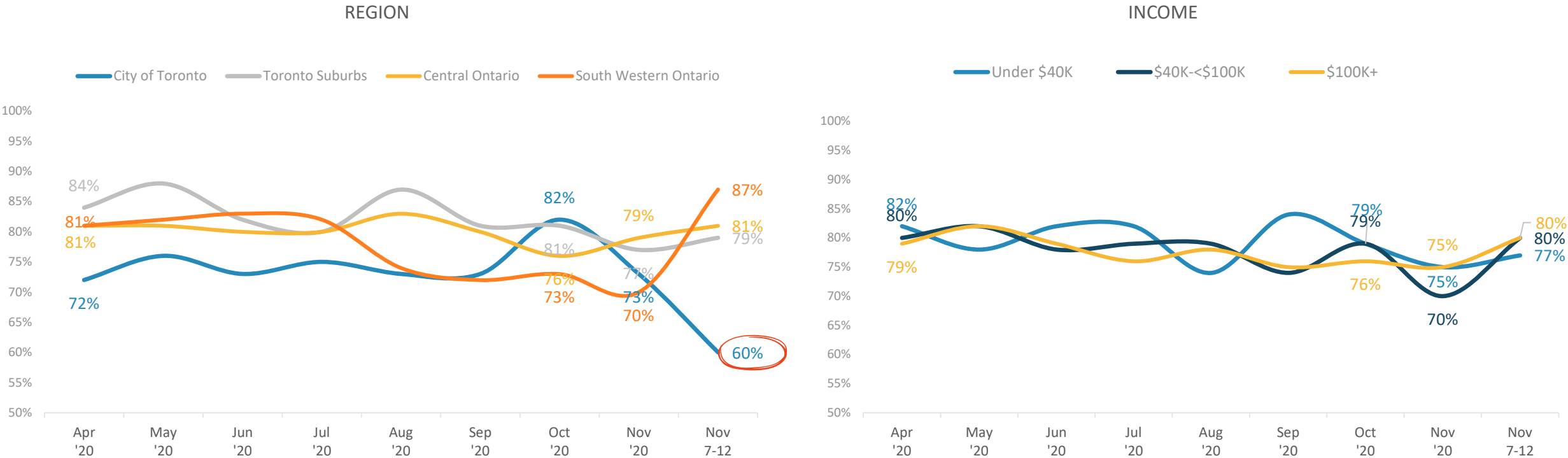


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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 increased significantly in South West Ontario, while dropping substantially in the City of Toronto.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll



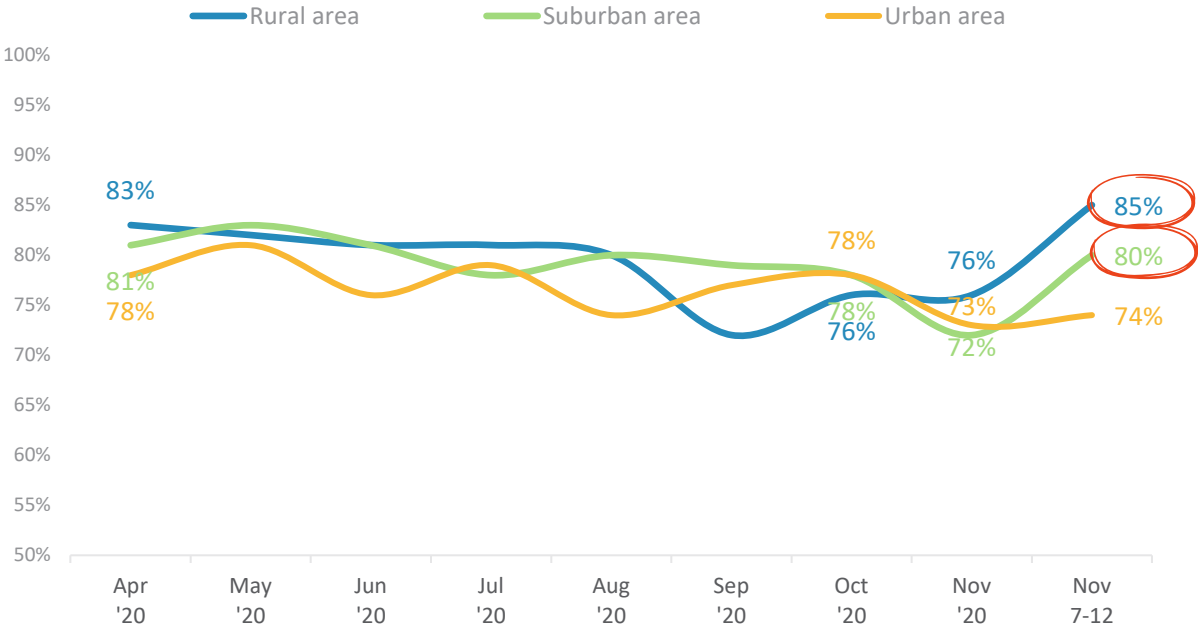
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

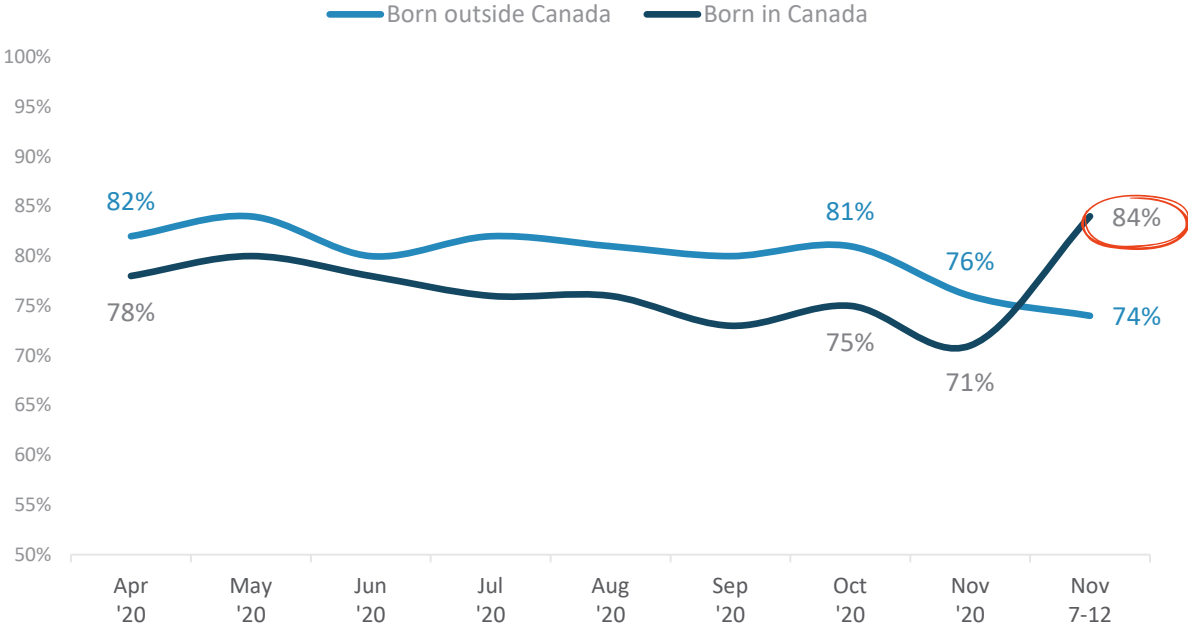
The ‘right track’ scores increased this week in rural and suburban areas and among those born in Canada.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



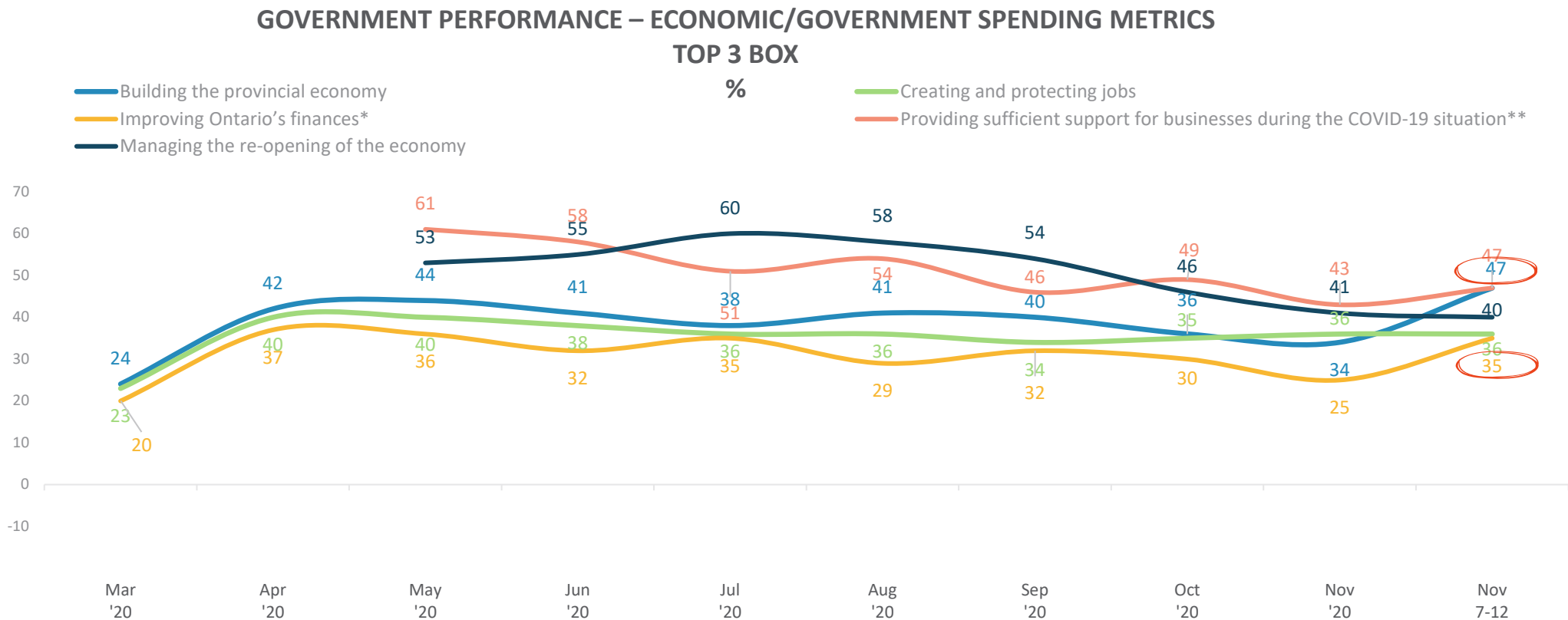
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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



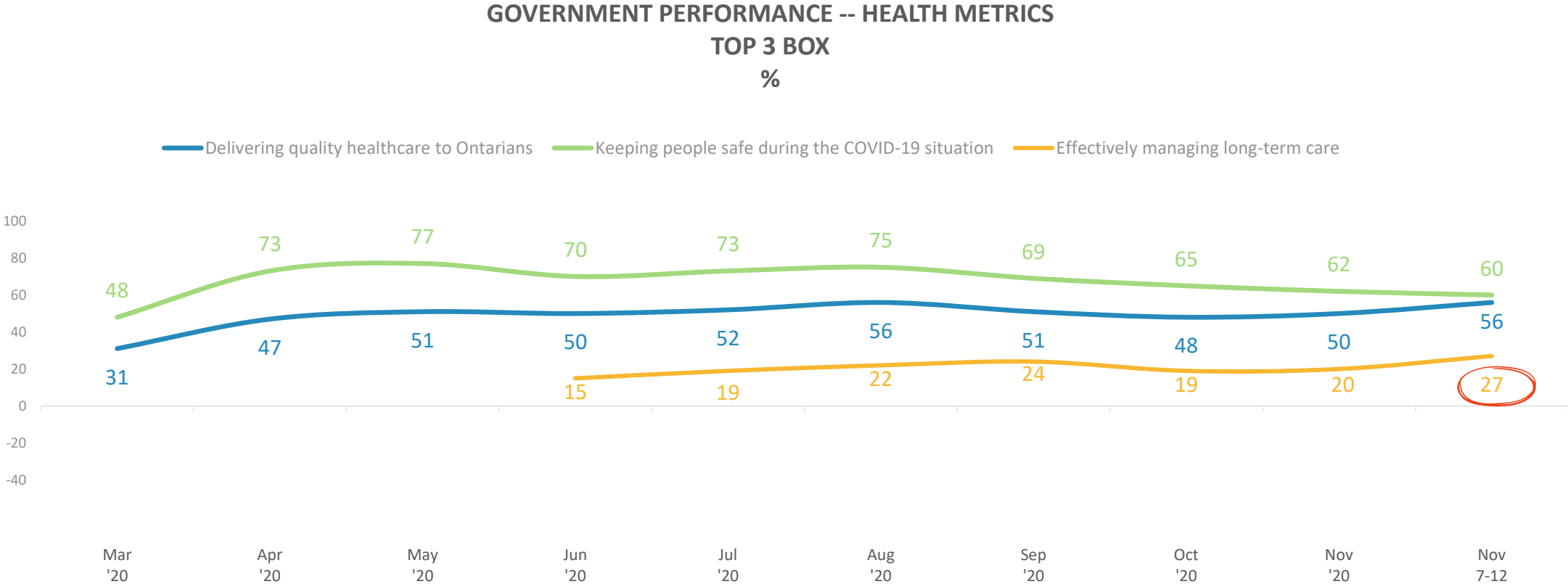
Positive perceptions on ‘building the provincial economy’ and ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ have improved over the past week since the recent provincial budget.



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”

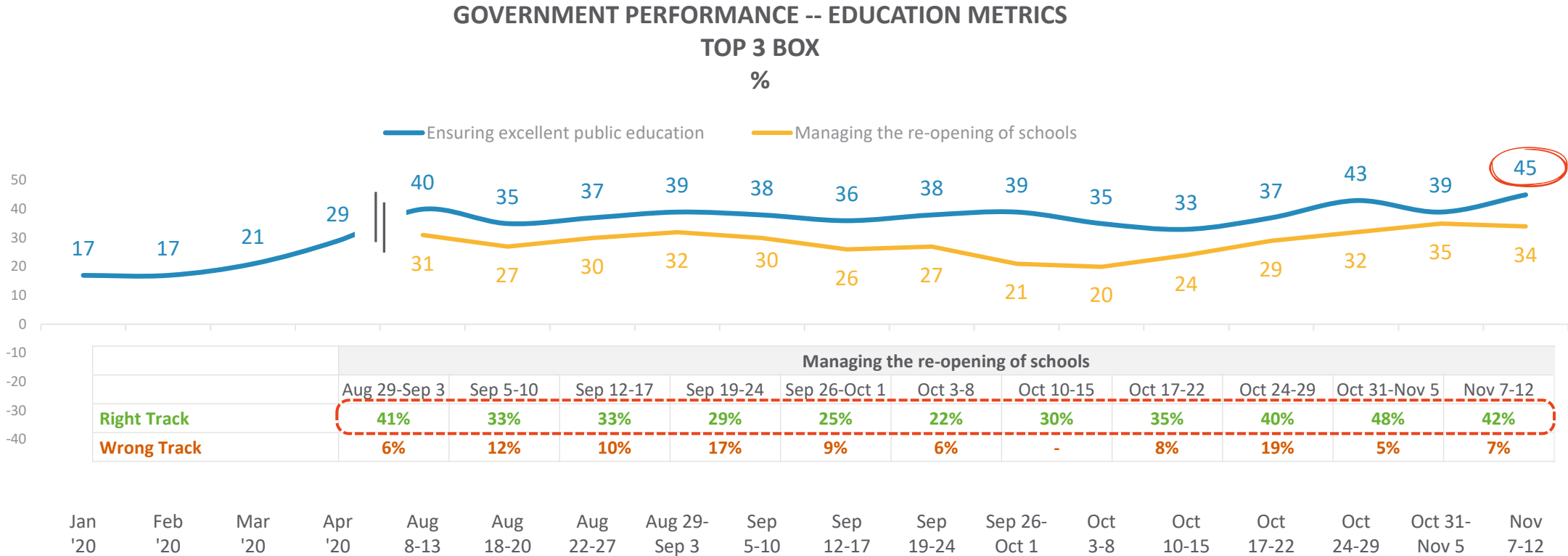
Bases vary

Positive perceptions of the government’s performance on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ remain relatively stable, while ‘delivering quality healthcare to Ontarians’ have increased. These perceptions are at the highest level on ‘effectively managing long-term care’.



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

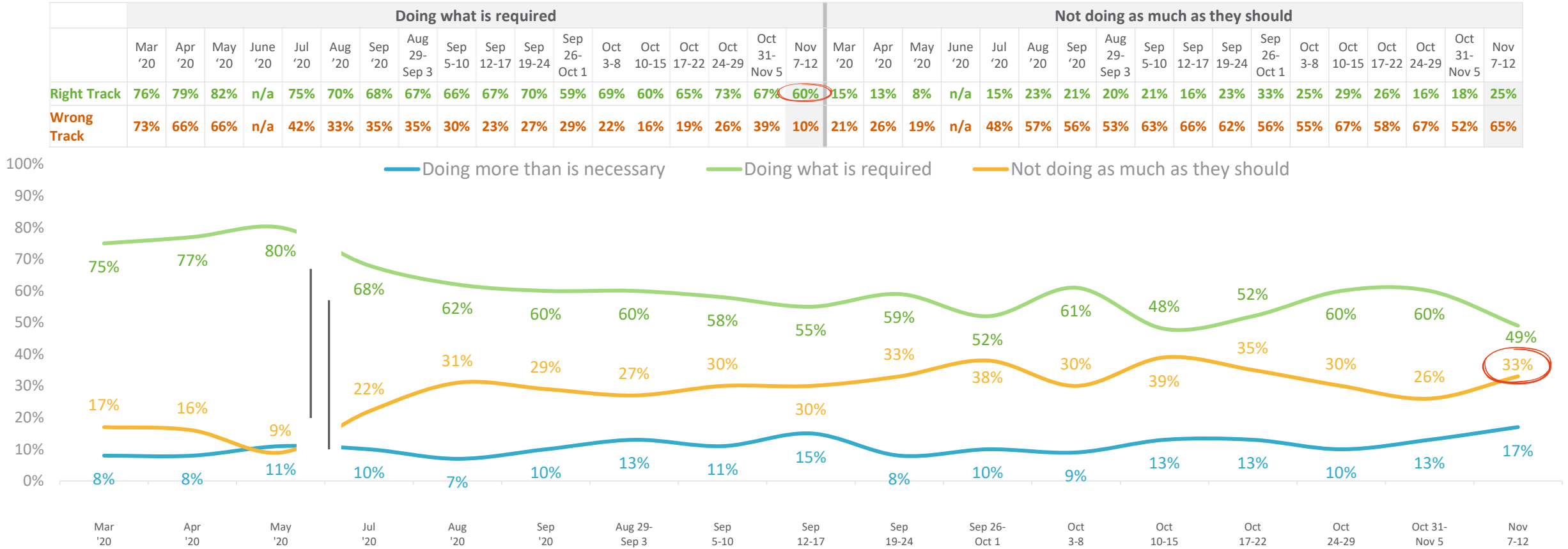
Positive perceptions toward ‘ensuring excellent public education’ have reached its highest point.



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

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MEASURES

There has a slight increase in the number of Ontarians (26% last week to 33% this past week) who think the government is ‘not doing as much as they should’ on COVID-19.



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

Perception that the government is ‘not doing as much as they should’ has increased for ‘taking the necessary actions to prevent the spread of the virus’. At the same time, the proportion who think that the government is ‘doing what is required’ on this issue had declined significantly since August.

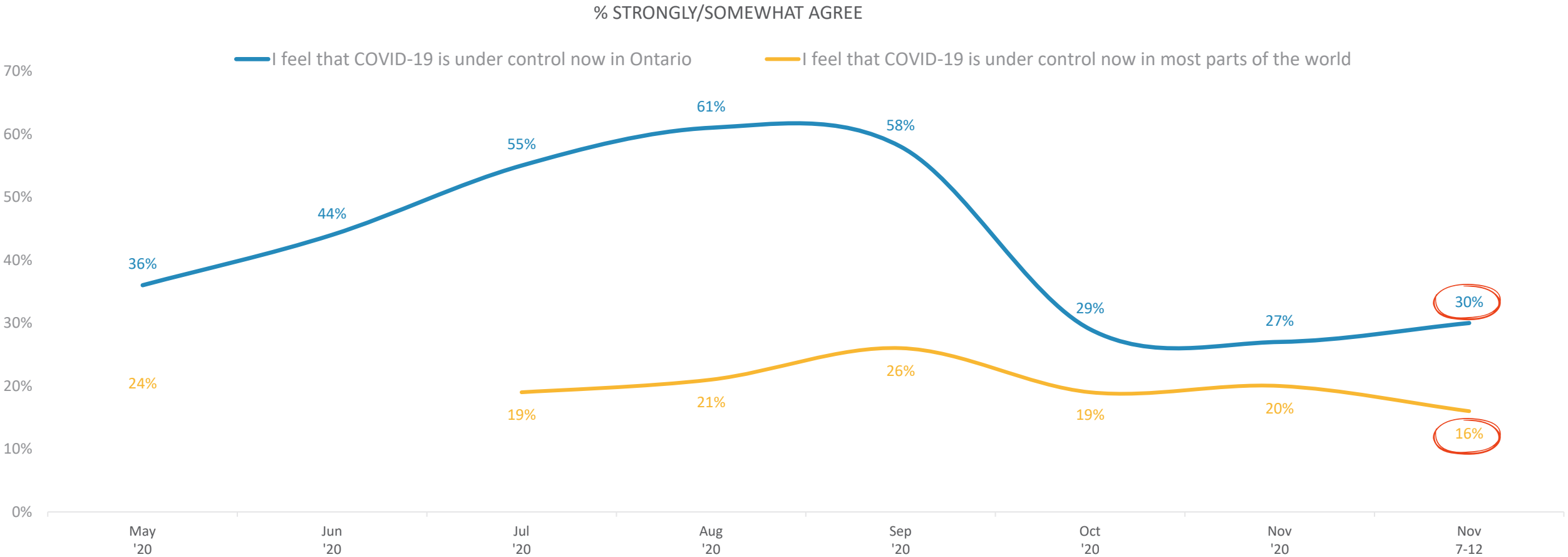
% DOING MORE THAN IS NECESSARY												% DOING WHAT IS REQUIRED											% NOT DOING AS MUCH AS THEY SHOULD											
	Aug '20	Sep '20	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Aug '20	Sep '20	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Aug '20	Sep '20	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	Nov 7-12	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Advising the public and businesses about the measures they should take to prevent the spread of the virus	15	16	13	16	10	14	12	17	10	20	17	70	70	70	72	65	65	72	62	67	68	65	13	12	14	10	23	19	15	18	21	11	16	
Taking the necessary actions to prevent the spread of the virus	11	13	11	15	7	11	13	15	13	12	14	71	68	63	59	54	46	54	56	51	52	52	17	17	22	26	37	40	32	29	35	34	32	
Managing the safe operation of schools	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	10	9	14	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	37	39	48	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	47	48	36	42	
Ensuring the safe operation of long-term care homes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	52	

COVID-19 INFECTIONS



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 widened this past week as infections skyrocketed around the world, particularly in the US.



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

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. Fewer people are saying they see people not following the social distancing guidelines.

% 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 24-30	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	Nov 7-12
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	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	62
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	66

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

LIKELIHOOD OF CATCHING COVID-19 VIRUS

About 70% 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	Nov 7-12
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	25	22	16	11	17	17	20	17	20
Strongly agree	8	8	6	5	7	6	6	8	12
Somewhat agree	16	15	9	6	10	12	15	9	9
Neither agree nor disagree	13	10	8	9	9	8	11	8	8
Somewhat disagree	22	25	19	25	28	21	21	24	15
Strongly disagree	38	40	56	55	45	52	46	50	55
TOTAL DISAGREE	60	64	74	81	73	73	67	74	70
Not applicable	-	-	-	-	<1	-	-	-	-
Don't know	-	-	-	-	<1	2	2	1	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 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
% AGREE	8%	19%	11%	19%	16%	27%	11%	13%	30%	20%	-	24%	14%	18%	14%	16%	16%	7%	9%	16%	10%	27%	19%	29%	15%	15%	24%	19%	23%	12%
% DISAGREE	83%	72%	75%	66%	77%	64%	83%	81%	65%	64%	93%	67%	76%	67%	82%	72%	65%	93%	83%	68%	73%	62%	70%	52%	79%	81%	69%	72%	73%	78%

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

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	Nov 7-12
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	26	25
Strongly agree	14	15
Somewhat agree	12	9
Neither agree nor disagree	3	4
Somewhat disagree	16	18
Strongly disagree	55	52
TOTAL DISAGREE	71	70
Don't know	1	1

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

Over the past two weeks, there appears to be a decline in the proportion of Ontarians who 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	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	39	36	28	30	30	29	37	34	29
Strongly agree	14	14	12	14	11	12	16	13	14
Somewhat agree	25	23	16	15	19	17	21	21	15
Neither agree nor disagree	10	9	6	12	8	13	11	10	9
Somewhat disagree	19	19	17	19	26	15	17	18	18
Strongly disagree	27	31	44	36	33	41	31	32	36
TOTAL DISAGREE	46	50	61	55	58	56	48	49	54
Not applicable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Don't know	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	6	6

	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 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
% AGREE	39%	40%	41%	47%	47%	32%	41%	53%	33%	38%	28%	42%	27%	25%	29%	31%	36%	32%	21%	21%	19%	42%	29%	28%	18%	11%	16%	21%	23%	15%
% DISAGREE	42%	51%	44%	43%	47%	51%	36%	40%	42%	45%	48%	33%	55%	59%	54%	49%	36%	56%	71%	64%	73%	42%	56%	59%	75%	78%	76%	66%	60%	69%

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

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

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

	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	21	19
Strongly agree	12	11
Somewhat agree	9	8
Neither agree nor disagree	3	4
Somewhat disagree	12	12
Strongly disagree	63	63
TOTAL DISAGREE	75	74
Don't know	1	2

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

Again, 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	Nov 7-12
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	27	26
Strongly agree	12	17
Somewhat agree	15	9
Neither agree nor disagree	3	5
Somewhat disagree	27	23
Strongly disagree	41	44
TOTAL DISAGREE	68	66
Not applicable	1	1
Don't know	2	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 think the government’s management of the response to the Second Wave has been ‘excellent/good’. One-third say the government’s management has been ‘fair’.

	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
n=	Varies	
	%	%
TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD	51	44
Excellent	4	7
Good	47	36
Fair	33	33
Poor	12	13
Very poor	5	9
TOTAL POOR/VERY POOR	16	22
Prefer not to answer/Don’t know	-	1

QCV-127B. 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

This week, Ontarians are divided over whether they think that the government ‘could have acted differently’ or 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	Nov 7-12
n=	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
All it could reasonably be expected to do	44	52	47	44	43	45	47
Could have acted differently	55	47	53	55	56	52	49
Don't know/Not sure	1	1	<1	2	1	2	3

	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	Nov 7-12	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
Right Track	52%	61%	55%	49%	56%	54%	58%	46%	37%	44%	49%	44%	43%	39%
Wrong Track	12%	14%	22%	27%	17%	19%	10%	88%	86%	78%	72%	81%	80%	86%

QCV-130. 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	Nov 7-12
n=	varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	16	21	21	24	24	22	17
Strongly agree	5	8	7	12	12	11	5
Somewhat agree	11	14	13	12	12	12	12
Neither agree nor disagree	4	7	5	5	6	4	2
Somewhat disagree	21	24	24	20	21	21	16
Strongly disagree	58	47	50	49	47	52	64
TOTAL DISAGREE	79	71	73	70	68	72	80
Don't know	1	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	Nov 7-12
n=	300	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	30
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	68
Don't know/Not sure	2	1	<1	5	3	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	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
Right Track	32%	28%	24%	31%	30%	21%	27%	66%	70%	75%	66%	68%	74%	71%
Wrong Track	36%	36%	42%	35%	41%	31%	40%	57%	64%	58%	56%	54%	61%	56%

QCV-132. If the increase in COVID 19 infections continues, thinking of these two points of view, which one best reflects your own?

Base: Total sample

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS



Ontarians are supportive of the recent changes to restrictions which enable restaurants and gyms to stay open in Ottawa, Toronto, and York/Peel regions.

	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
n=	120	300
	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORTIVE	73	71
Very supportive	27	30
Somewhat supportive	46	41
Somewhat opposed	12	12
Very opposed	14	14
TOTAL OPPOSED	26	26
Don't know/Prefer not to answer	1	3

QCV-125C. 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

Base: Total sample

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	Nov 7-12
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	40	46
Strongly agree	20	28
Somewhat agree	20	18
Neither agree nor disagree	10	6
Somewhat disagree	26	18
Strongly disagree	23	26
TOTAL DISAGREE	49	44
Not applicable	1	1
Don't know	1	3

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

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	Nov 7-12
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	21	31
Strongly agree	10	20
Somewhat agree	11	12
Neither agree nor disagree	5	3
Somewhat disagree	27	22
Strongly disagree	46	42
TOTAL DISAGREE	72	64
Don't know	3	1

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

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	Nov 7-12
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	55
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	35
Don't know	9	10

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

RECENT COVID-19 INITIATIVES



Six-in-ten believe restaurants refusing to serve people from outside their region is a good idea.

	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12
n=	300	300	152
	%	%	%
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	61
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	31
Don't know	3	3	8

QCV-148. (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’. This pattern is evident across all regions with Central Ontario being the weakest region.

	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	Nov 7-12
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	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	90
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	68
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	22
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	6
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	2
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	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	4

REGIONS	City of Toronto	Toronto Suburbs	Hamilton	Central Ontario	South Western Ontario	Northern Ontario	Eastern Ontario	Ottawa
	Nov '20	Nov '20	Nov '20	Nov '20	Nov '20	Nov '20	Nov '20	Nov '20
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	91%	89%	86%	83%	86%	89%	92%	87%

	RIGHT TRACK	WRONG TRACK
	Nov '20	Nov '20
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	90%	82%

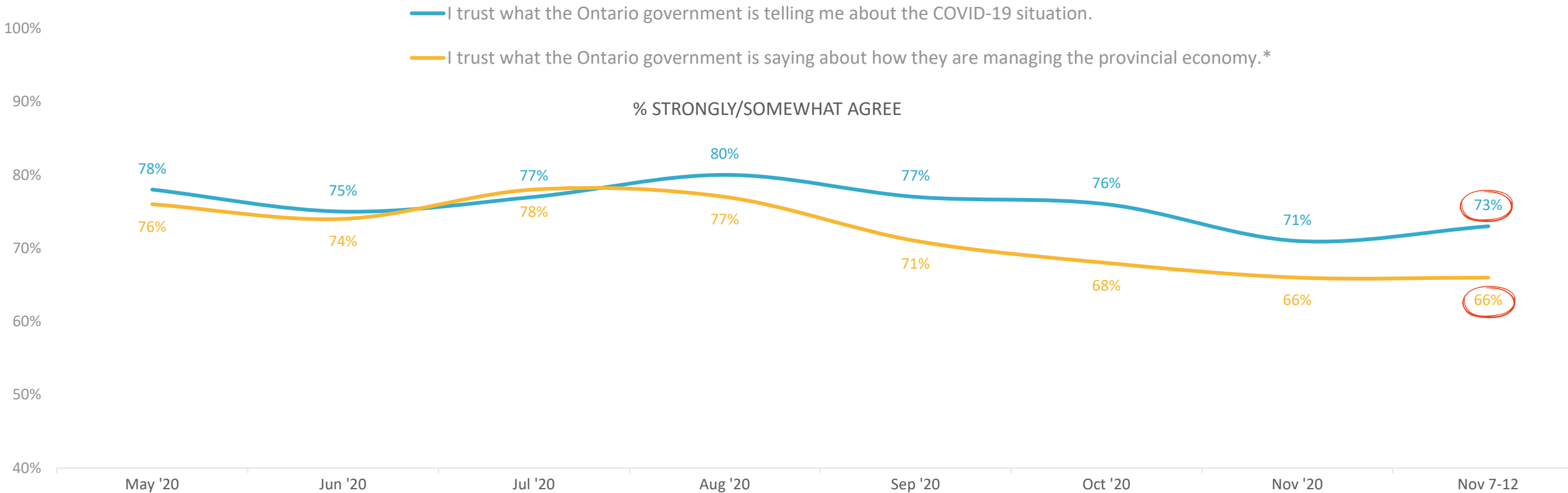
QD1B. As a result of COVID-19 and thinking about your daily activities when you are away from home, how often do you wear a face mask or covering?
Base: Total sample

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 been relatively stable, but remain lower than previous highs.



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 are re-opening the provincial economy. /I trust what the Ontario government is saying about how they plan to re-open the provincial economy

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Moreover, 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	Nov 7-12
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	67	70
Strongly agree	31	34
Somewhat agree	36	35
Neither agree nor disagree	2	3
Somewhat disagree	19	12
Strongly disagree	10	15
TOTAL DISAGREE	29	27
Don't know	3	1

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

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.

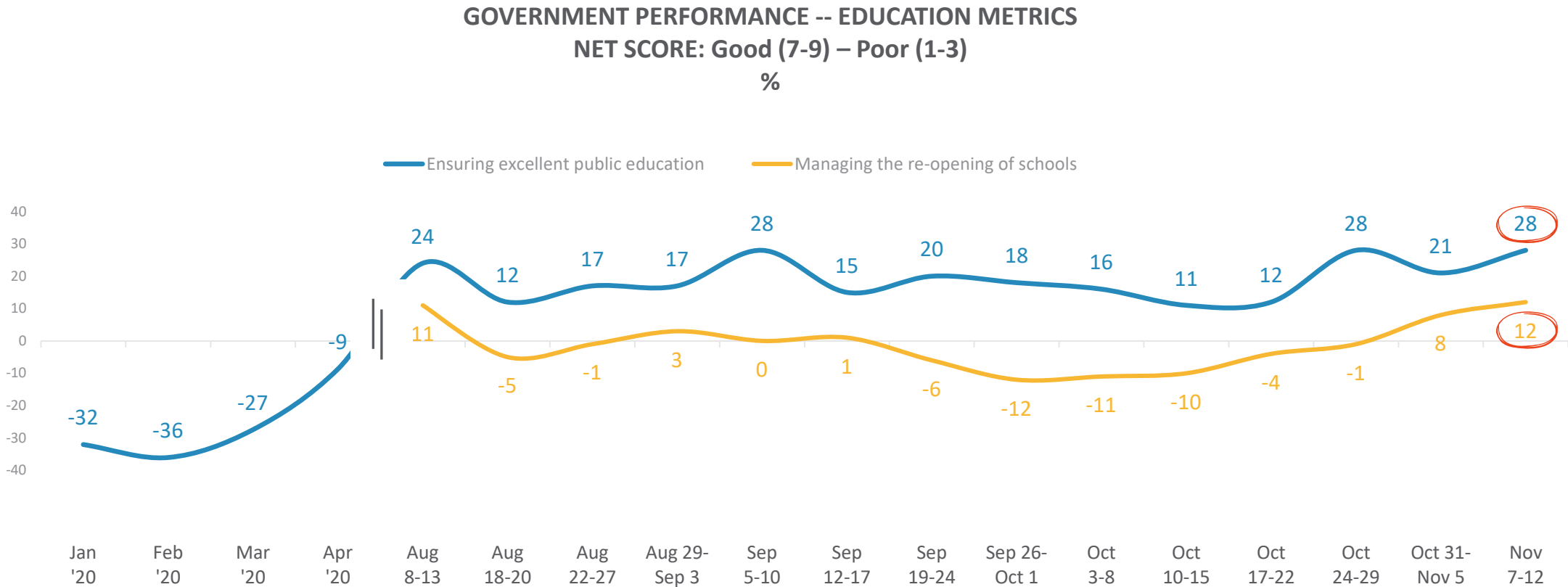
% STRONGLY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE	Jun 10-14	Jun 11-15	Jun 13-16	Jun 14-17	Jun 15-18	Jun 16-20	Jun 17-21	Jun 18-22	Jun 20-23	Jun 21-24	Jun 22-25	Jun 23-27	Jun 24-28	Jun 25-29	Jun 27-30	Jun 28- July 2	Jul 4-9	Jul 11-16	Jul 18-23	Jul 28-30	Aug 1-6	Aug 8-13	Aug 18-20	Aug 22-27	Aug 29- Sep 3	Sep 5-10	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26- Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12
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	50	36
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	21	23

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

APPENDIX

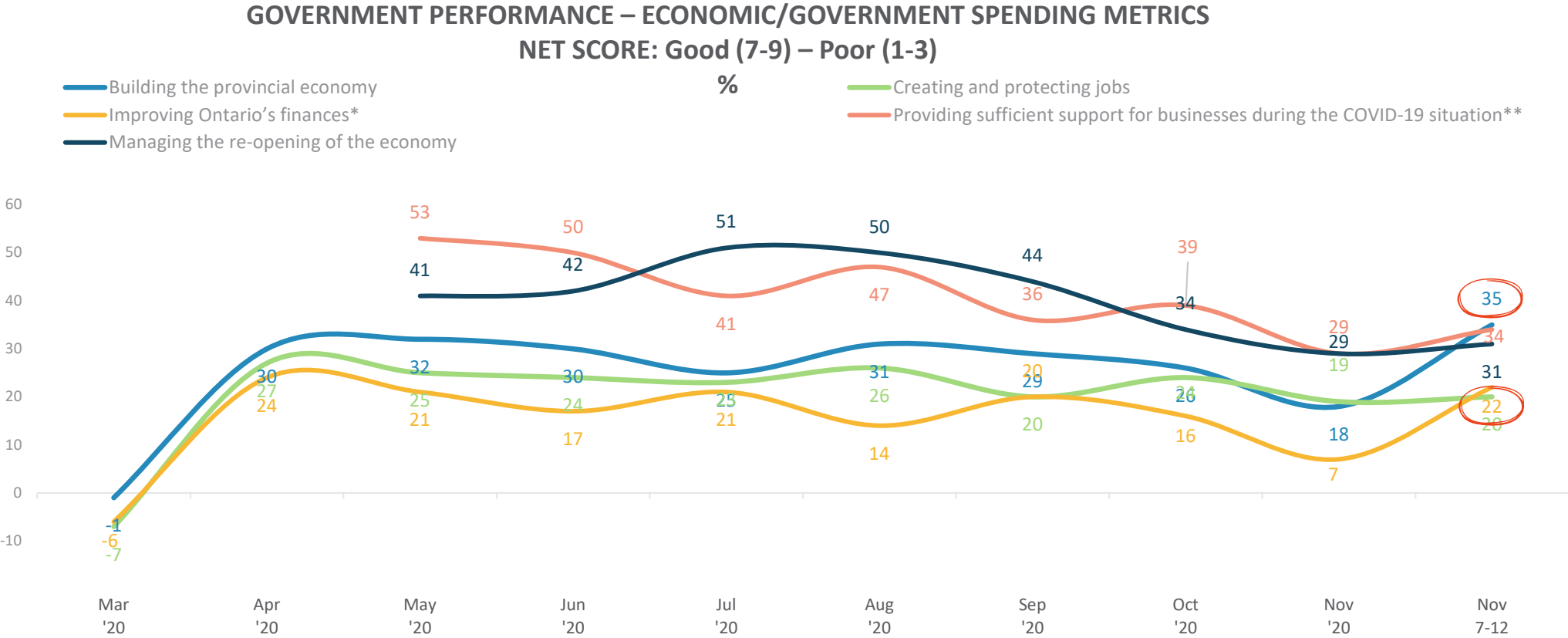


Considering both positive/negative ratings, perceptions toward the government’s performance on ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ scores continues to improve and the net score is now +12.



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’ and ‘building the provincial economy’ have moved upward sharply since the delivery of the provincial budget.



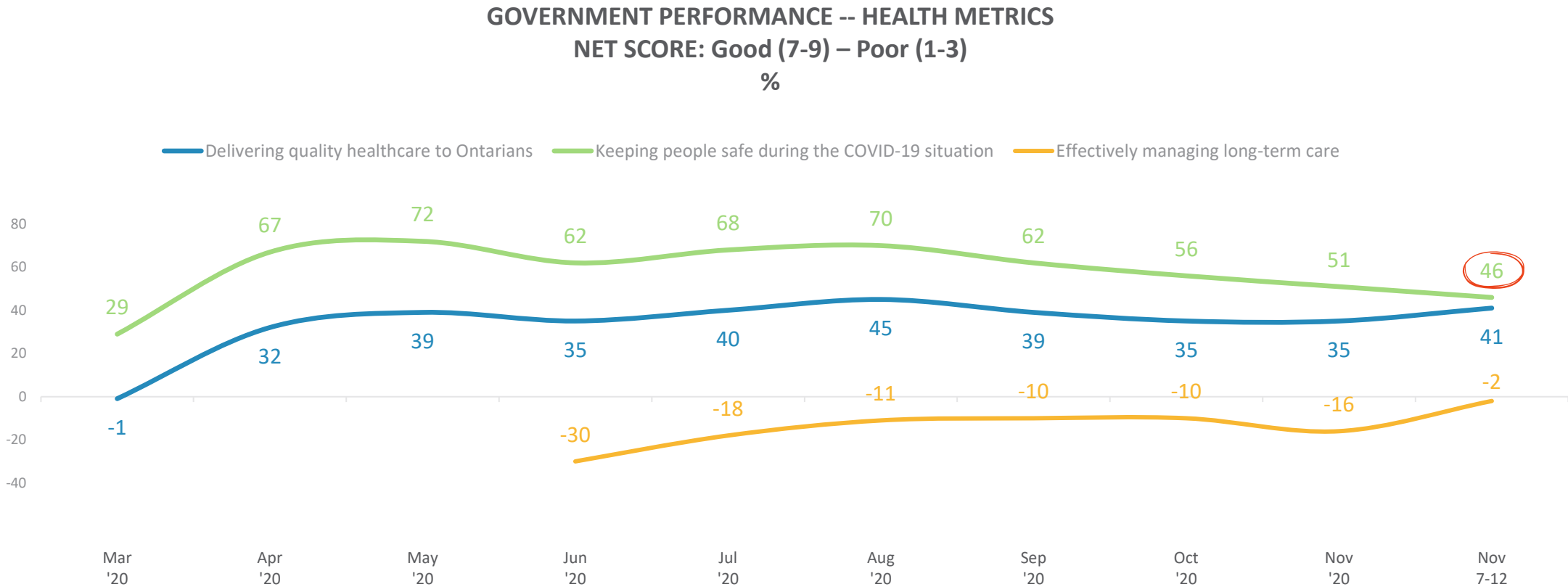
Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

*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 has been steady erosion in perceptions of the government’s performance on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’, while there has been improvement on ‘effectively managing long-term care.’



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