

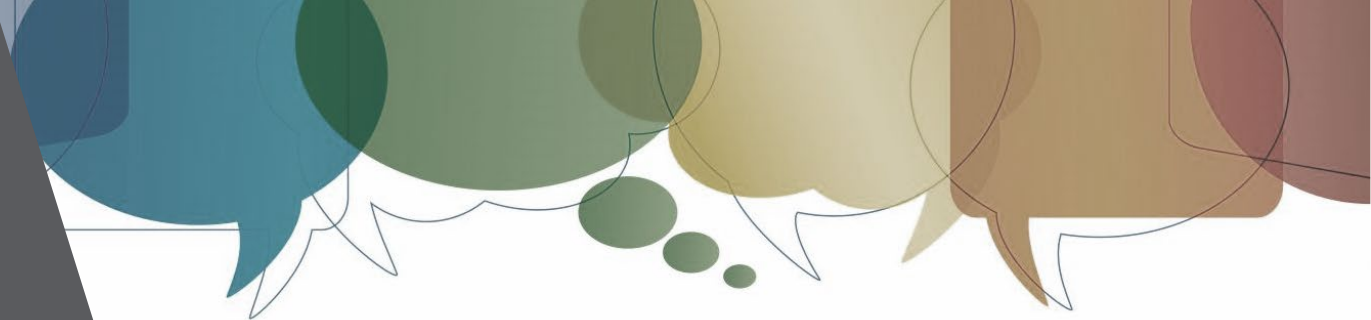


THE
**STRATEGIC
COUNSEL** 25

TORONTO | OTTAWA | CALGARY

www.thestrategiccounsel.com

EXPERIENCE • PASSION • CREATIVITY
CUSTOM SOLUTIONS FOR COMPLEX ISSUES



PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #58

CABINET OFFICE

November 27th 2020

Ontario 

KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 Despite the media coverage, the government's 'right track' scores have moved upward to 79%, almost on par with these scores last spring.

As noted before, Ontarians tend to respond positively when the government takes a strong position in protecting people's health.

This improvement in the 'right track' scores is largely due to a sharp rise in the Toronto suburbs.

4 Ontarians increasingly believe that COVID-19 is not under control in Ontario.

The gap in perceptions on whether COVID-19 is under control in Ontario versus the rest of the world has remained at 2-points given the rising infection cases in Ontario and around the world.

Ontarians are gradually thinking the government 'could have acted differently' in dealing with the pandemic.

2 After the Toronto and Peel Region lockdown announcement, there has been a drop in the number of Ontarians (44% a week ago to 34% this past week) who think the government is 'not doing as much as they should' on COVID-19.

5 Still, Ontarians express a high degree of trust that the government's restrictions due to COVID-19 will be measured and appropriate.

However, their trust in its messages about the 'COVID-19 situation' and 'managing the provincial economy' has slipped.

3 However, there has been steady increase in the percentage of Ontarians who say they have lost faith in the decisions about COVID-19 by public health leaders.

Similarly, there has been gradual erosion in the belief that the government's management of the response to the Second Wave has been 'excellent/good' and a corresponding rise in the proportion who think this management has been 'poor/very poor'.

6 Reflecting the increasing concerns about rising infections cases, wearing masks or face coverings 'all of the time' (72%) and 'total all/most of the time' (90%) has risen to its highest point.

Plus, Ontarians overwhelmingly reject the protests over wearing face coverings.

Key Findings

1 The early results indicate Ontarians are skeptical that the end of COVID-19 is near given that vaccines are nearly ready and are closely following the announcements on vaccines against COVID-19.

These findings suggest frontline health workers (87%) should be first in line to receive the vaccine followed by people over 70 years old (65%) and those with underlying health issues (49%).

The results indicate Ontarians are likely to take the COVID-19 vaccine and that they think the vaccine will be safe.

8 About 7-in-10 will not celebrate the Holiday season with people outside their bubble, although a sizeable minority (just under one-quarter) say they will celebrate in-person with people they do not live with.

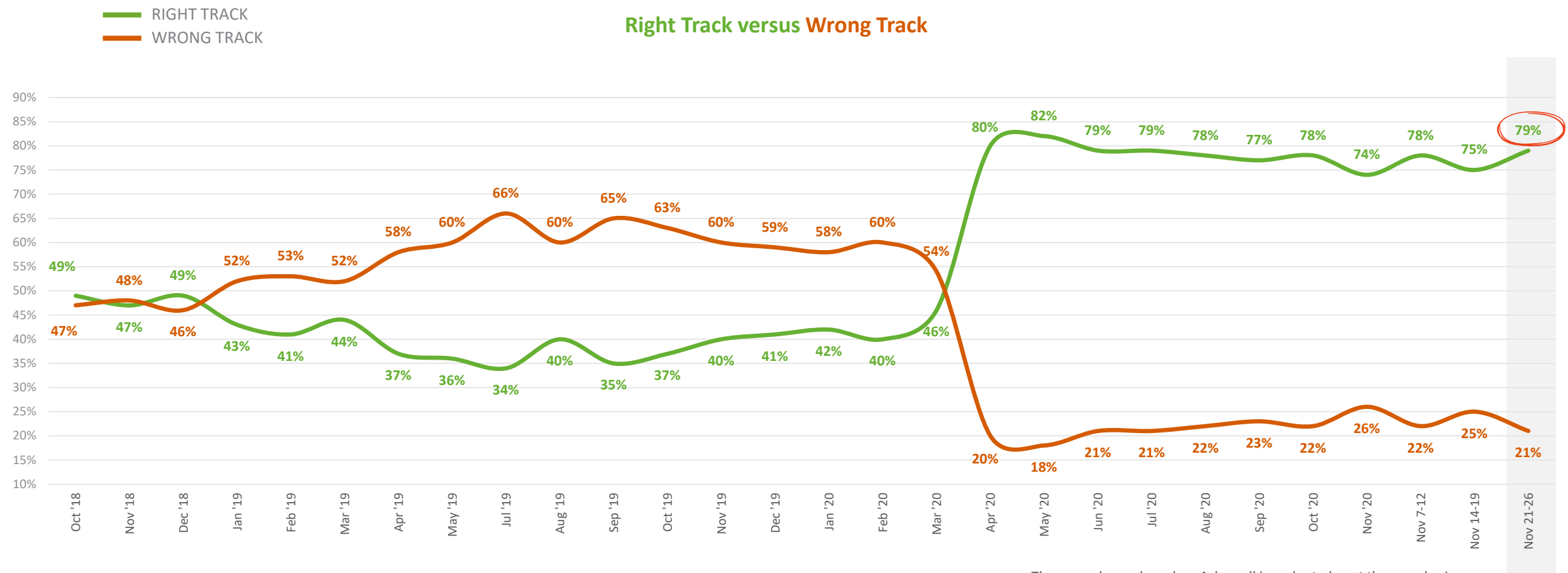
9 Ontarians think the government should put more focus on the issues women face in the province because of COVID-19.

Most Ontarians think that women have faced increased domestic violence over the past eight months.

RIGHT TRACK
WRONG TRACK



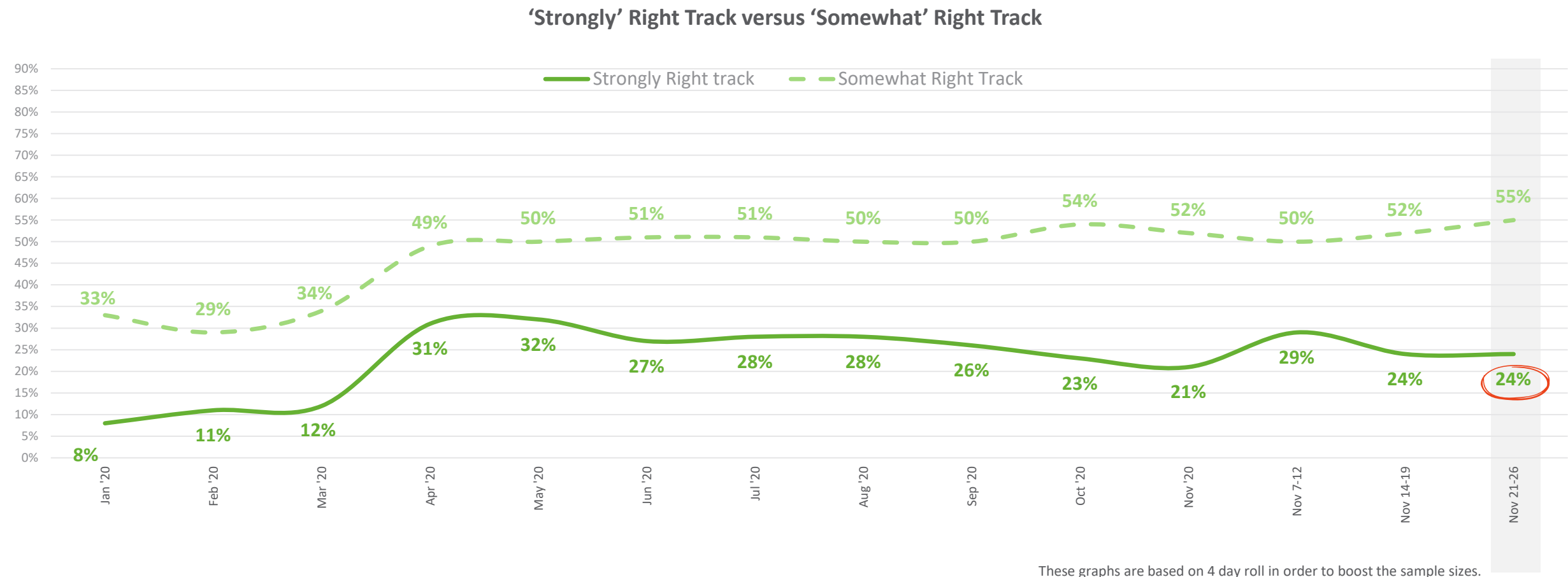
The government’s ‘right track’ scores increased this week to 79% to almost on par to scores in the spring, despite the media coverage.



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

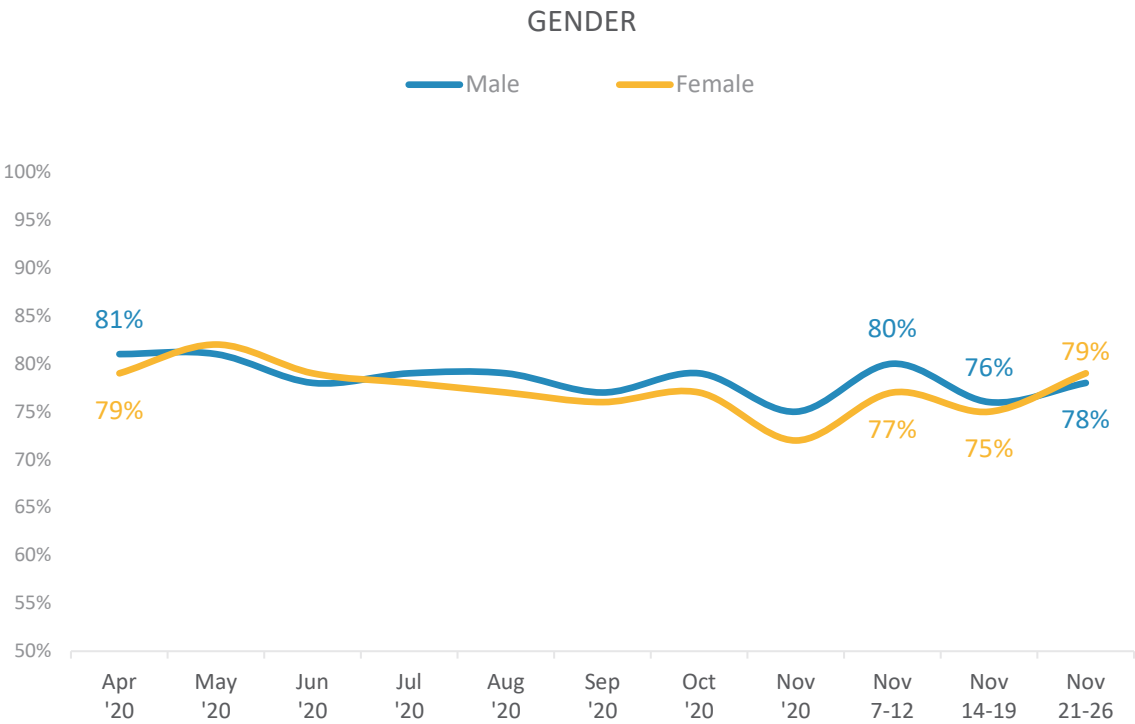
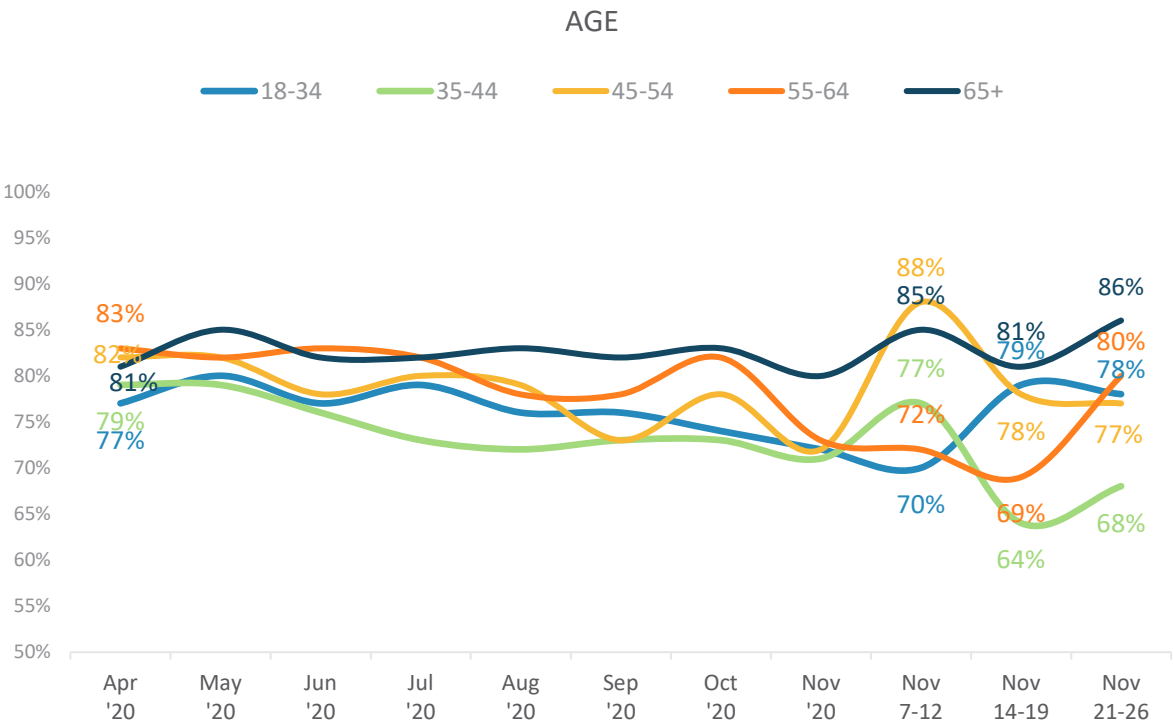
The government’s ‘strongly right track’ remains stable at 24%.



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 moved upward for most age groups except for those 18-34 and 45-54.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

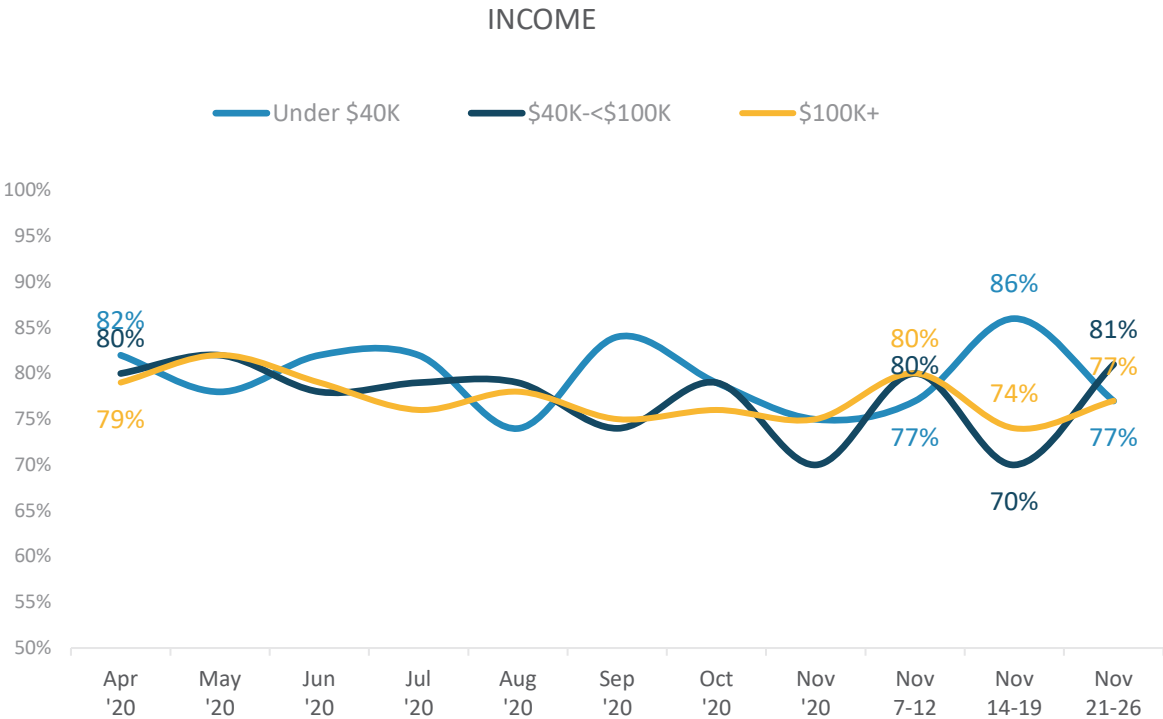
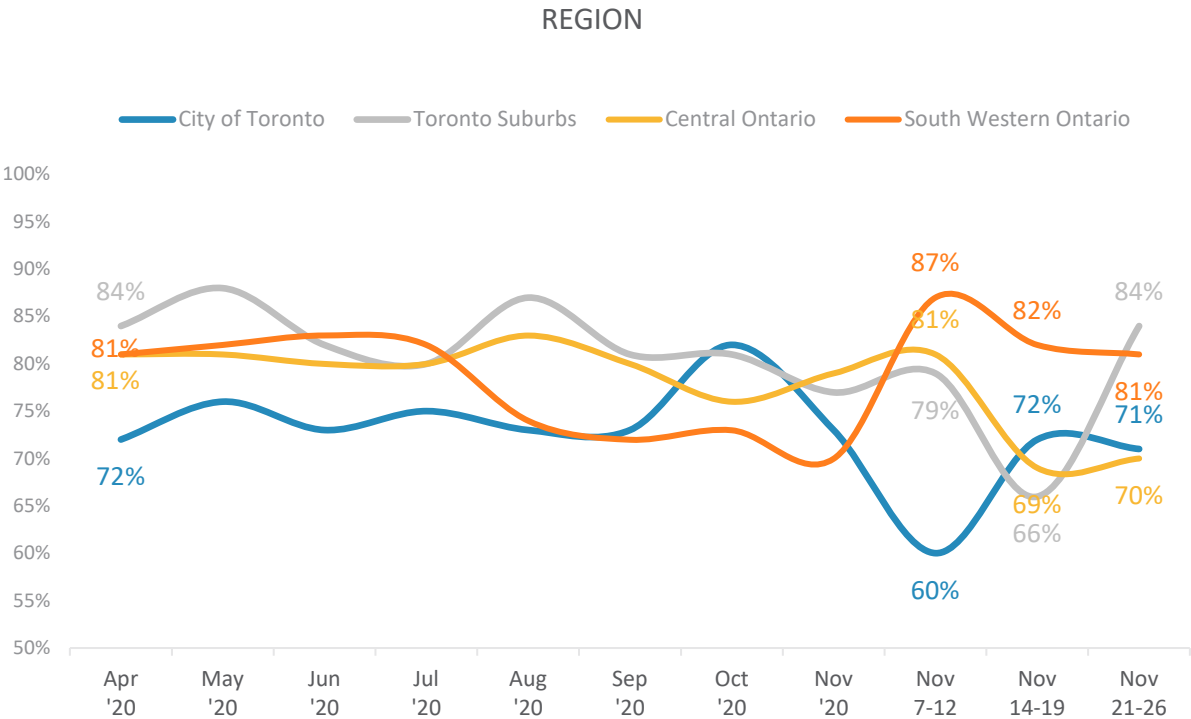


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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 upward movement in the ‘right track’ scores is primarily driven by the Toronto suburbs.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll



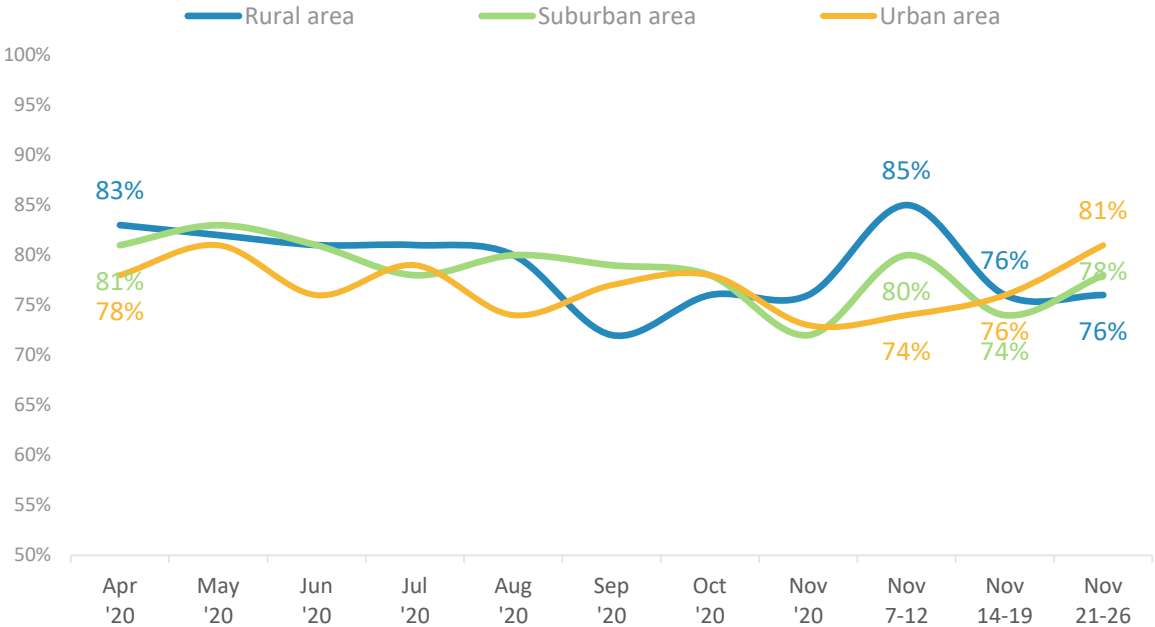
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

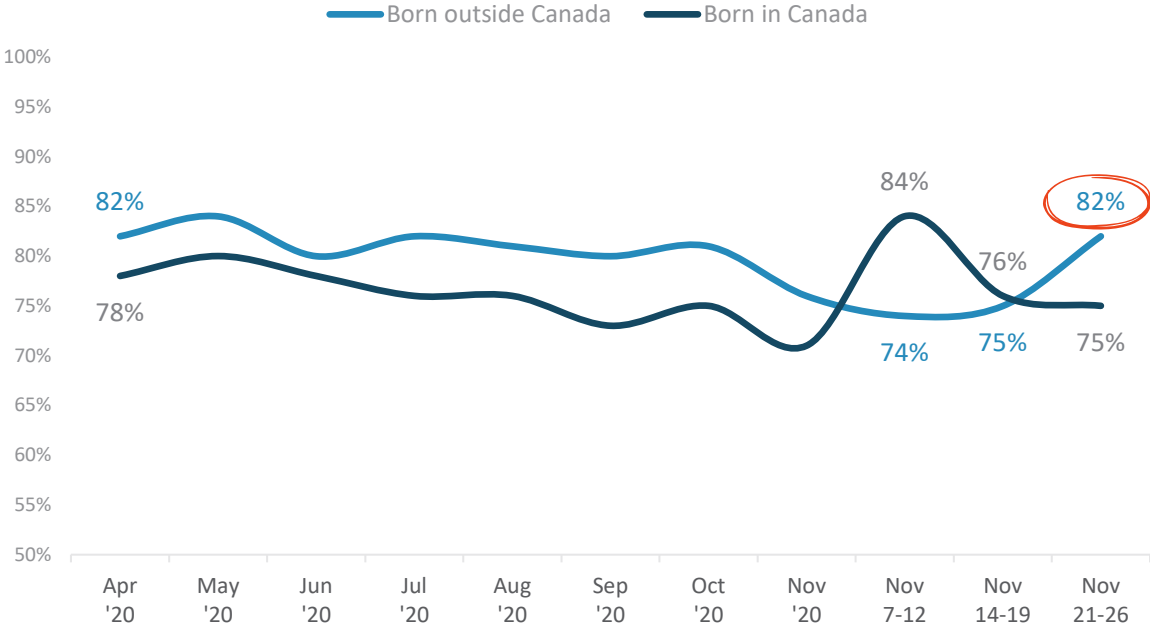
Over the past week, the ‘right track’ scores have moved upward among those born outside Canada.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



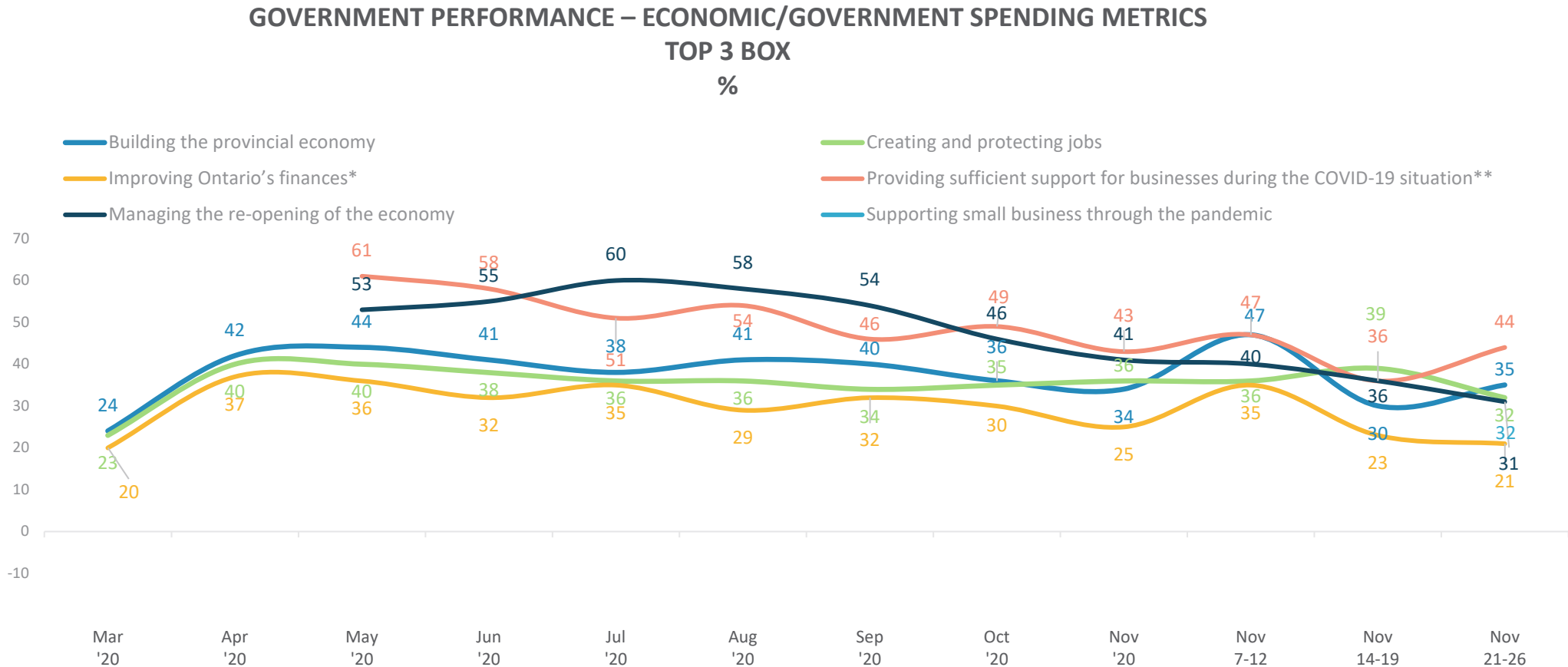
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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 ‘providing sufficient support for businesses during the COVID-19 situation’ and ‘building the provincial economy’ have improved over the past week after dipping in the previous week.



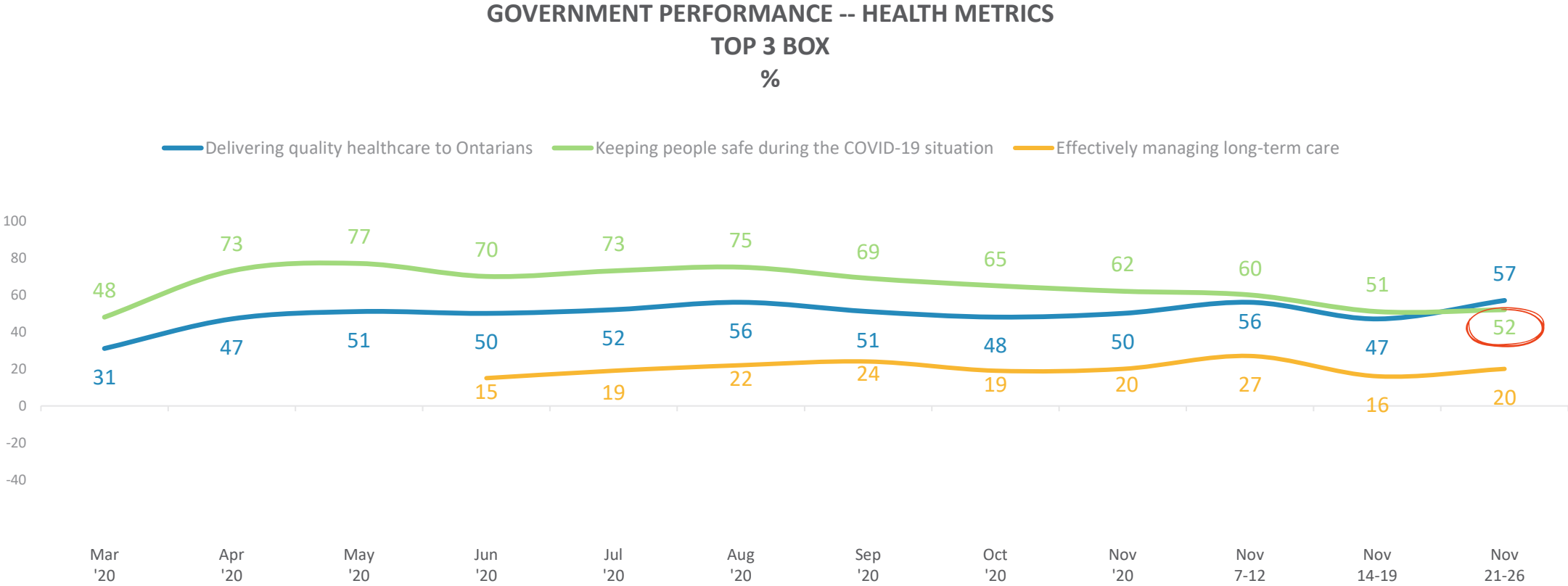
Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”

**Former phrasing: “Sufficient business support during the COVID-19 situation”

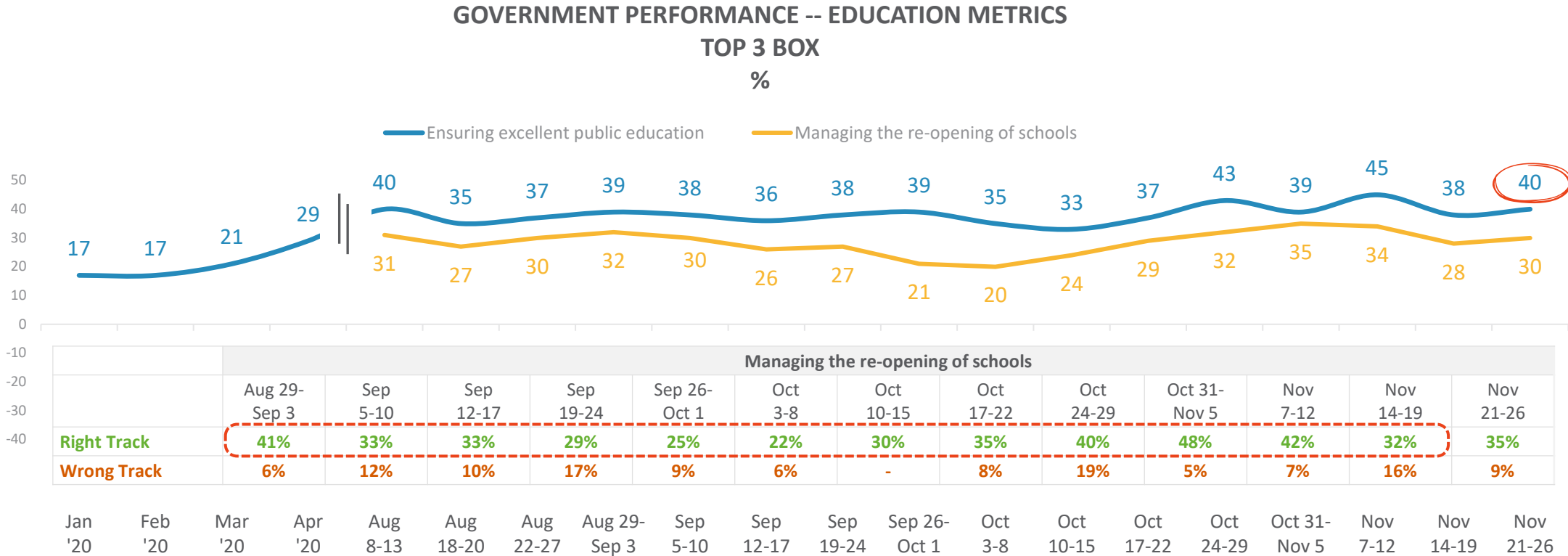
Bases vary

Despite rising infection cases, positive perceptions of the government’s performance remain stable for ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ over the past week. Perceptions on ‘delivering quality healthcare to Ontarians’ 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

Positive perceptions toward ‘ensuring excellent public education’ and ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ remains stable.



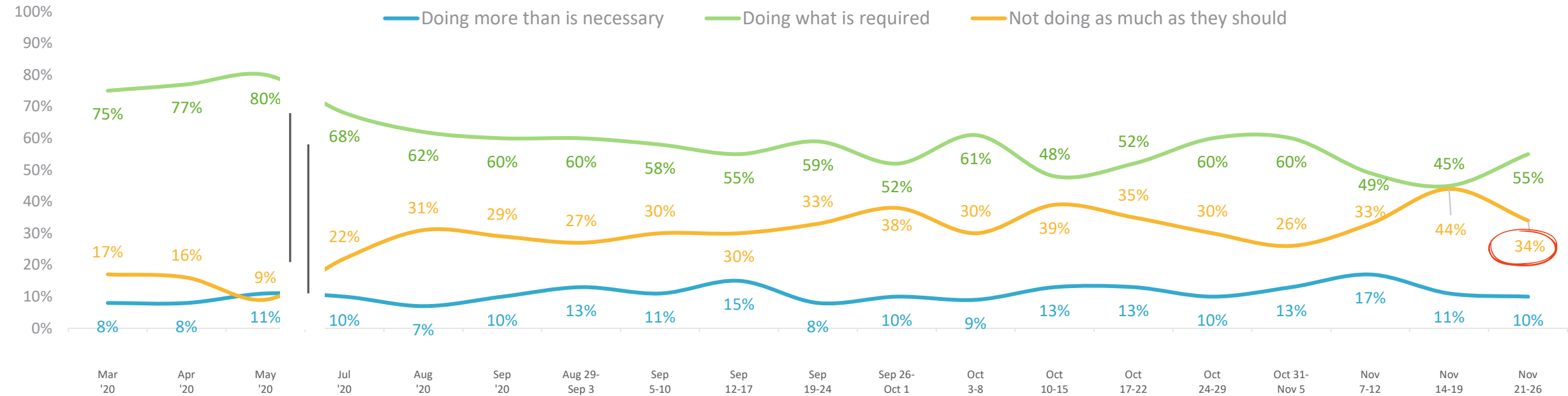
Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
Bases vary

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MEASURES

After the Toronto and Peel region lockdown announcement, there has been a drop in the number of Ontarians (44% a week ago to 34% this past week) who think the gov't is 'not doing as much as they should' on COVID-19.

- This drop can be attributed to those who see the government on the 'right track'.

	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	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	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	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
Right Track	76%	79%	82%	n/a	75%	70%	68%	67%	66%	67%	70%	59%	69%	60%	65%	73%	67%	60%	55%	65%	15%	13%	8%	n/a	15%	23%	21%	20%	21%	16%	23%	33%	25%	29%	26%	16%	18%	25%	34%	28%
Wrong Track	73%	66%	66%	n/a	42%	33%	35%	35%	30%	23%	27%	29%	22%	16%	19%	26%	39%	10%	18%	20%	21%	26%	19%	n/a	48%	57%	56%	53%	63%	66%	62%	56%	55%	67%	58%	67%	52%	65%	68%	57%



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

For the month of November, perception that the government is ‘doing what is required’ has been slowly but steadily increasing for ‘taking the necessary actions to prevent the spread of the virus’.

- Also, over this past week, there has been an increase in the proportion who think that the government is ‘doing what is required’ for managing schools and advising the public and businesses.

	% 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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Advising the public and businesses about the measures they should take to prevent the spread of the virus	70	70	70	72	65	65	72	62	67	68	65	56	66	13	12	14	10	23	19	15	18	21	11	16	23	21
Taking the necessary actions to prevent the spread of the virus	71	68	63	59	54	46	54	56	51	52	52	54	57	17	17	22	26	37	40	32	29	35	34	32	32	31
Managing the safe operation of schools	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	37	39	48	46	41	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	47	48	36	42	42	38
Ensuring the safe operation of long-term care homes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	36	26	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	52	57	62

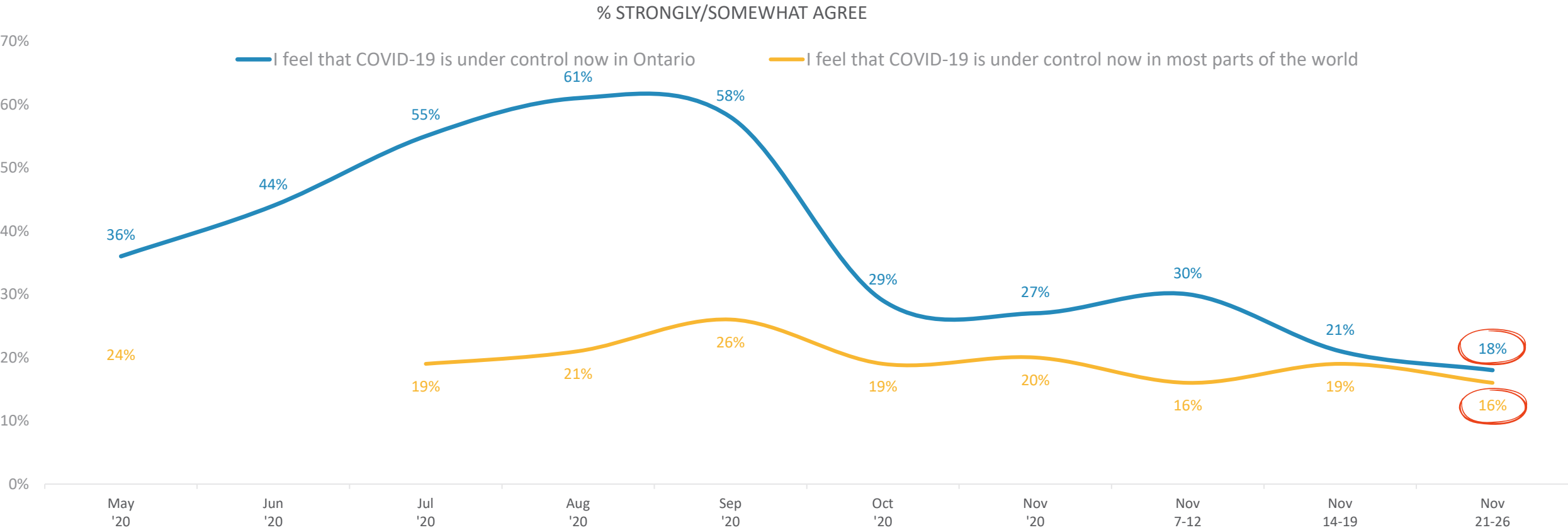
QCV-6a. For each of the following areas dealing with its response to COVID-19, is the Government of Ontario doing more than is necessary, doing what is required, or not doing as much as they should. The first is ...
Base: Total sample

COVID-19 INFECTIONS



PERCEPTIONS ABOUT WHETHER COVID-19 IS UNDER CONTROL

Ontarians increasingly believe that COVID-19 is not under control in Ontario. The gap in perceptions on whether COVID-19 is under control in Ontario versus the rest of the world has remained stable at 2-points.



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 since August (from 64% in August to 11% this past week) 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.

- Reflecting the worsening infection situation, fewer Ontarians report they are doing their best to get back to living a normal pre-COVID-19 life.

% STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT AGREE	Jun '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
I think the threat of contracting COVID-19 is much less now than it was a month ago	58	61	64	54	25	21	20	20	11
I am doing my best to get <u>back</u> to living a normal pre-COVID-19 life	71	72	76	77	67	64	62	67	60
I see people everyday not following public health guidelines, like physical distancing and mask-wearing*	76	79	74	69	71	69	66	64	62

QCV-14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
*Original phrasing: I see people everyday not following the social distancing guidelines
Base: Total sample

About 3-in-4 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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	25	22	16	11	17	17	20	17	20	25	12
Strongly agree	8	8	6	5	7	6	6	8	12	16	-
Somewhat agree	16	15	9	6	10	12	15	9	9	8	12
Neither agree nor disagree	13	10	8	9	9	8	11	8	8	5	9
Somewhat disagree	22	25	19	25	28	21	21	24	15	13	17
Strongly disagree	38	40	56	55	45	52	46	50	55	55	57
TOTAL DISAGREE	60	64	74	81	73	73	67	74	70	68	74
Not applicable	-	-	-	-	<1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Don't know	-	-	-	-	<1	2	2	1	2	2	5

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

Base: Total sample

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

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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	26	25	21	16
Strongly agree	14	15	13	8
Somewhat agree	12	9	8	8
Neither agree nor disagree	3	4	7	6
Somewhat disagree	16	18	19	14
Strongly disagree	55	52	53	61
TOTAL DISAGREE	71	70	72	75
Don't know	1	1	1	3

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

About one-third of Ontarians don't think they will 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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26																					
	n=								varies																															
									%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%																					
	TOTAL AGREE								39	36	28	30	30	29	37	34	29	26	33																					
	Strongly agree								14	14	12	14	11	12	16	13	14	14	18																					
	Somewhat agree								25	23	16	15	19	17	21	21	15	12	15																					
	Neither agree nor disagree								10	9	6	12	8	13	11	10	9	10	8																					
	Somewhat disagree								19	19	17	19	26	15	17	18	18	9	9																					
	Strongly disagree								27	31	44	36	33	41	31	32	36	49	41																					
	TOTAL DISAGREE								46	50	61	55	58	56	48	49	54	58	50																					
	Not applicable								-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1																					
	Don't know								-	-	-	-	2	1	4	6	6	6	8																					
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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
% AGREE	39%	40%	41%	47%	47%	32%	31%	40%	41%	53%	33%	38%	28%	42%	29%	39%	27%	25%	29%	31%	36%	32%	29%	25%	21%	21%	19%	42%	29%	28%	17%	40%	18%	11%	16%	21%	23%	15%	13%	20%
% DISAGREE	42%	51%	44%	43%	47%	51%	45%	40%	36%	40%	42%	45%	48%	33%	53%	50%	55%	59%	54%	49%	36%	56%	62%	44%	71%	64%	73%	42%	56%	59%	50%	60%	75%	78%	76%	66%	60%	69%	79%	70%

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

Base: Total sample

Ontarians increasingly 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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	21	19	22	15
Strongly agree	12	11	12	8
Somewhat agree	9	8	10	8
Neither agree nor disagree	3	4	2	4
Somewhat disagree	12	12	7	9
Strongly disagree	63	63	69	69
TOTAL DISAGREE	75	74	76	78
Don't know	1	2	-	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

And, there has been steady increase in the percentage of Ontarians who say they have lost faith in the decisions about COVID by public health leaders.

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

	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	27	26	30	39
Strongly agree	12	17	15	20
Somewhat agree	15	9	15	19
Neither agree nor disagree	3	5	2	10
Somewhat disagree	27	23	22	21
Strongly disagree	41	44	43	31
TOTAL DISAGREE	68	66	66	52
Not applicable	1	1	-	-
Don't know	2	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?



There has also been a gradual erosion in the belief that the government’s management of the response to the Second Wave has been ‘excellent/good’ and a corresponding rise in the proportion who think this management has been ‘poor/very poor’.

	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD	51	44	36	38
Excellent	4	7	8	5
Good	47	36	28	33
Fair	33	33	37	34
Poor	12	13	13	18
Very poor	5	9	12	9
TOTAL POOR/VERY POOR	16	22	25	27
Prefer not to answer/Don’t know	-	1	2	1

QCV-127B. Overall how 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? (Previous phrasing) 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?

Base: Total sample

DID ALL IT COULD OR COULD HAVE ACTED DIFFERENTLY

Similarly, Ontarians are gradually inclining to think the government ‘could have acted differently’ in dealing with the pandemic.

- This gradual decline is being driven largely by those who see the government on the ‘right track’.

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
All it could reasonably be expected to do	44	52	47	44	43	45	47	39	33
Could have acted differently	55	47	53	55	56	52	49	56	63
Don't know/Not sure	1	1	<1	2	1	2	3	5	4

	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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
Right Track	52%	61%	55%	49%	56%	54%	58%	46%	39%	46%	37%	44%	49%	44%	43%	39%	47%	57%
Wrong Track	12%	14%	22%	27%	17%	19%	10%	15%	10%	88%	86%	78%	72%	81%	80%	86%	84%	87%

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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	16	21	21	24	24	22	17	23	17
Strongly agree	5	8	7	12	12	11	5	13	10
Somewhat agree	11	14	13	12	12	12	12	10	8
Neither agree nor disagree	4	7	5	5	6	4	2	5	6
Somewhat disagree	21	24	24	20	21	21	16	13	17
Strongly disagree	58	47	50	49	47	52	64	57	54
TOTAL DISAGREE	79	71	73	70	68	72	80	70	71
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	5

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

IMPOSE SEVERE LOCKDOWN OR REGIONAL LOCKDOWNS

Ontarians continue to lean against another severe lockdown. However, there is a large proportion of Ontarians who would like to see a severe lockdown even if that means damage to the economy.

- Those who think the government is on the 'right track' continue to be more likely to prefer a regional approach, but there has also been a substantial increase who believe a lockdown might be needed among this group.

	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	300	300	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	40	39
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	54	56
Don't know/Not sure	2	1	<1	5	3	5	3	5	4

	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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Sep 26-Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
Right Track	32%	28%	24%	31%	30%	21%	27%	39%	40%	66%	70%	75%	66%	68%	74%	71%	55%	57%
Wrong Track	36%	36%	42%	35%	41%	31%	40%	43%	39%	57%	64%	58%	56%	54%	61%	56%	51%	54%

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 increasingly understand that the overall public health approach may create more negative mental health/job impacts.

*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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	40	46	51	52
Strongly agree	20	28	36	32
Somewhat agree	20	18	14	20
Neither agree nor disagree	10	6	5	13
Somewhat disagree	26	18	13	9
Strongly disagree	23	26	26	25
TOTAL DISAGREE	49	44	39	33
Not applicable	1	1	2	-
Don't know	1	3	4	1

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

Base: Total sample

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

	Oct 24-29	Oct 31-Nov 5	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	300	180	300	150
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORT	85	81	87	85
Strongly support	57	56	60	57
Somewhat support	28	25	26	27
Somewhat oppose	7	11	4	5
Strongly oppose	7	8	6	10
TOTAL OPPOSE	14	19	10	15
Don't know/not sure	1	<1	3	1

QCV-149. 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?

Base: Total sample

There is considerable support for regions adding their own restrictions on top of the ones imposed by the Province.

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	300	150
	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORTIVE	83	83
Very supportive	52	47
Somewhat supportive	31	36
Not too supportive	7	6
Not at all supportive	8	10
TOTAL NOT SUPPORTIVE	15	16
Don't know/Not sure	2	1

QCV-155. As you may know, the Ontario government has developed a framework for activities that are allowed or restricted based on the rate of infections in an area. It has also allowed some regions to add their own restrictions on top of the restrictions in the Ontario government framework, due to their specific circumstances. Overall how supportive or not are you of the government allowing regions to impose their own restrictions on top of those set by the province?

Base: Total sample

Ontarians think these increased regional restrictions will be effective in controlling the spread of COVID-19.

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	300	150
	%	%
TOTAL EFFECTIVE	74	76
Very effective	24	24
Somewhat effective	50	52
Somewhat ineffective	11	11
Very ineffective	9	11
TOTAL INEFFECTIVE	21	21
Don't know/Not sure	5	3

LEVEL OF FATIGUE WITH COVID-19 MITIGATION MEASURES

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	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies												
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	37	26	30	25	18	38	24	33	38	36	33	38	38
Strongly agree	21	16	15	16	6	23	12	14	20	24	23	28	24
Somewhat agree	16	10	15	9	12	15	11	19	17	12	11	11	15
Neither agree nor disagree	4	3	5	5	6	4	8	7	8	4	4	2	1
Somewhat disagree	15	21	21	19	18	14	15	13	14	19	16	12	8
Strongly disagree	44	49	44	50	58	41	53	46	41	40	46	48	52
TOTAL DISAGREE	59	70	65	69	76	56	68	59	54	59	62	59	59
Don't know	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	1	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

MASK WEARING PERCEPTIONS



FREQUENCY OF FACE MASK WEARING

Reflecting the increasing concerns about rising infections cases, wearing masks or face coverings ‘all of the time’(72%) and ‘total all/most of the time’ (90%) has risen to its highest point.

	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	1752	1200	1200	1200	1200	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	60	77	83	87	88	90	89	90
All of the time	29	49	55	63	67	68	71	72
Most of the time	30	28	28	24	21	22	18	18
Some of the time	23	16	12	9	9	6	6	7
Rarely	14	7	4	3	3	2	4	3
Never	3	1	1	1	1	1	<1	1
RARELY/NEVER	17	8	5	4	3	4	5	3

REGIONS	City of Toronto			Toronto Suburbs			Hamilton			Central Ontario			South Western Ontario			Northern Ontario			Eastern Ontario			Ottawa		
	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	91%	94%	96%	89%	89%	91%	86%	75%	95%	83%	89%	85%	86%	86%	86%	89%	93%	88%	92%	91%	91%	87%	90%	87%

	RIGHT TRACK			WRONG TRACK		
	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov '20	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	90%	90%	93%	82%	87%	79%

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

Most Ontarians do not support the protests over mask wearing. However, there appears to be a sizeable portion (about 1-in-4) who ‘strongly’ agree with the idea of these protests.

Those protesting mask wearing and other pandemic restrictions have my support

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	28	30
Strongly agree	21	25
Somewhat agree	7	6
Neither agree nor disagree	2	2
Somewhat disagree	4	4
Strongly disagree	66	64
TOTAL DISAGREE	70	67
Don't know	<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

VACCINE



The early results suggest that Ontarians are skeptical that the end of COVID-19 is near given that vaccines are nearly ready.

I am confident the end of COVID-19 is near now that it appears a vaccine is nearly ready

	Nov 21-26
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	35
Strongly agree	12
Somewhat agree	23
Neither agree nor disagree	10
Somewhat disagree	18
Strongly disagree	32
TOTAL DISAGREE	50
Don't know	5

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

The early results suggest that Ontarians are closely following the announcements on vaccines against COVID-19.

	Nov 21-26
n=	150
	%
TOTAL CLOSELY	78
Very closely	46
Somewhat closely	33
Not very closely	13
Not at all	7
TOTAL NOT VERY CLOSELY/NOT AT ALL	20
Don't know/not sure	2

QCV-160. As you may know, there has been a series of announcements on vaccines against the COVID-19 virus. How closely are you following the news about these new vaccines?

Base: Total sample

The early findings suggest that frontline health workers should be first in line to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The next two groups should be people over 70 years old and those with underlying health issues.

All Mentions

	Nov 21-26
n=	150
	%
Frontline health workers	87
People over 70 years old	65
People with underlying health issues	49
People living in long-term care homes	33
Essential retail workers such as those working in grocery and drug stores	33
All Ontarians over the age of 18	17
Teachers	10
Restaurant and bar workers	3
Non-essential retail workers such as those working in clothing and electronic stores, among others	3

QCV-161. Once the vaccine for COVID-19 is available, the Ontario government will be responsible for distributing the vaccine. In your opinion, which group of people should be prioritized to get the vaccine first? Who should be given second priority? Third priority?

Base: Total sample

The early findings suggest that Ontarians are likely to take the COVID-19 vaccine if given the opportunity to take it.

	Nov 21-26
n=	150
	%
TOTAL LIKELY	70
Very likely	50
Somewhat likely	20
Somewhat unlikely	13
Very unlikely	12
TOTAL UNLIKELY	24
Don't know/not sure	6

QCV-162. If you are given an opportunity to take the COVID-19 vaccine, would you be very likely, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely, or not very likely take it?

Base: Total sample

The preliminary results suggests that Ontarians believe the COVID-19 vaccine will be safe. Only 11% say it won't be safe.

	Nov 21-26
n=	150
	%
TOTAL SAFE	75
Very safe	34
Somewhat safe	41
Not very safe	5
Not at all safe	6
TOTAL NOT SAFE	11
Don't know/not sure	13

QCV-162. Do you believe the COVID-19 vaccine would be very safe, somewhat safe, not very safe, or not at all safe for people to take?

Base: Total sample

HOLIDAY SEASON CELEBRATIONS



PLANS TO CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Most Ontarians do not plan to gather with friends and family (those outside their bubble) to celebrate the Holiday season. However, there is a relatively small but significant group who plan to celebrate the Holiday season with people outside their bubble.

I plan to celebrate the Holiday season this year by forgetting about COVID-19 for a few days and gathering with family and friends I do not live with

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	15	13
Strongly agree	8	8
Somewhat agree	7	6
Neither agree nor disagree	5	7
Somewhat disagree	12	11
Strongly disagree	65	66
TOTAL DISAGREE	77	78
Don't know	2	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

Similarly, about 7-in-10 will not celebrate the Holiday season with people outside their bubble, although a sizeable minority say they will celebrate in-person with people they do not live with.

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	300	300
	%	%
Celebrate in-person with people you do not live with	22	21
Celebrate in-person only with the people who live in your immediate household	72	74
Don't know/Not sure	5	6

QCV-157. The Holiday season is approaching. Which of the following are you most likely to do over the Holiday season?
Base: Total sample

The preliminary results suggest that Ontarians will not celebrate the Holiday season in the usual manner. However, there is about one-quarter who think otherwise.

I plan to celebrate Holiday season this year in the way I usually do

	Nov 21-26
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	24
Strongly agree	17
Somewhat agree	7
Neither agree nor disagree	2
Somewhat disagree	13
Strongly disagree	57
TOTAL DISAGREE	69
Not applicable	-
Don't know	5

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

Base: Total sample

The early results suggest that an even higher proportion Ontarians envision a quieter Holiday season. Ontarians recognize that this will be a different Holiday season.

I plan a much quieter Holiday season than normal

	Nov 21-26
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	89
Strongly agree	75
Somewhat agree	14
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Somewhat disagree	2
Strongly disagree	4
TOTAL DISAGREE	6
Not applicable	-
Don't know	1

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

Base: Total sample

The preliminary results suggest that Ontarians will overwhelmingly follow the government’s guidelines on celebrating this year’s Holiday season.

*I plan to follow whatever the provincial government guidelines are
for how to celebrate Holiday season*

	Nov 21-26
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	90
Strongly agree	72
Somewhat agree	17
Neither agree nor disagree	1
Somewhat disagree	3
Strongly disagree	5
TOTAL DISAGREE	8
Not applicable	1
Don’t know	1

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

Base: Total sample

The early results indicate that about two-thirds of Ontarians plan to celebrate Holiday season virtually.

There are ways I will celebrate the Holiday season virtually this year

	Nov 21-26
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	67
Strongly agree	43
Somewhat agree	24
Neither agree nor disagree	4
Somewhat disagree	7
Strongly disagree	18
TOTAL DISAGREE	26
Not applicable	2
Don't know	1

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

Base: Total sample

The preliminary results suggest that just under one-third of Ontarians are willing to take advice on being creative in celebrating the Holiday season virtually.

I'd like some advice on how to be creative in celebrating Holiday season virtually

	Nov 21-26
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	31
Strongly agree	16
Somewhat agree	15
Neither agree nor disagree	9
Somewhat disagree	13
Strongly disagree	43
TOTAL DISAGREE	56
Not applicable	1
Don't know	4

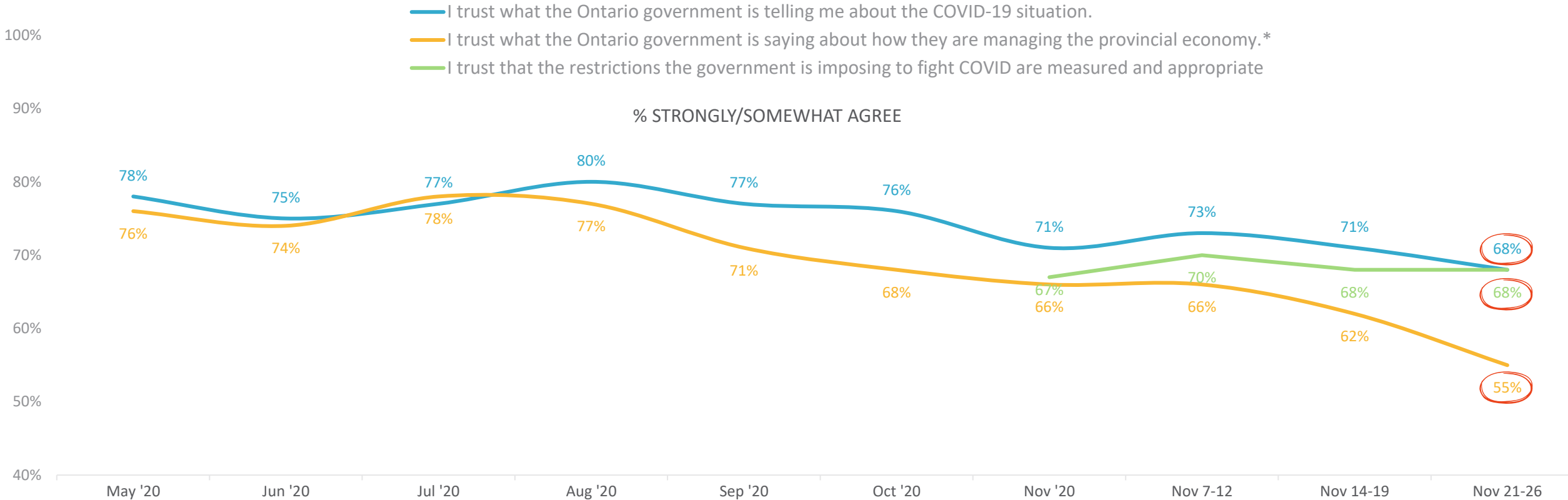
QCV-14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



Ontarians still express a high degree of trust that the government’s restrictions due to COVID-19 will be measured and appropriate. However, their trust in its messages about the ‘COVID-19 situation’ and ‘managing the provincial economy’ have slipped.



QCV-8B. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the effects of COVID-19. The first is ...
* 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

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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
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	47	28
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	27	24

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

Base: Total sample

IMPACT ON WOMEN FROM COVID-19



Ontarians think the government should put more focus on the issues women face in the province because of COVID-19.

The Ontario government should put more focus on the issues women face in the province because of COVID

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	69	61
Strongly agree	43	33
Somewhat agree	26	28
Neither agree nor disagree	7	9
Somewhat disagree	6	8
Strongly disagree	10	12
TOTAL DISAGREE	15	20
Not applicable	1	-
Don't know	8	10

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

Base: Total sample

Many Ontarians think that women have faced increased domestic violence over the past eight months.

*In the last 8 months, increasing domestic violence against women
has become a significant issue in Ontario*

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	67	63
Strongly agree	43	46
Somewhat agree	24	18
Neither agree nor disagree	5	6
Somewhat disagree	2	5
Strongly disagree	4	4
TOTAL DISAGREE	6	9
Not applicable	2	1
Don't know	21	20

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

Base: Total sample

Ontarians are concerned about human trafficking of women and girls in Ontario. The intensity of the concern is also high.

I am concerned about human trafficking of women and girls in Ontario.

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	80	78
Strongly agree	68	59
Somewhat agree	12	19
Neither agree nor disagree	4	2
Somewhat disagree	2	3
Strongly disagree	4	5
TOTAL DISAGREE	6	8
Not applicable	1	-
Don't know	8	12

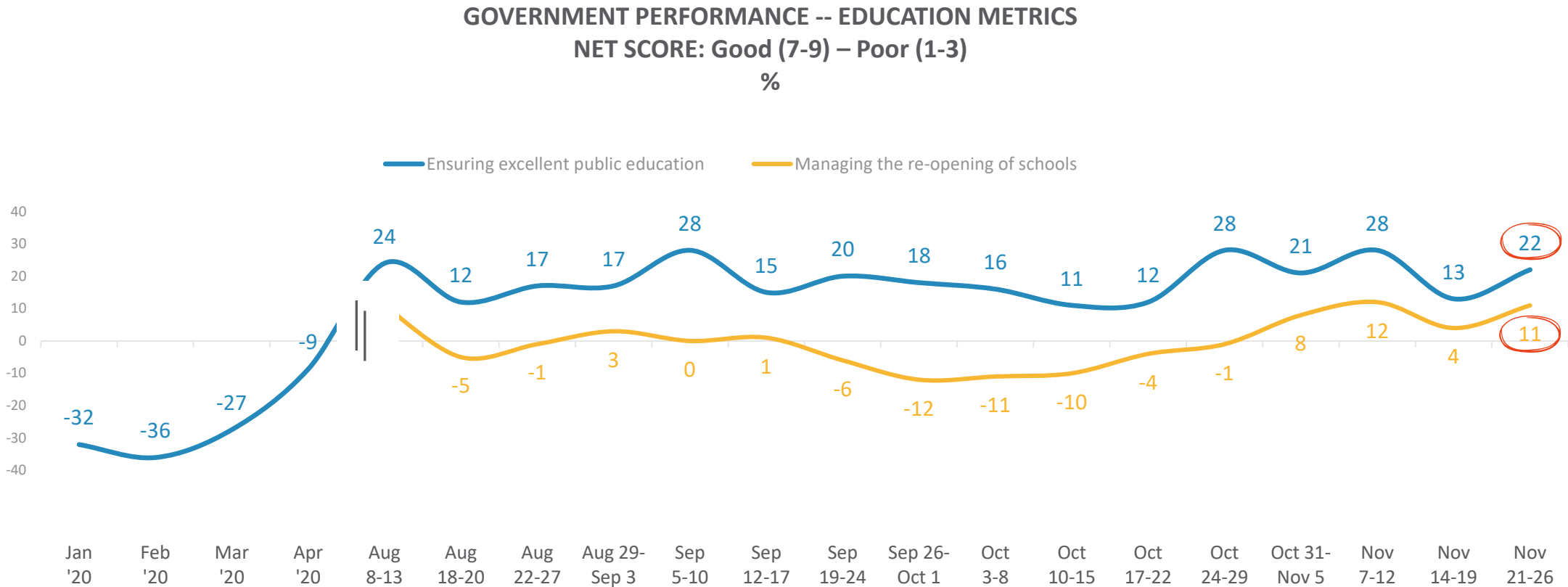
QCV-14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

APPENDIX

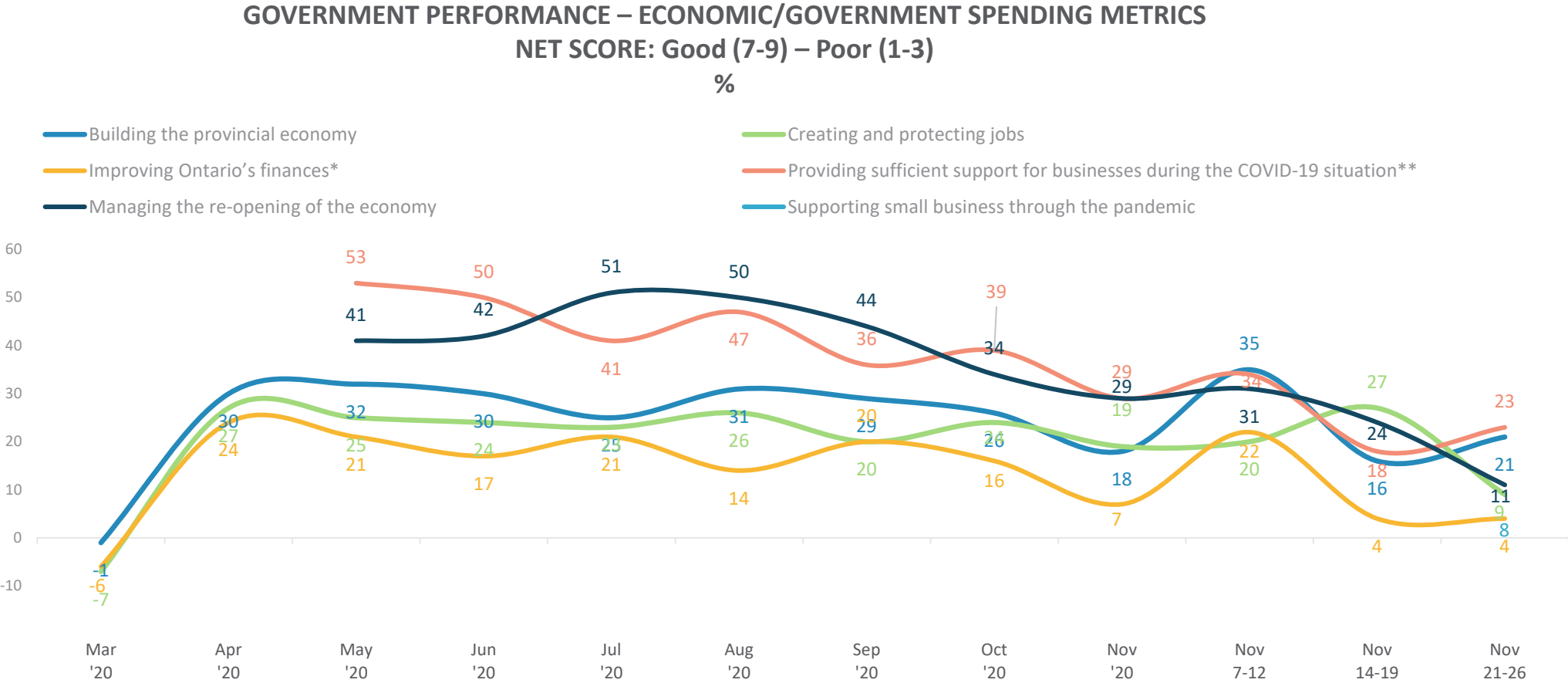


Considering both positive/negative ratings, perceptions toward the government’s performance on ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ and ‘ensuring excellent public education’ have improved.



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 have dropped significantly on ‘creating and protecting jobs’ and ‘managing the re-opening of the economy.’



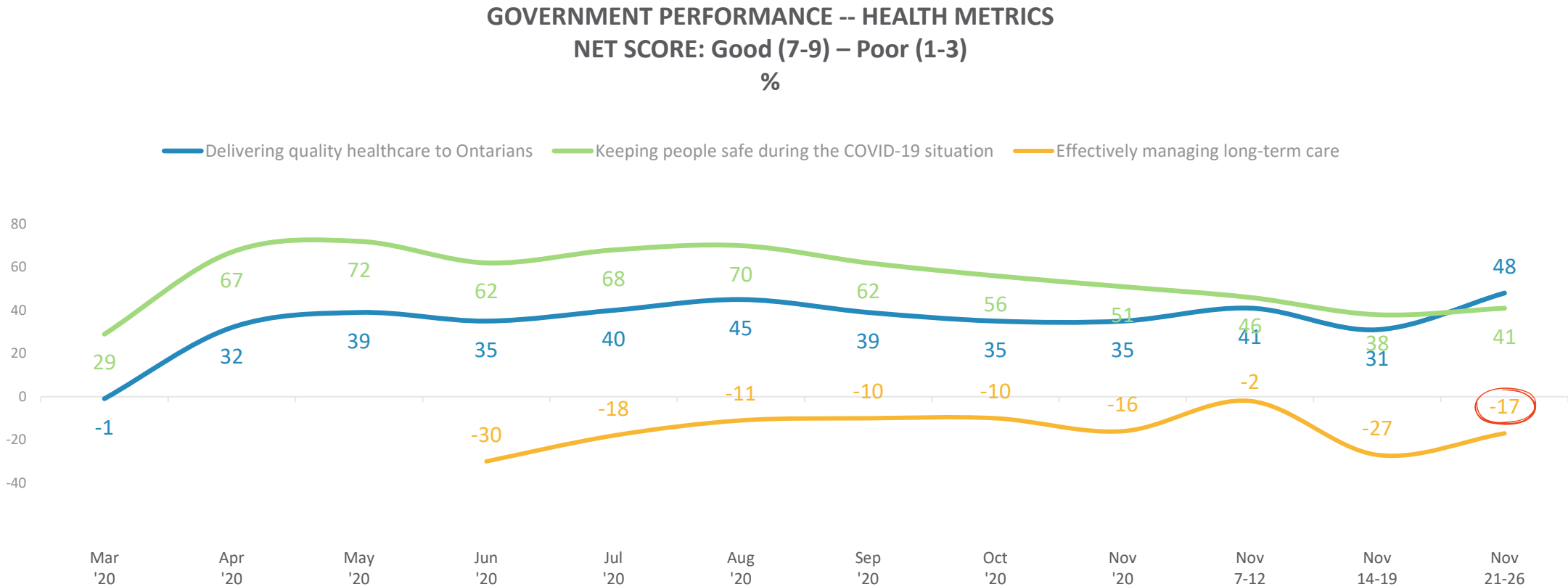
Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

*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 an improvement in ‘delivering quality healthcare to Ontarians’, while remaining stable on its performance on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’. There has been a rebound in ‘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