

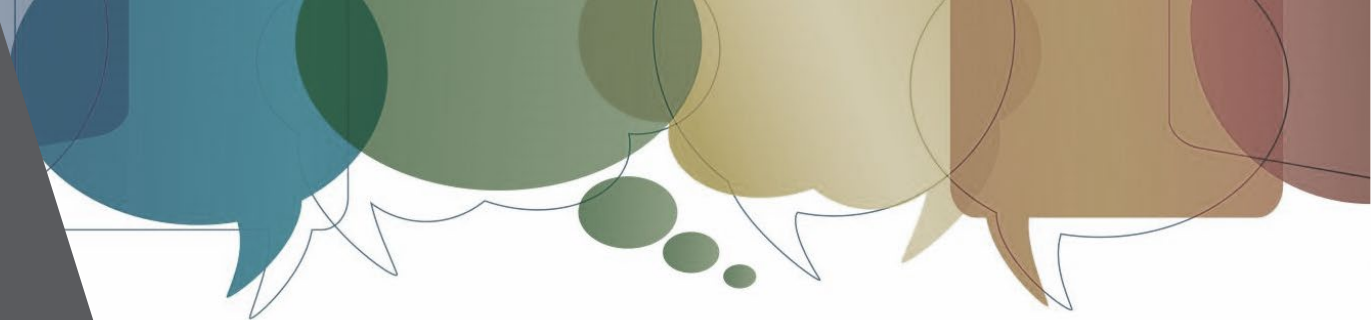


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PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #60

Vaccine Task Force Update

CABINET OFFICE

December 11th 2020



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 The government's 'right track' scores have rebounded to 75% after slipping following the release of the Auditor General report.

The increase of the 'right track' scores are largely due to men, those earning under \$40k, and those born outside Canada.

2 The 'COVID-19' priority has increased to its highest point since the start of the pandemic: 64%

The 'economy' remains as a secondary priority, but it trails 'COVID-19' significantly. 'Education' has largely disappeared as a priority.

3 Perceptions of the government's performance have gradually been dropping on most economic metrics since August.

There has been a slight positive bounce on some of the economic metrics this past week.

4 Paralleling the general decline in the economic metrics, there has been a steady decline in the perception of its performance on 'keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation' since August.

Similarly, there have been drops on 'effectively managing long-term care' and 'delivering quality healthcare to Ontarians' since the summer.

5 On a positive front, perceptions toward its performance on education metrics remain positive and stable.

6 Most Ontarians are closely following the news on the progress of the vaccine. Their interest in this news story has increased over the past week.

Many Ontarians are likely to take the COVID-19 vaccine if given the opportunity to take it. Just over 1-in-2 say they would 'very' likely take it. The level of likelihood appears to be rising – about 78% in the latest wave compared to 71% last week.

Key Findings

Trust in messaging from the government on the 'COVID-19 situation' and 'managing the provincial economy' has rebounded this past week. In contrast, Ontarians are less likely to trust that restrictions will be measured and appropriate – still, trust remains high (62%) on this consideration.

Despite increasing infection rates and perhaps related to the vaccine news, Ontarians are slightly more likely to think COVID-19 is getting a bit more under control in Ontario as well as in other parts of the world.

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

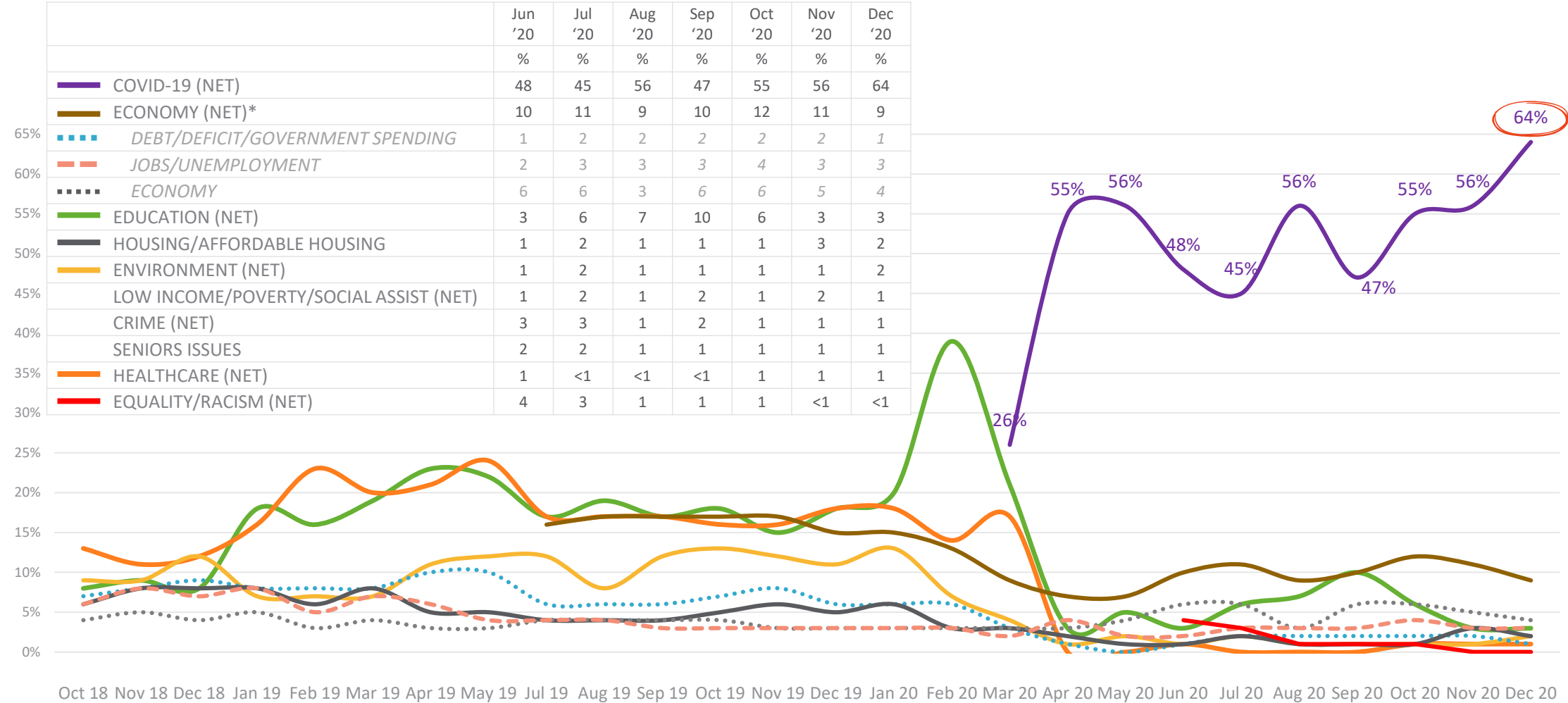
Most Ontarians think that women have faced increased domestic violence over the past eight months.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



ONTARIANS' TOP PRIORITIES REQUIRING ATTENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT

The 'COVID-19' priority has increased to its highest point: 64%. The 'economy' remains as a secondary priority, but it trails 'COVID-19' significantly, while 'Education' has largely disappeared as a priority.



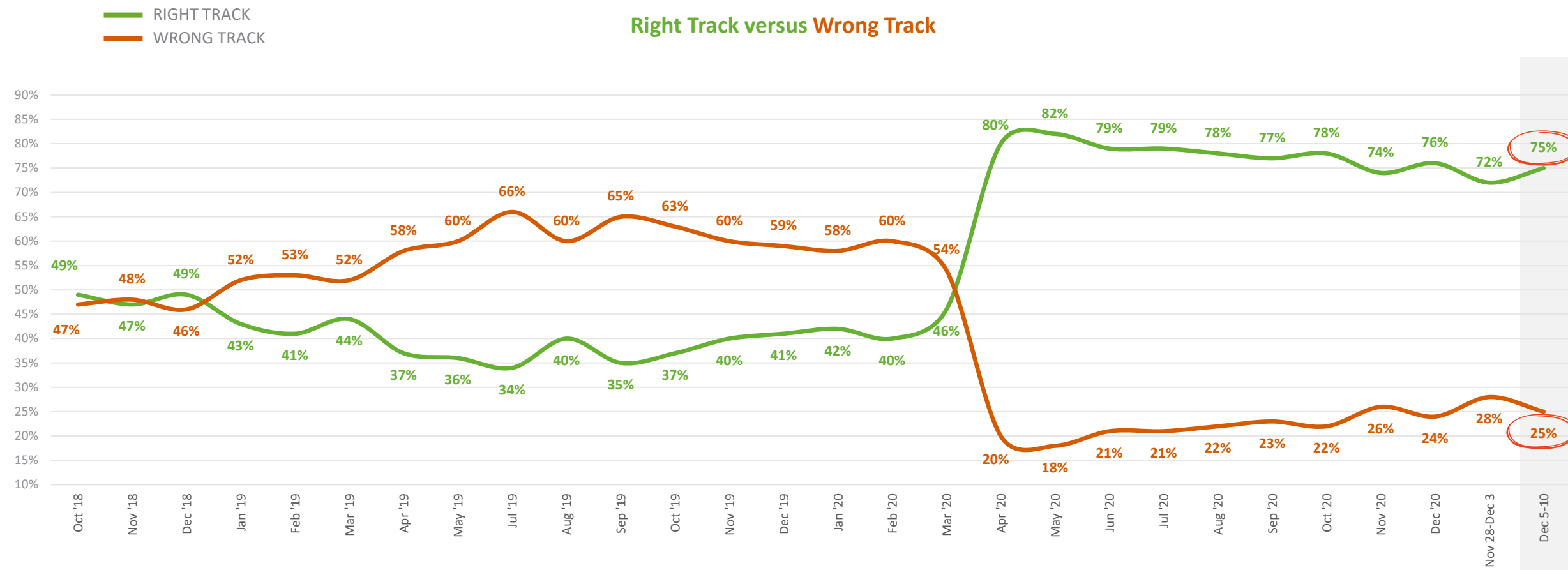
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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



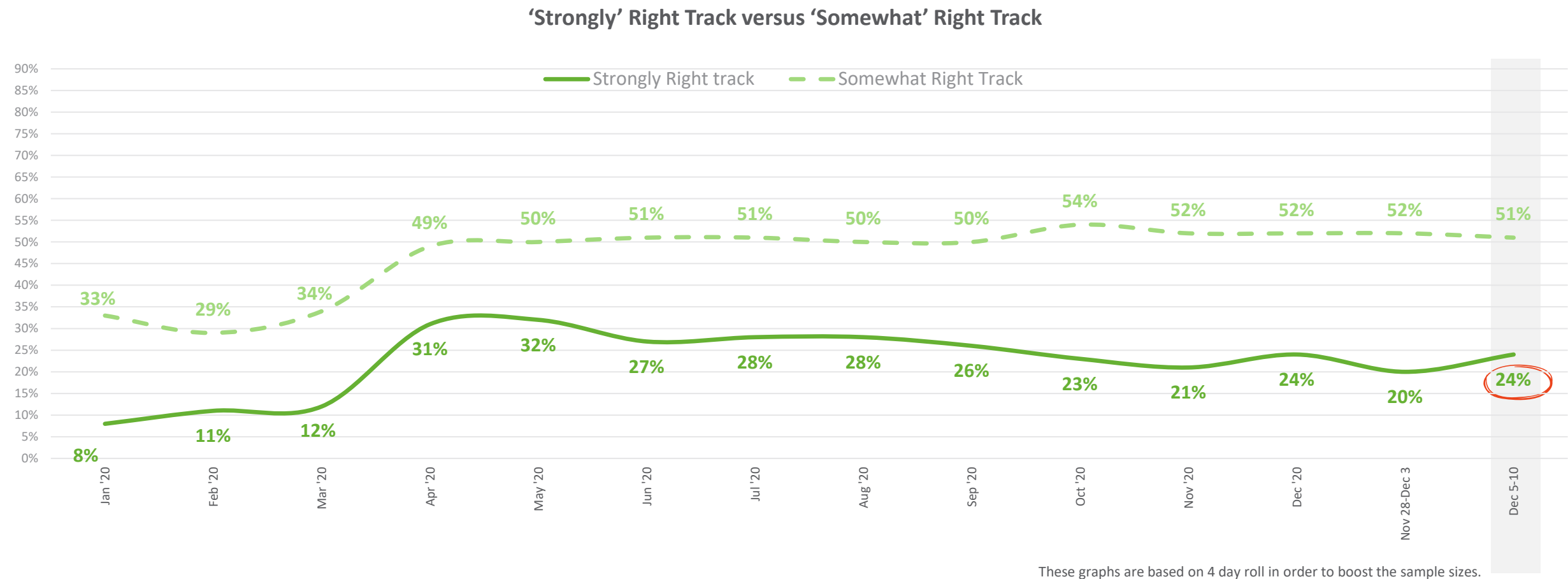
The government’s ‘right track’ scores rebounded slightly to 75% after declining following the release of the AG report. At the same time, ‘wrong track’ scores have inched downward to 25%.



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

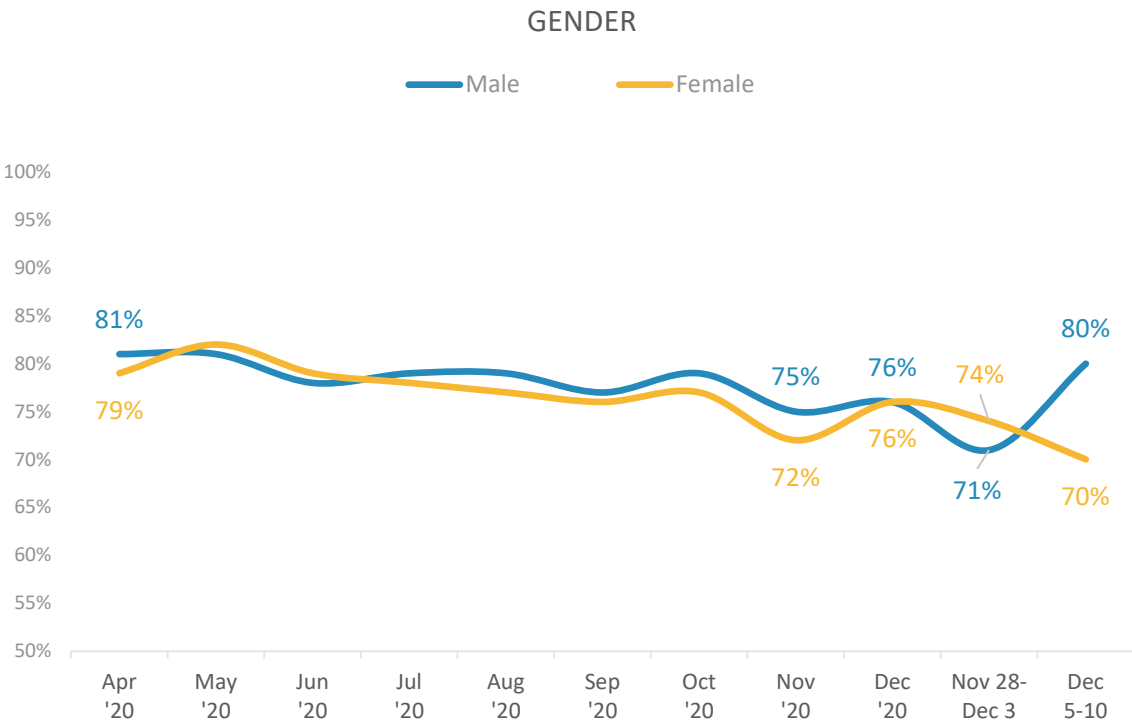
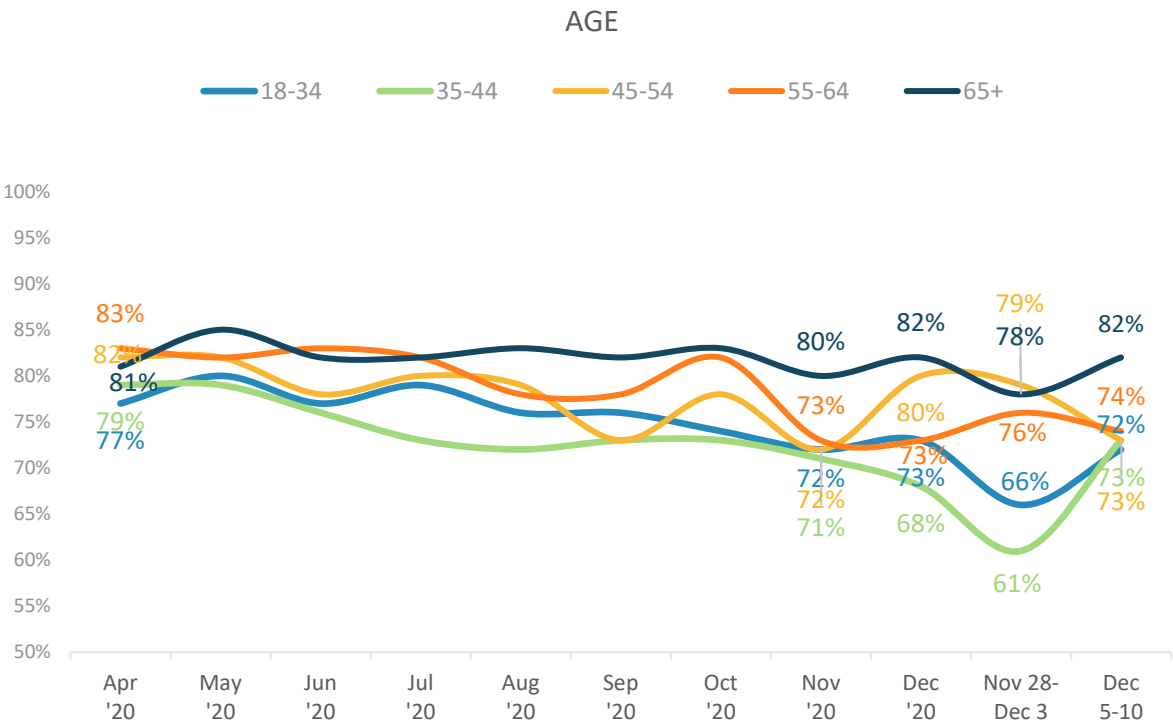
Similarly, the government’s ‘strongly right track’ scores also rebounded slightly over the past week.



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 slight rebound in the ‘right track’ scores are being driven by men.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

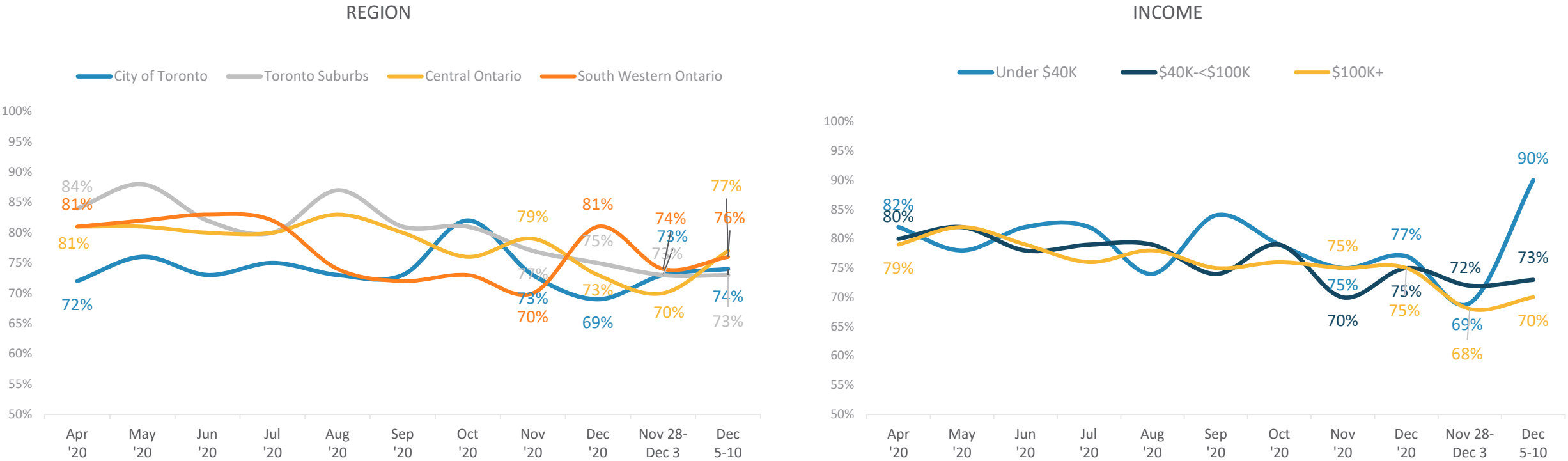


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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 improved ‘right track’ scores are coming from those earning <\$40k. It is noteworthy that since August, these scores have trended downward among those living in the Toronto suburbs.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll



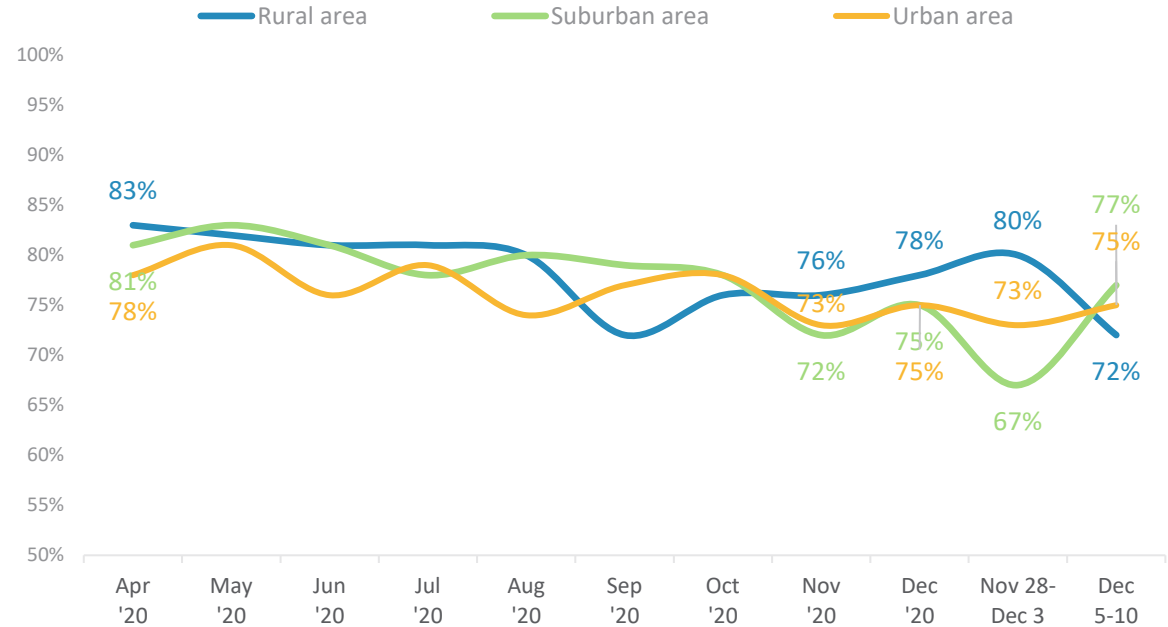
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

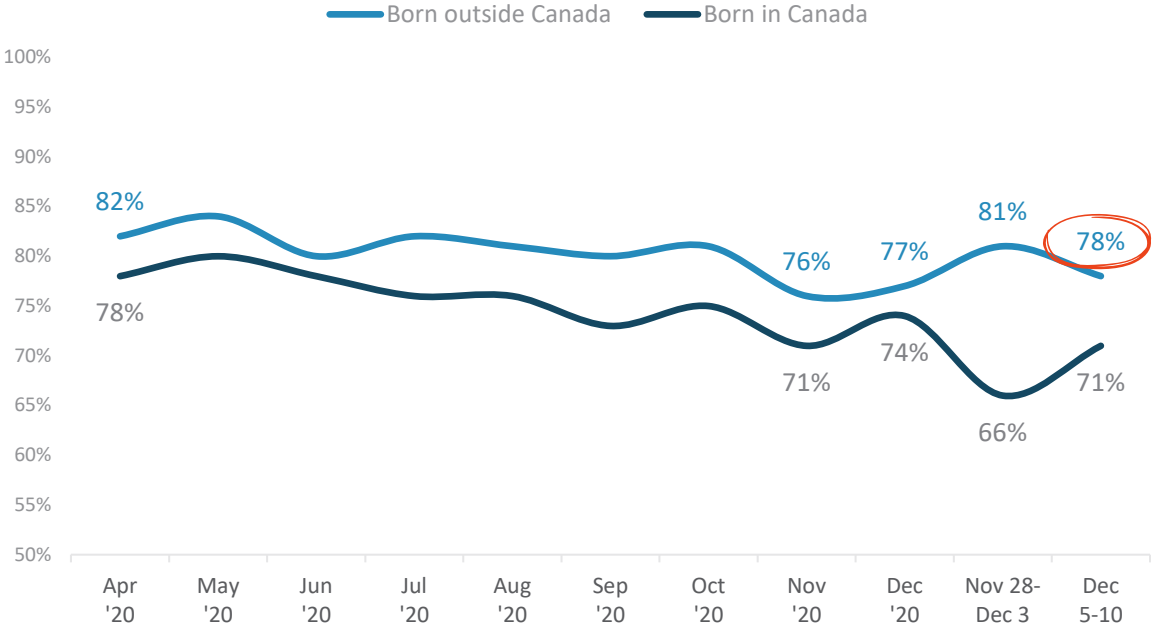
Over the past week, the ‘right track’ scores remained stable among those born outside Canada and remain well above those born in Canada.

Right Track Scores – 6-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



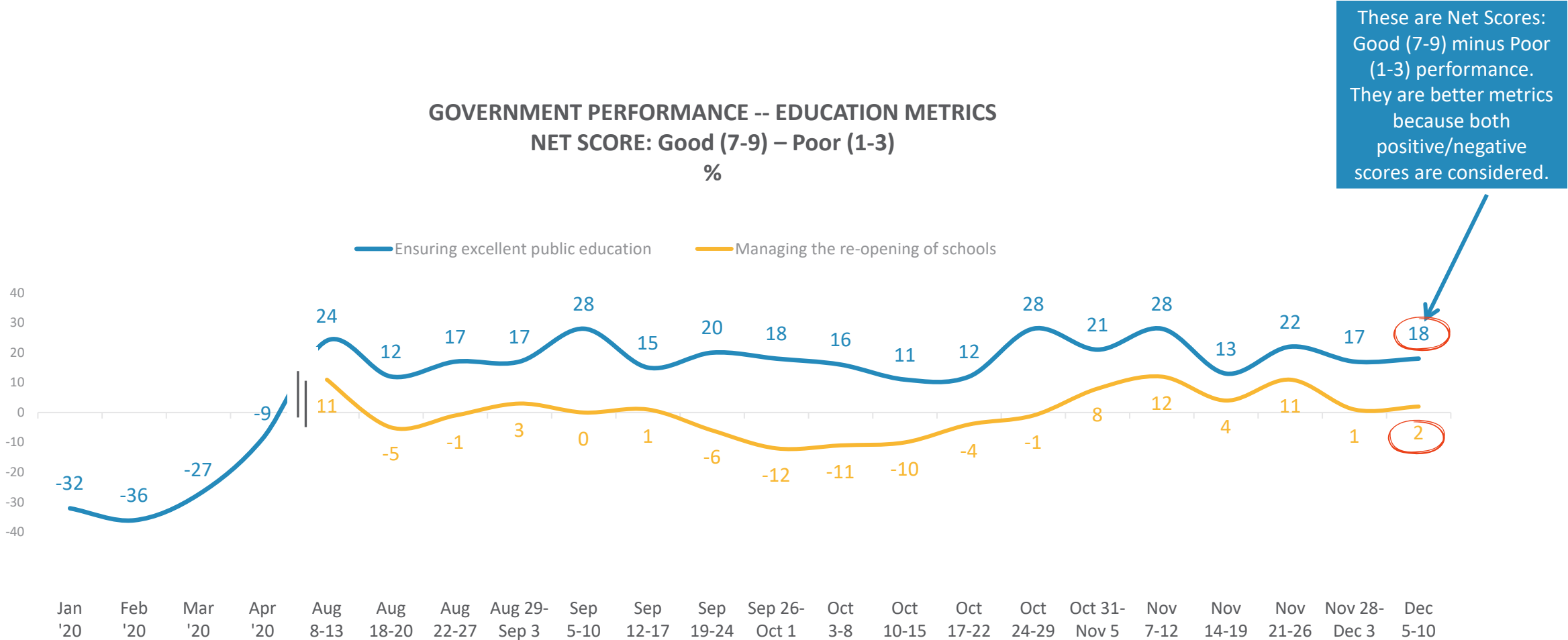
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

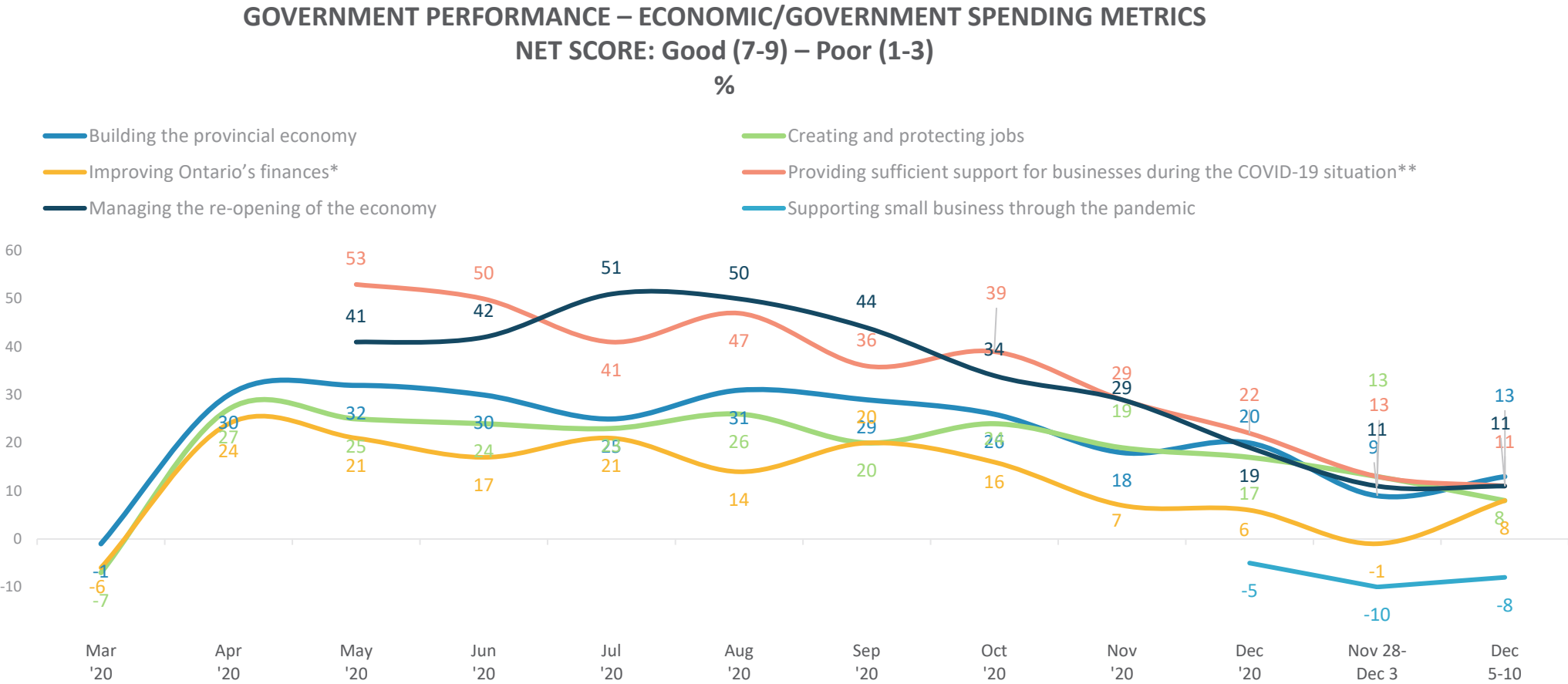


Considering both positive/negative ratings, perceptions toward the government’s performance on ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ and ‘ensuring excellent public education’ remain largely stable.



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

When considering both positive/negative ratings, perceptions of the government’s performance have gradually been dropping on most economic metrics since August. There has been a slight positive bounce on some of the economic metrics this past week.



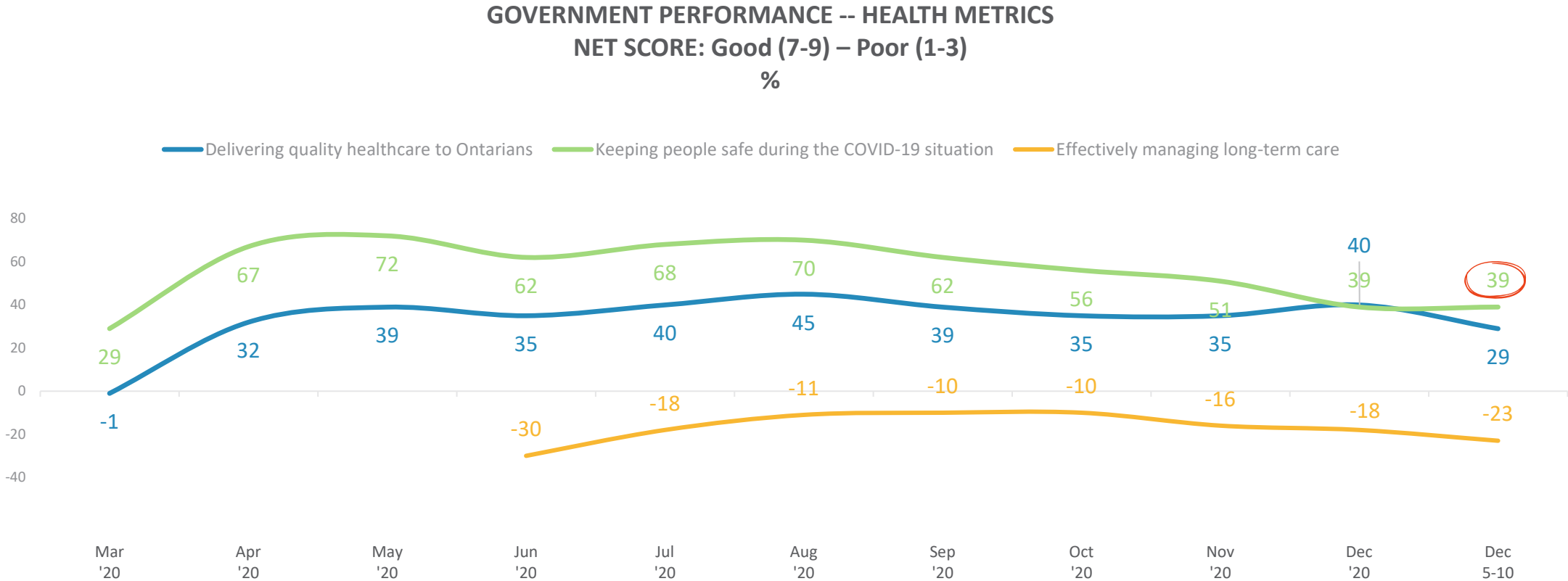
Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”

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

Bases vary

Moreover, when considering both positive/negative scores, there has been a steady decline in perceptions of the government’s performance on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ since August. Similarly, there have been drops on ‘effectively managing long-term care’ and ‘delivering quality healthcare’ since the summer.

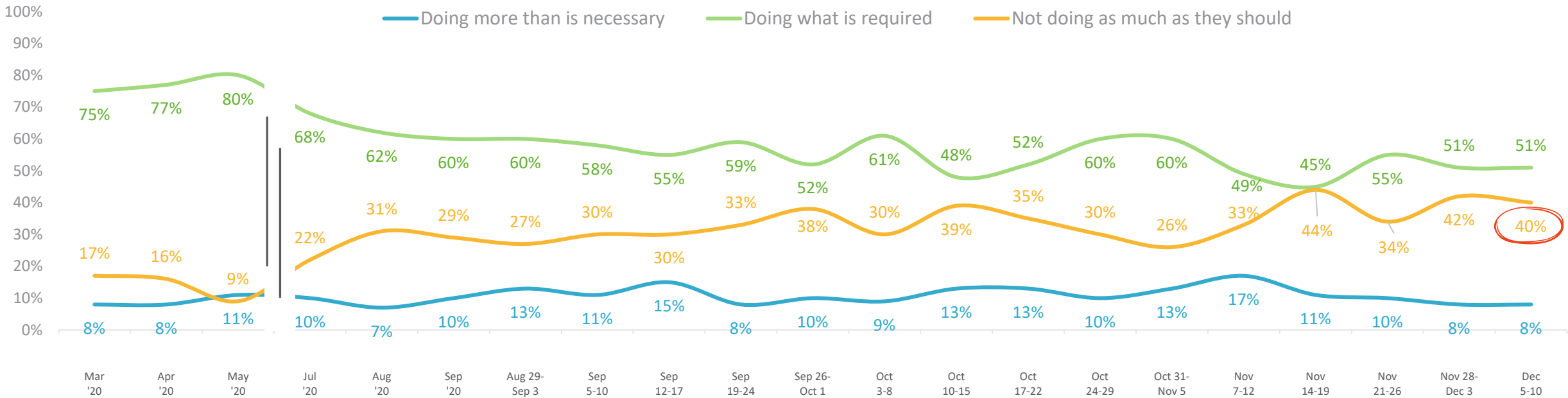


Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
Bases vary

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MEASURES

This past week, the proportion who think the government is ‘not doing as much as they should’ on COVID-19 has remained stable at about 40%.

	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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10	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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
Right Track	76%	79%	82%	n/a	75%	70%	68%	67%	66%	67%	70%	59%	69%	60%	65%	73%	67%	60%	55%	65%	61%	61%	15%	13%	8%	n/a	15%	23%	21%	20%	21%	16%	23%	33%	25%	29%	26%	16%	18%	25%	34%	28%	32%	32%
Wrong Track	73%	66%	66%	n/a	42%	33%	35%	35%	30%	23%	27%	29%	22%	16%	19%	26%	39%	10%	18%	20%	24%	21%	21%	26%	19%	n/a	48%	57%	56%	53%	63%	66%	62%	56%	55%	67%	58%	67%	52%	65%	68%	57%	68%	66%



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 ...

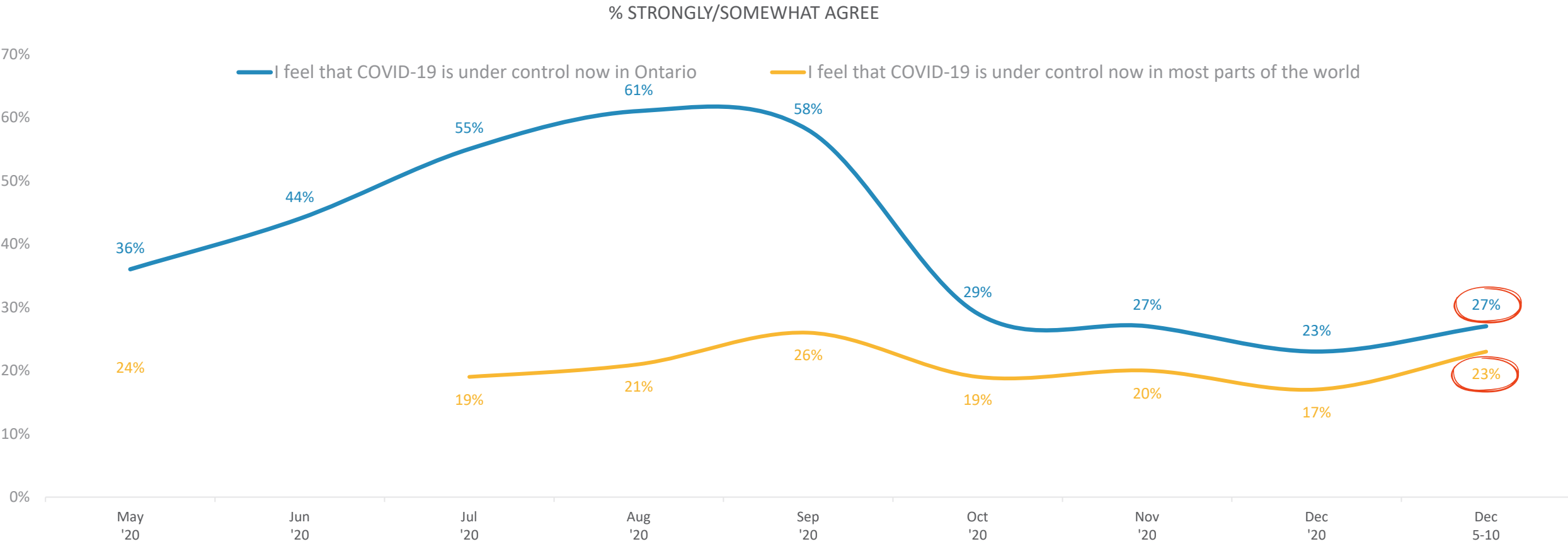
Base: Total sample, base varies

COVID-19 INFECTIONS



PERCEPTIONS ABOUT WHETHER COVID-19 IS UNDER CONTROL

Despite increasing infection rates and perhaps related to the vaccine news, Ontarians are slightly more likely to think COVID-19 is getting more under control in Ontario, as well as in other parts 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

ATTITUDES TOWARD RISK OF CONTRACTING COVID-19

There continues to be a decline (from 64% in August to 20% this past week) in the proportion of Ontarians who believe the threat of contracting COVID-19 is much less now. Ontarians are much more likely to feel a personal threat from the virus.

% STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT AGREE	Jun '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10
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	17	20

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

Most Ontarians continue to believe they could catch the COVID-19 virus, although this view has weakened slightly over the past week.

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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies												
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	25	22	16	11	17	17	20	17	20	25	12	11	23
Strongly agree	8	8	6	5	7	6	6	8	12	16	-	4	12
Somewhat agree	16	15	9	6	10	12	15	9	9	8	12	7	11
Neither agree nor disagree	13	10	8	9	9	8	11	8	8	5	9	19	7
Somewhat disagree	22	25	19	25	28	21	21	24	15	13	17	26	23
Strongly disagree	38	40	56	55	45	52	46	50	55	55	57	34	44
TOTAL DISAGREE	60	64	74	81	73	73	67	74	70	68	74	59	67
Not applicable	-	-	-	-	<1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Don't know	-	-	-	-	<1	2	2	1	2	2	5	11	4

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

Base: Total sample

However, just over 3-in-10 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

	n=											varies																								
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
TOTAL AGREE	39	36	28	30	30	29	37	34	29	26	33	28	32																							
Strongly agree	14	14	12	14	11	12	16	13	14	14	18	7	10																							
Somewhat agree	25	23	16	15	19	17	21	21	15	12	15	21	22																							
Neither agree nor disagree	10	9	6	12	8	13	11	10	9	10	8	7	9																							
Somewhat disagree	19	19	17	19	26	15	17	18	18	9	9	13	16																							
Strongly disagree	27	31	44	36	33	41	31	32	36	49	41	42	37																							
TOTAL DISAGREE	46	50	61	55	58	56	48	49	54	58	50	55	54																							
Not applicable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-																							
Don't know	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	6	6	6	8	10	6																							

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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10	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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10	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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10	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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10	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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
% AGREE	39%	40%	41%	47%	47%	32%	31%	40%	37%	40%	41%	53%	33%	38%	28%	42%	29%	39%	-	50%	27%	25%	29%	31%	36%	32%	29%	25%	20%	43%	21%	21%	19%	42%	29%	28%	17%	40%	-	15%	18%	11%	16%	21%	23%	15%	13%	20%	40%	22%
% DISAGREE	42%	51%	44%	43%	47%	51%	45%	40%	62%	40%	36%	40%	42%	45%	48%	33%	53%	50%	-	25%	55%	59%	54%	49%	36%	56%	62%	44%	60%	57%	71%	64%	73%	42%	56%	59%	50%	60%	100%	63%	75%	78%	76%	66%	60%	69%	79%	70%	50%	70%

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

Base: Total sample

Not surprisingly, Ontarians continue to 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	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies					
	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	21	19	22	15	17	24
Strongly agree	12	11	12	8	9	11
Somewhat agree	9	8	10	8	8	14
Neither agree nor disagree	3	4	2	4	4	3
Somewhat disagree	12	12	7	9	12	13
Strongly disagree	63	63	69	69	64	59
TOTAL DISAGREE	75	74	76	78	77	72
Don't know	1	2	-	2	2	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 say they have not lost faith in the decisions about COVID by public health leaders. However, this remains lower compared to a month ago.

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	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies					
	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	27	26	30	39	38	31
Strongly agree	12	17	15	20	17	17
Somewhat agree	15	9	15	19	21	13
Neither agree nor disagree	3	5	2	10	11	12
Somewhat disagree	27	23	22	21	10	29
Strongly disagree	41	44	43	31	38	27
TOTAL DISAGREE	68	66	66	52	48	57
Not applicable	1	1	-	-	-	-
Don't know	2	2	2	-	3	1

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 rating of the provincial government’s handling of the second wave: early November 51% said ‘excellent/good’; now only 35% express this view. There has not been a further erosion in this metric over the past week.

	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies					
	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD	51	44	36	38	35	35
Excellent	4	7	8	5	5	5
Good	47	36	28	33	30	30
Fair	33	33	37	34	38	40
Poor	12	13	13	18	18	14
Very poor	5	9	12	9	8	11
TOTAL POOR/VERY POOR	16	22	25	27	26	25
Prefer not to answer/Don’t know	-	1	2	1	1	<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, about 6-in-10 think the government ‘could have acted differently’ in dealing with the pandemic.

	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	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	300	300	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	34	37
Could have acted differently	55	47	53	55	56	52	49	56	63	59	60
Don't know/Not sure	1	1	<1	2	1	2	3	5	4	6	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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10	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	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
Right Track	52%	61%	55%	49%	56%	54%	58%	46%	39%	44%	43%	46%	37%	44%	49%	44%	43%	39%	47%	57%	50%	54%
Wrong Track	12%	14%	22%	27%	17%	19%	10%	15%	10%	9%	19%	88%	86%	78%	72%	81%	80%	86%	84%	87%	83%	78%

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	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	16	21	21	24	24	22	17	23	17	24	26
Strongly agree	5	8	7	12	12	11	5	13	10	10	13
Somewhat agree	11	14	13	12	12	12	12	10	8	14	12
Neither agree nor disagree	4	7	5	5	6	4	2	5	6	2	5
Somewhat disagree	21	24	24	20	21	21	16	13	17	19	18
Strongly disagree	58	47	50	49	47	52	64	57	54	52	49
TOTAL DISAGREE	79	71	73	70	68	72	80	70	71	72	68
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	5	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

IMPOSE SEVERE LOCKDOWN OR REGIONAL LOCKDOWNS

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

	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	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	300	300	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	35	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	58	60
Don't know/Not sure	2	1	<1	5	3	5	3	5	4	7	2

	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	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10	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	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
Right Track	32%	28%	24%	31%	30%	21%	27%	39%	40%	34%	36%	66%	70%	75%	66%	68%	74%	71%	55%	57%	62%	63%
Wrong Track	36%	36%	42%	35%	41%	31%	40%	43%	39%	39%	48%	57%	64%	58%	56%	54%	61%	56%	51%	54%	46%	50%

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



About 1-in-2 believe that the overall public health approach may create more negative mental health/job impacts than COVID related 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	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov 28- Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies					
	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	40	46	51	52	55	50
Strongly agree	20	28	36	32	38	27
Somewhat agree	20	18	14	20	17	23
Neither agree nor disagree	10	6	5	13	15	8
Somewhat disagree	26	18	13	9	16	16
Strongly disagree	23	26	26	25	11	25
TOTAL DISAGREE	49	44	39	33	27	41
Not applicable	1	1	2	-	-	-
Don't know	1	3	4	1	3	1

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

Base: Total sample

A declining proportion of Ontarians have heard something about the new management of the COVID-19 pandemic.

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL A LOT/SOMETHING	50	49	41	40
A lot	24	24	20	20
Something	26	25	21	20
Not too much	20	15	20	24
Nothing at all	28	35	34	31
TOTAL NOT TOO MUCH/NOTHING AT ALL	48	50	55	55
Don't know	1	2	4	5

QCV-152. Have you heard a lot, something, not too much, nothing at all about a new approach introduced by the Ontario Government to managing the COVID 19 pandemic?

Base: Total sample

WHAT ONTARIANS HAVE HEARD ABOUT THE NEW APPROACH

The two prominent recollections are the colour coded restrictions and type of restrictions.

	Dec '20
n=	641
	%
Any mention of a colour system that signifies level of threat in each region	41
Any mention of the type of activities allowed and restricted in each region	34
Any mentions of the level of threat to each region	24
Lockdown	5
Trying to manage/solve this issue (e.g., vaccine, testing)	2
Masks/mandatory masks/enforcing use of masks	1
Have seen in the media/news	1
What will happen with schools (e.g., will they shut down, longer Christmas break)	1
More funding allocated to help people/businesses affected by COVID-19	1
Not following public health guidelines	<1
Making municipalities responsible/leaving it up to mayors	<1
Confusing/don't understand this new approach	<1
Second wave is here	<1
Lack of honesty/transparency	<1
Changes to how Ontario Government is managing the COVID-19 pandemic – unspecified	<1
Other	2
No/Don't know/not sure	25

QCV-152. Can you tell me anything you recall about this new approach?

Base: Total sample

While many Ontarians are generally getting it right about the colour code for their region, there remains many who are not sure of the colour for their area of Ontario.

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	300	300	300
	%	%	%
Grey	6	6	8
Green	7	7	4
Yellow	14	17	16
Orange	16	18	23
Red	33	35	33
Don't know/not sure	25	18	16

REGIONS	City of Toronto	Toronto Suburbs	Hamilton	Central Ontario	South Western Ontario	Northern Ontario	Eastern Ontario	Ottawa
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Grey	12	7	-	1	2	-	-	-
Green	3	<1	-	12	5	15	21	2
Yellow	6	2	2	17	24	45	25	14
Orange	3	7	20	25	33	7	14	54
Red	53	58	68	26	13	3	1	7
Don't know/not sure	23	25	10	19	23	30	39	22

QCV-154.The new approach introduced by the Ontario government is based on five colour levels designed to signify the level of seriousness of COVID 19 in each region of the province. To the best of your knowledge, what is the current colour code of the county or region in which you live?

Base: Total sample

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’ remains a standard practice for most Ontarians.

	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10
n=	1752	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	60	77	83	87	88	90	90
All of the time	29	49	55	63	67	71	72
Most of the time	30	28	28	24	21	19	18
Some of the time	23	16	12	9	9	6	7
Rarely	14	7	4	3	3	3	3
Never	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
RARELY/NEVER	17	8	5	4	3	4	3

REGIONS	City of Toronto			Toronto Suburbs			Hamilton			Central Ontario			South Western Ontario			Northern Ontario			Eastern Ontario			Ottawa		
	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	91%	94%	97%	89%	90%	94%	86%	90%	95%	83%	90%	87%	86%	87%	83%	89%	91%	83%	92%	88%	94%	87%	86%	75%

	RIGHT TRACK			WRONG TRACK		
	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10	Nov '20	Dec '20	Dec 5-10
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	90%	92%	91%	82%	83%	85%

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

A majority of Ontarians continue to not support the protests over mask wearing. However, there appears to be an increasing proportion (28% in mid-November; this past week it is 42%) who agree with the idea of these protests.

- The highest support for mask wearing protests is in suburban Toronto (61%) and Northern Ontario (70%)

Those protesting mask wearing and other pandemic restrictions have my support

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	28	30	29	42
Strongly agree	21	25	23	33
Somewhat agree	7	6	5	9
Neither agree nor disagree	2	2	2	1
Somewhat disagree	4	4	7	8
Strongly disagree	66	64	60	49
TOTAL DISAGREE	70	67	67	57
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

VACCINE



About 1-in-2 remain skeptical that the end of COVID-19 is near given that vaccines are nearly ready, although there is a significant minority who say they are confident about of end of the pandemic.

- Those who think the government is on the ‘right track’ are more likely to be confident that the COVID-19 vaccine means the end to the pandemic in near compared to those who think the government is on the ‘wrong track’.

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

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	35	38	38
Strongly agree	12	15	14
Somewhat agree	23	24	24
Neither agree nor disagree	10	10	12
Somewhat disagree	18	20	22
Strongly disagree	32	30	25
TOTAL DISAGREE	50	50	47
Don't know	5	2	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

Ontarians are increasingly following the announcements on vaccines against COVID-19.

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	150	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL CLOSELY	78	77	87
Very closely	46	42	48
Somewhat closely	33	35	39
Not very closely	13	15	8
Not at all	7	8	4
TOTAL NOT VERY CLOSELY/NOT AT ALL	20	23	12
Don't know/not sure	2	<1	1

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

Most Ontarians believe that frontline health workers should be first in line to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The next three groups should be people over 70 years old, people living in long-term care homes, and those with underlying health issues.

All Mentions

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	150	300	300
	%	%	%
Frontline health workers	87	89	94
People over 70 years old	65	59	65
People living in long-term care homes	33	40	52
People with underlying health issues	49	53	43
Essential retail workers such as those working in grocery and drug stores	33	25	17
All Ontarians over the age of 18	17	20	14
Teachers	10	12	11
Restaurant and bar workers	3	1	2
Non-essential retail workers such as those working in clothing and electronic stores, among others	3	2	2

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

Many Ontarians are likely to take the COVID-19 vaccine if given the opportunity to take it. Just over 1-in-2 say they would ‘very’ likely take it. The level of likelihood appears to be rising – about 78% in the latest wave.

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	150	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL LIKELY	70	71	78
Very likely	50	44	54
Somewhat likely	20	27	25
Somewhat unlikely	13	9	9
Very unlikely	12	15	11
TOTAL UNLIKELY	24	24	20
Don't know/not sure	6	5	1

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

Given this, it is not surprising to see that many Ontarians believe the COVID-19 vaccine will be safe. Only 11% this past week say it won't be safe.

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	150	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL SAFE	75	72	79
Very safe	34	26	36
Somewhat safe	41	46	42
Not very safe	5	9	5
Not at all safe	6	6	5
TOTAL NOT SAFE	11	14	11
Don't know/not sure	13	14	11

QCV-162. (163) 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 smaller 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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	15	13	19	13
Strongly agree	8	8	10	5
Somewhat agree	7	6	9	8
Neither agree nor disagree	5	7	5	6
Somewhat disagree	12	11	12	11
Strongly disagree	65	66	64	68
TOTAL DISAGREE	77	78	76	78
Don't know	2	2	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

An increasing number of Ontarians will not celebrate the Holiday season with people outside their bubble, although a sizeable minority (17%) say they will celebrate in-person with people they do not live with.

	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%
Celebrate in-person with people you do not live with	22	21	20	17
Celebrate in-person only with the people who live in your immediate household	72	74	74	79
Don't know/Not sure	5	6	6	3

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

Base: Total sample

Many Ontarians indicate they will not celebrate the Holiday season in the usual manner. However, there is about 23% who think otherwise.

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

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	24	22	23
Strongly agree	17	11	10
Somewhat agree	7	11	14
Neither agree nor disagree	2	5	3
Somewhat disagree	13	15	13
Strongly disagree	57	55	57
TOTAL DISAGREE	69	71	70
Not applicable	-	-	-
Don't know	5	2	3

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

Base: Total sample

An even higher proportion of 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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	89	84	91
Strongly agree	75	63	76
Somewhat agree	14	21	15
Neither agree nor disagree	3	4	4
Somewhat disagree	2	3	2
Strongly disagree	4	8	3
TOTAL DISAGREE	6	11	5
Not applicable	-	-	-
Don't know	1	1	-

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

Base: Total sample

Most Ontarians say they 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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	90	86	92
Strongly agree	72	60	66
Somewhat agree	17	26	26
Neither agree nor disagree	1	5	3
Somewhat disagree	3	2	2
Strongly disagree	5	6	3
TOTAL DISAGREE	8	8	5
Not applicable	1	<1	-
Don’t know	1	1	1

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

Base: Total sample

An increasing proportion of Ontarians plan to celebrate the Holiday season virtually.

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

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	67	74	81
Strongly agree	43	45	51
Somewhat agree	24	29	30
Neither agree nor disagree	4	5	1
Somewhat disagree	7	5	7
Strongly disagree	18	13	8
TOTAL DISAGREE	26	19	15
Not applicable	2	2	1
Don't know	1	1	2

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

Base: Total sample

About 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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	31	33	32
Strongly agree	16	19	12
Somewhat agree	15	14	20
Neither agree nor disagree	9	13	13
Somewhat disagree	13	10	16
Strongly disagree	43	37	33
TOTAL DISAGREE	56	47	49
Not applicable	1	2	4
Don't know	4	4	2

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

Base: Total sample

Ontarians overwhelmingly say they will likely follow the advice of the provincial government to only celebrate the December holidays with the people they live with.

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	150	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL LIKELY	84	78	86
Very likely	70	64	68
Somewhat likely	14	14	18
Not too likely	7	11	6
Not at all likely	7	9	7
TOTAL NOT LIKELY	14	20	13
Don't know/not sure	2	2	1

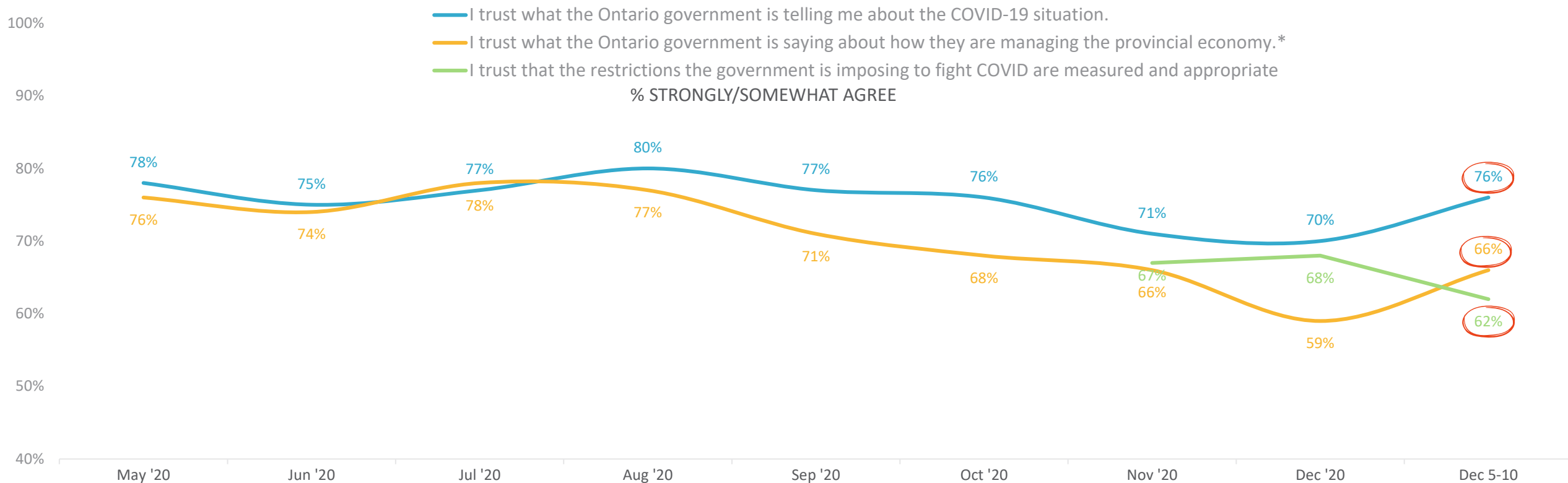
QCV-158. The Ontario Government is strongly recommending that people celebrate the December holidays only with the people they live with. How likely are you to follow this advice?

Base: Total sample

CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



Trust in messaging from the government on the 'COVID-19 situation' and 'managing the provincial economy' has rebounded this past week. In contrast, Ontarians are less likely to trust that restrictions will be measured and appropriate – still, trust remains high (62%) on this consideration.



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

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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	69	61	61	66
Strongly agree	43	33	21	41
Somewhat agree	26	28	40	25
Neither agree nor disagree	7	9	17	6
Somewhat disagree	6	8	3	14
Strongly disagree	10	12	6	7
TOTAL DISAGREE	15	20	8	21
Not applicable	1	-	7	-
Don't know	8	10	7	7

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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	67	63	79	59
Strongly agree	43	46	46	35
Somewhat agree	24	18	33	24
Neither agree nor disagree	5	6	13	10
Somewhat disagree	2	5	-	7
Strongly disagree	4	4	-	9
TOTAL DISAGREE	6	9	-	16
Not applicable	2	1	3	-
Don't know	21	20	5	15

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	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	80	78	65	78
Strongly agree	68	59	45	59
Somewhat agree	12	19	20	19
Neither agree nor disagree	4	2	26	4
Somewhat disagree	2	3	3	7
Strongly disagree	4	5	-	3
TOTAL DISAGREE	6	8	3	10
Not applicable	1	-	3	1
Don't know	8	12	4	7

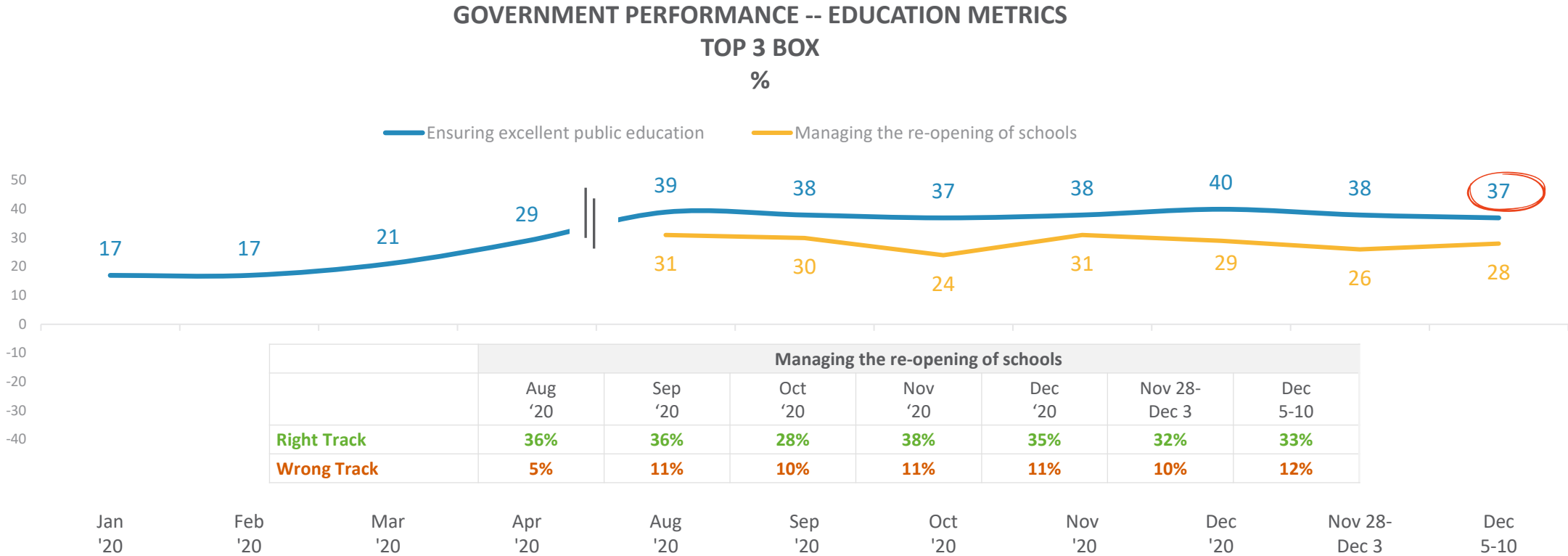
QCV-14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

APPENDIX

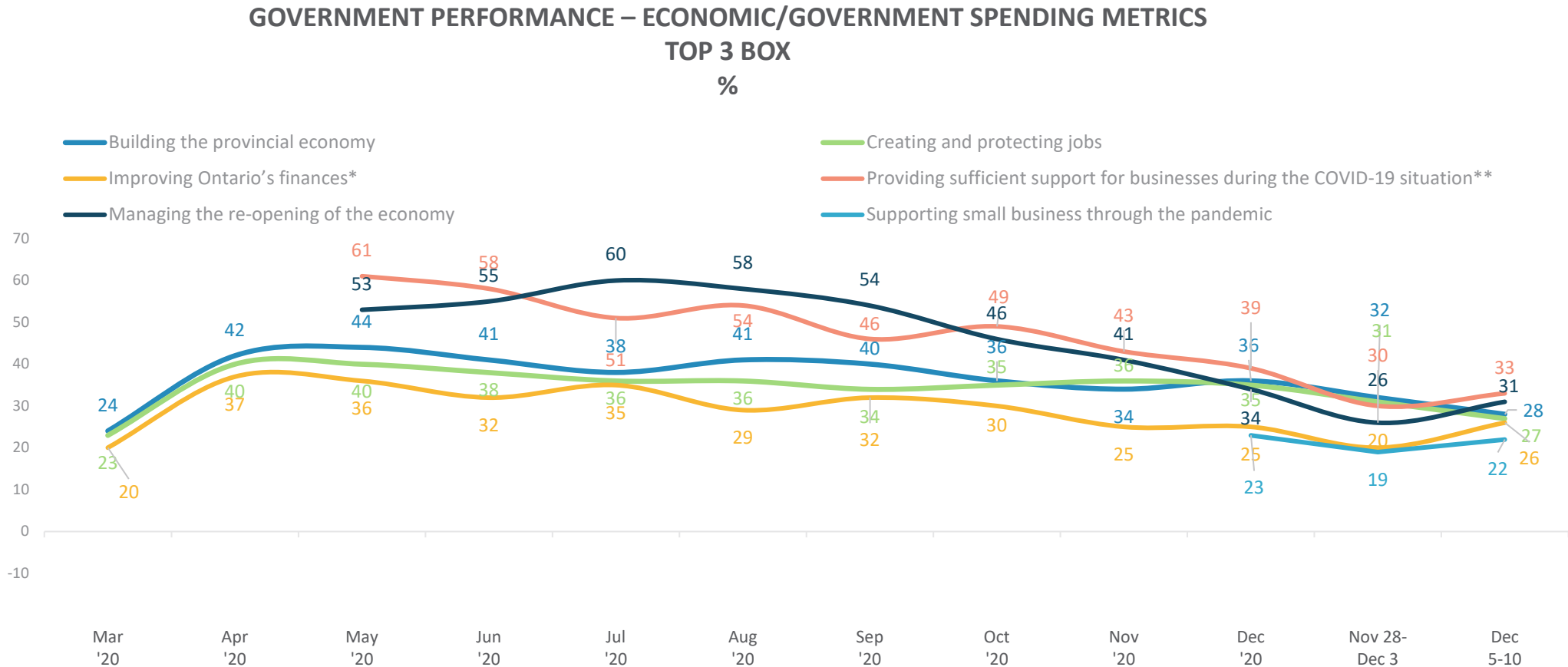


Positive perceptions toward ‘ensuring excellent public education’ and ‘managing the re-opening of schools’ continue to remain stable.



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

Positive perceptions have dropped on most economic metrics since August.



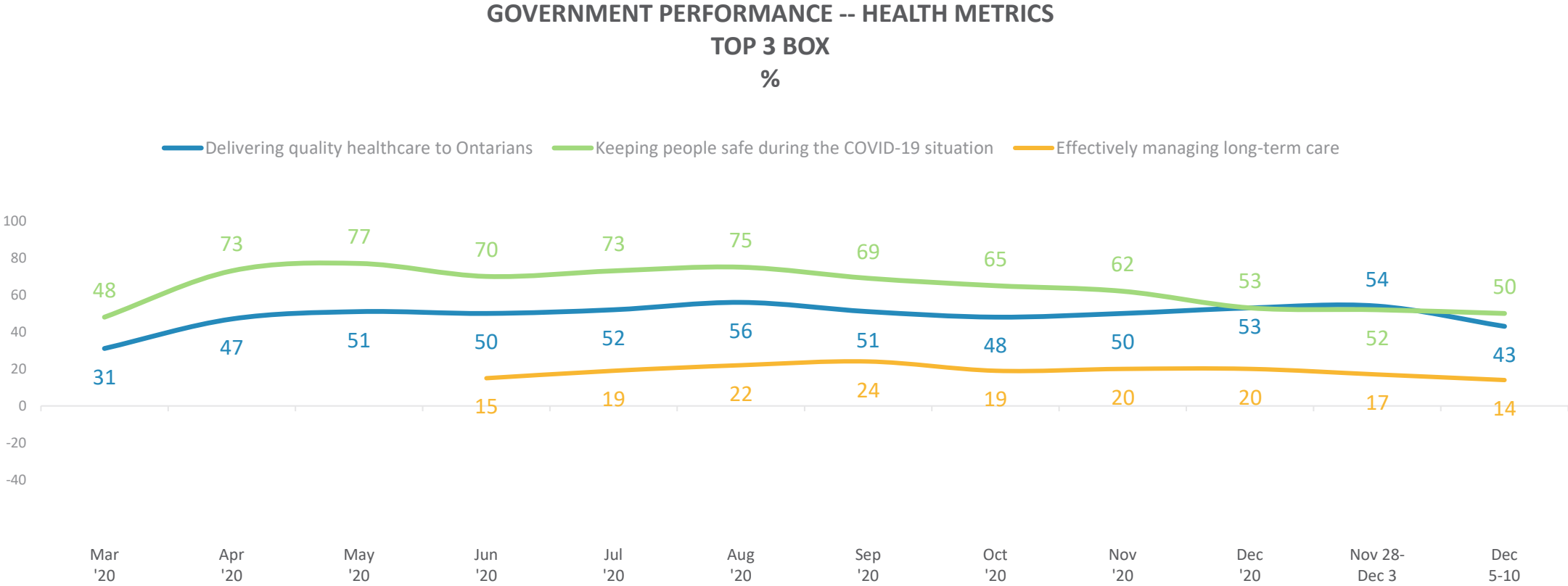
Q5. Using a scale where, where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

*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 have been gradually declining on ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’. Positive perceptions have dropped on ‘managing long-term care’ and ‘delivering quality healthcare to Ontarians’ the past 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?
Bases vary