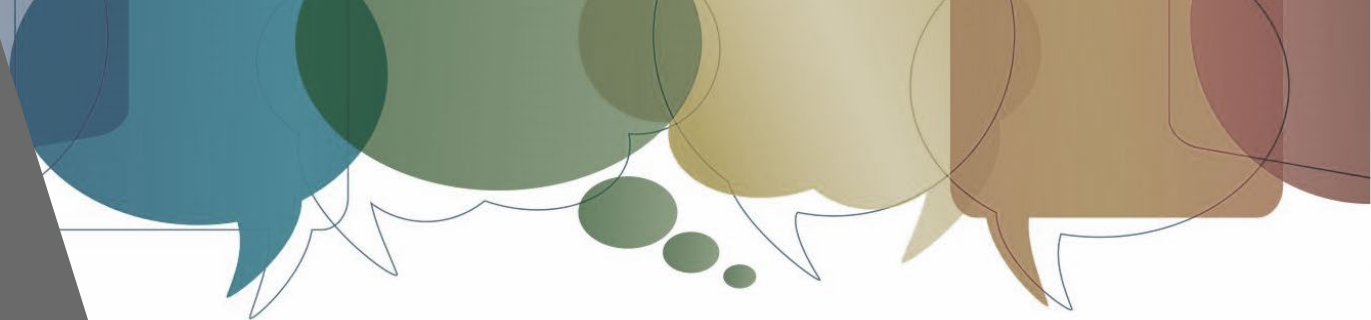




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PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #88

CABINET OFFICE
July 6th 2021

Ontario 

KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 'Right track' scores remained stable this week at 61%, retaining the increases measured over the previous two weeks. Most of this increase comes on the softer metric 'somewhat on the right track'.

Of note, 'right track' scores increased again this week among women and they now register higher scores than men.

'Right track' scores continued to increase in the City of Toronto this week and are now on par with the Toronto suburbs. And, while the two segments making income of over \$40k are now at parity, 'right track' scores among Ontarians making <\$40k are about 23-point higher at 79%.

3 While remaining in negative territory, rating of the government's performance for 'managing the re-opening of the economy' has improved 11-points to NET -3. There was also improvements measured for 'building the provincial economy' now also at NET -3.

However, Ontarians continue to want to hear more about the government's plans for economic recovery, with over eight-in-ten (82%) agreeing with this.

And, while jobs training and skills development - followed by innovation and technology investment - are the top items in Ontario jobs and recovery approach, half (52%) don't think the government has a plan for economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns.

2 Positive rating of the government's performance for 'effectively managing vaccinations' increased this week to the highest level recorded to date. Results for 'keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation' also increased this week.

Trust regarding what the government is 'telling me about the COVID-19 situation' as well as 'the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured and appropriate' also both increased this week.

4 While COVID-19 continues to be Ontarians' top priority requiring attention from the government, it has been trending down while other priorities such as the economy and housing/affordable housing have increased slightly in recent weeks.

Connected to this, the increase measured last week in support of a focus on economic issues by the Ontario government was retained this week with 52% of Ontarians in support of this. Presently, 37% say they think the government's focus in the coming months should be on health-related issues.

Key Findings

Support for the government's plan for a gradual 3-stage approach to reopening the Ontario economy remained stable this week at 82%, while intensity of support continued to trend upward with 42% now 'very' supportive.

Preliminary results indicate that three-in-ten (30%) Ontarians support moving into the third stage of the re-opening plan immediately. A further 47% believe this should happen by the end of July.

While preliminary results, Ontarians are split in feeling safe and comfortable working with unvaccinated people. Additionally, a majority (58%) disagree that people have no right to know if a person is vaccinated or not.

And, two-thirds (65%) of Ontarians agree that to return to a workplace, everyone should have to prove they are fully vaccinated. And, intensity is strong with 43% 'strongly' agreeing.

Ontarians are also more inclined to support the reopening of the Canadian-US border to non-essential travel at this point compared to last summer and fall, with support presently at 56%.

Importantly, most Ontarians support requiring a proof of full vaccination (86%) or proof of a recent negative COVID-19 test (81%) should the border with the US re-open for non-essential travel.

And, Ontarians continue to be split about the impact of re-opening the border with the US to non-essential travel: 48% think there would be little or no impact in the number of COVID-19 cases in the province, while 48% think there would be a significant increase in infections.

Ontarians also tend to think that students should be vaccinated to return to schools and colleges/universities. For schools, early results indicate that seven-in-ten (71%) Ontarians agree that eligible elementary and high school students returning to in-class learning in September should be required to be fully vaccinated. And, fully half (50%) 'strongly' agree with this.

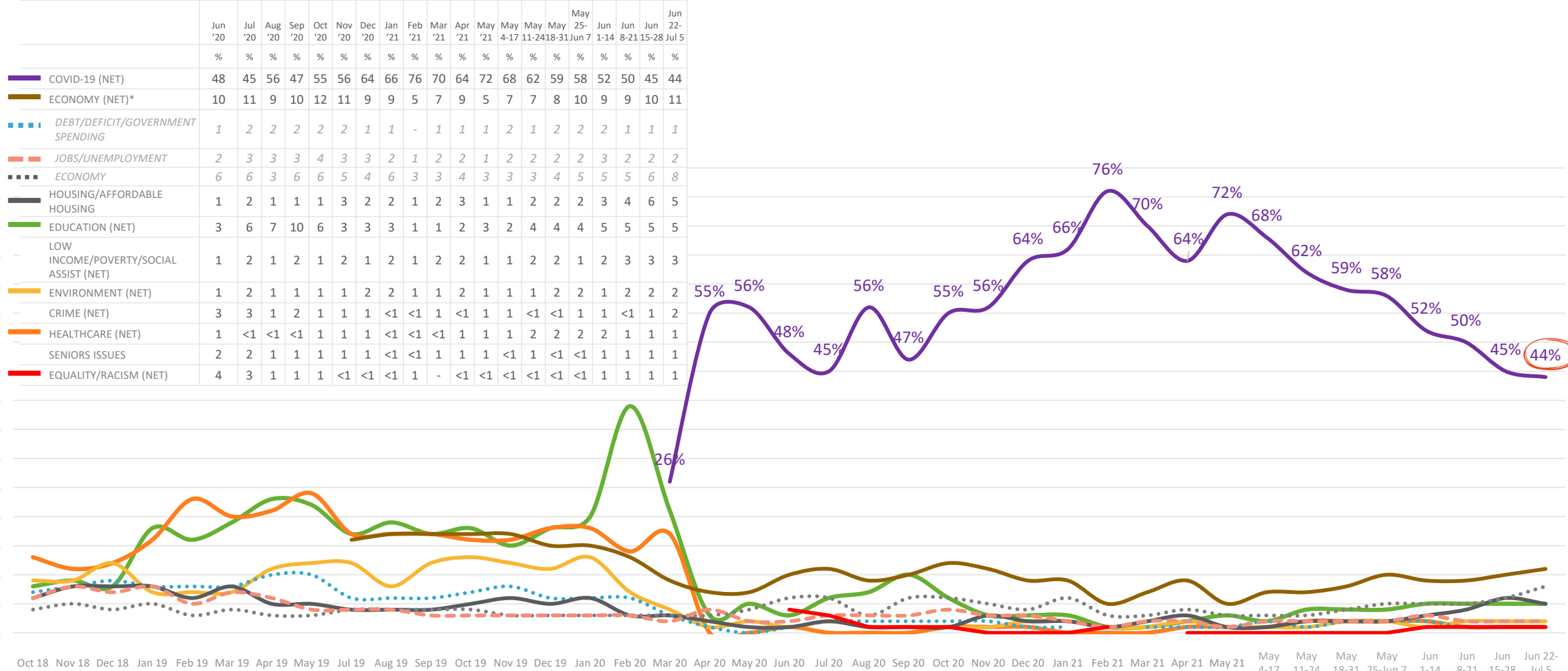
There is more agreement that college and university students returning to campus life should be required to be fully vaccinated. Three-quarters (75%) of Ontarians agree with 62% 'strongly' agreeing.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



ONTARIANS' TOP PRIORITIES REQUIRING ATTENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT

While COVID-19 continues to be the top priority, it has been trending down, while the economy and housing/affordable housing has crept up slightly in recent weeks.



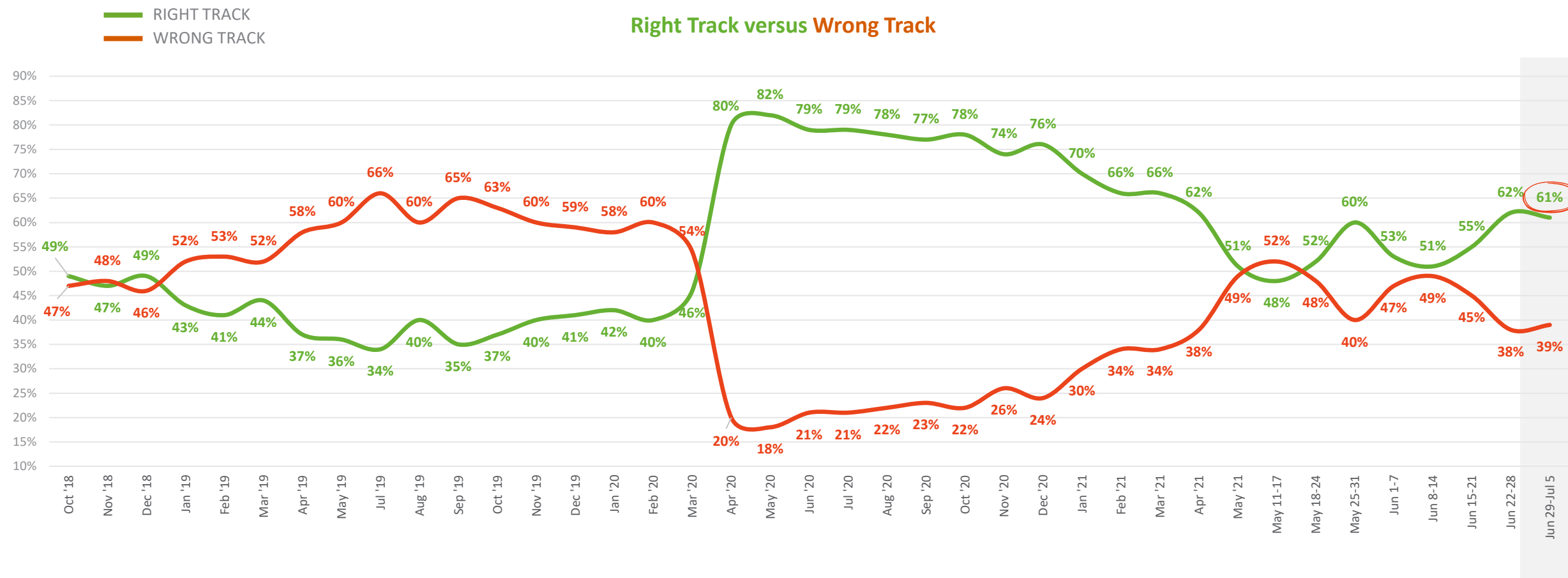
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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

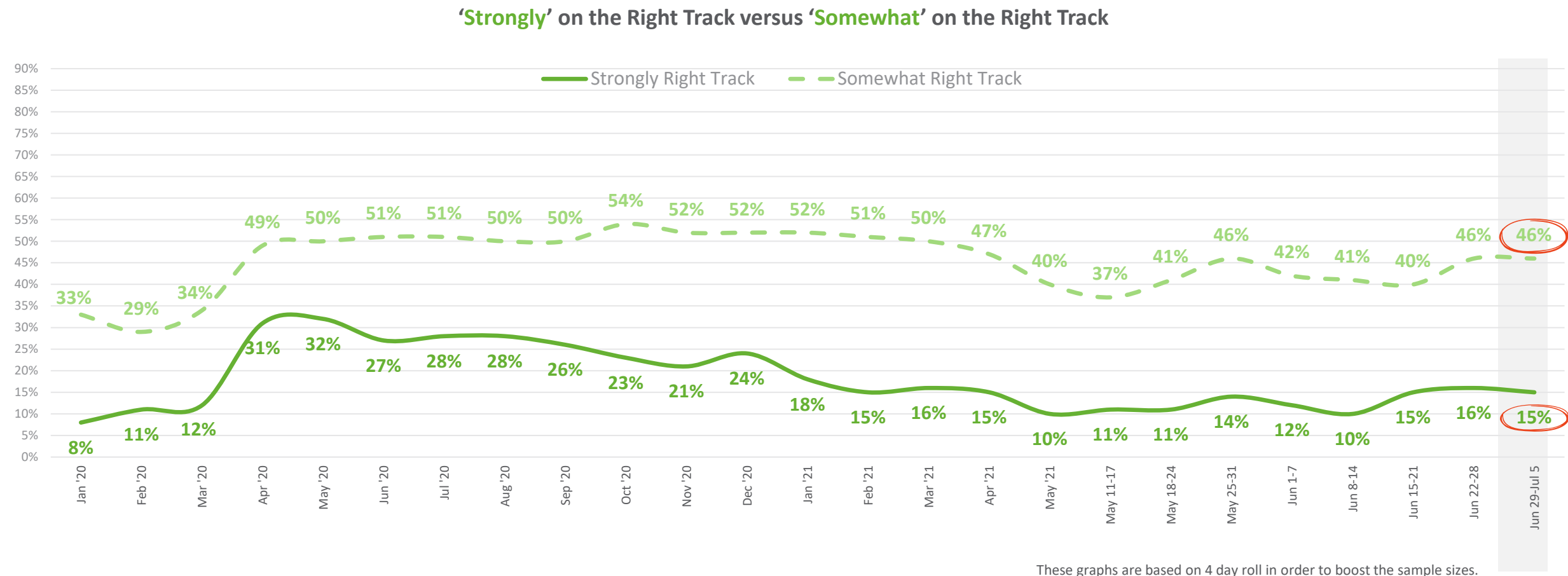


‘Right track’ scores remained stable this week at 61%, retaining the increases measured over the previous two weeks.



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

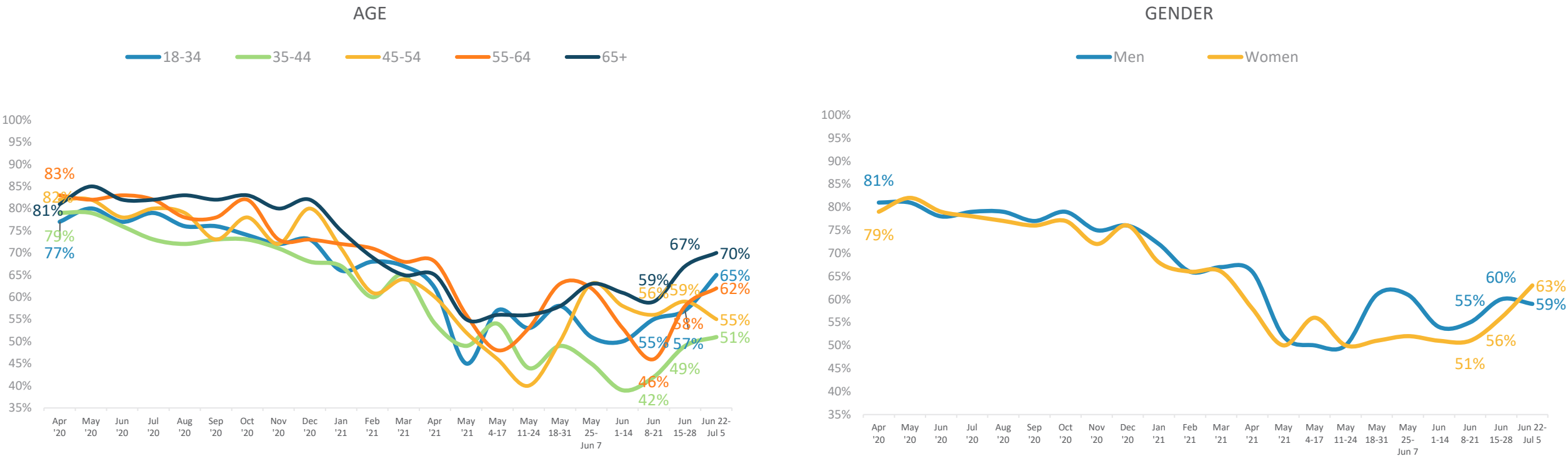
Most of the gains in ‘right track’ in recent weeks has been in the softer metric: ‘somewhat on the right track’.



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

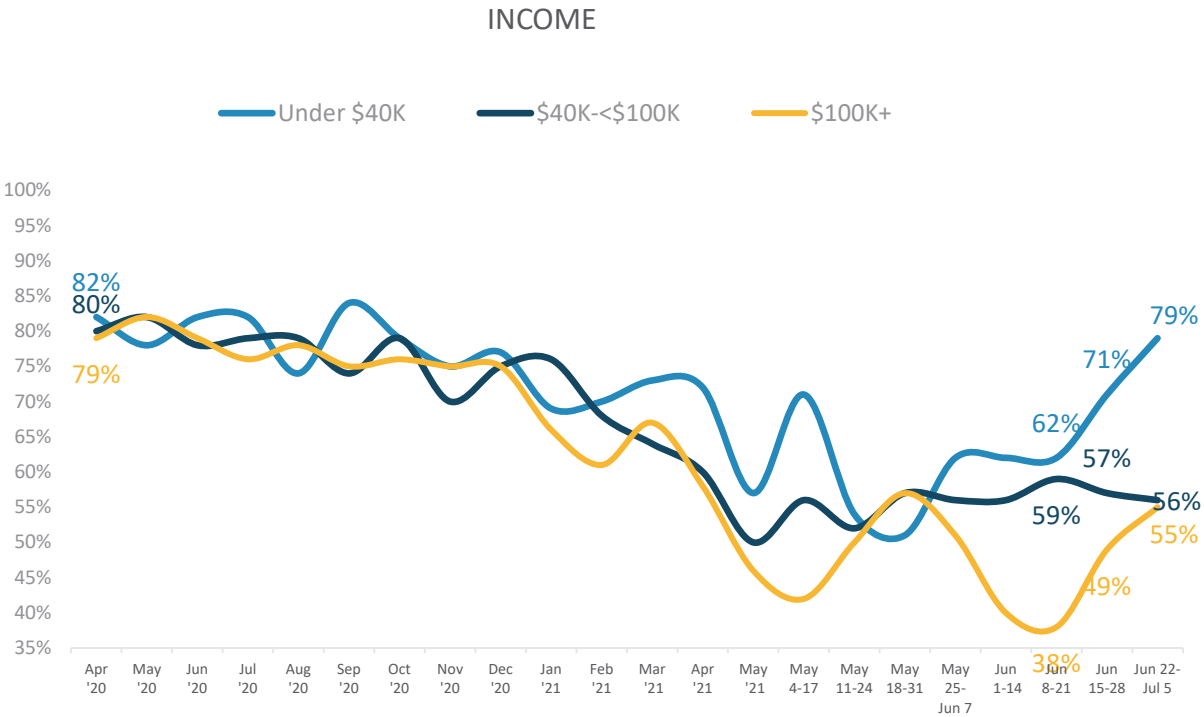
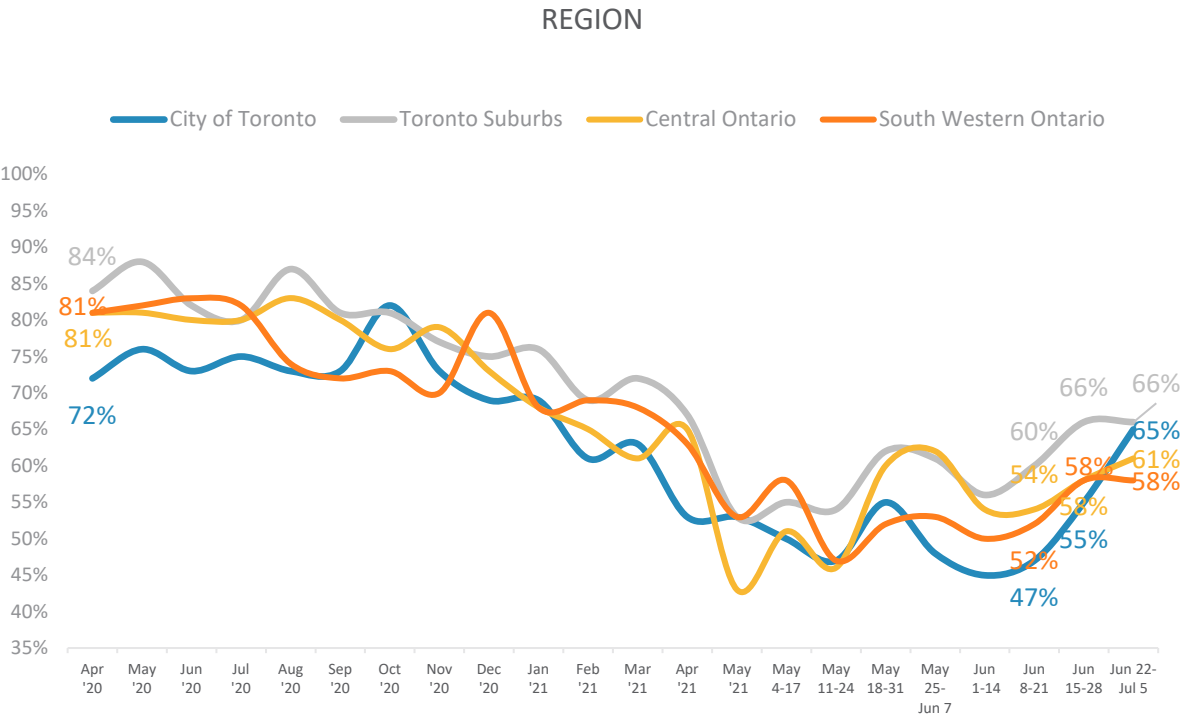
‘Right track’ scores continue to move upward among all age groups this week with the exception of Ontarians aged 45-54 where there was a slight dip. Of note, ‘right track’ scores increased again this week among women and they now register higher scores than men.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



‘Right track’ scores continued to increase in the City of Toronto this week and are now on par with the Toronto suburbs. And, while the two segments making income of over \$40k are now at parity, ‘right track’ scores among Ontarians making <\$40k are about 23-point higher at 79%.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



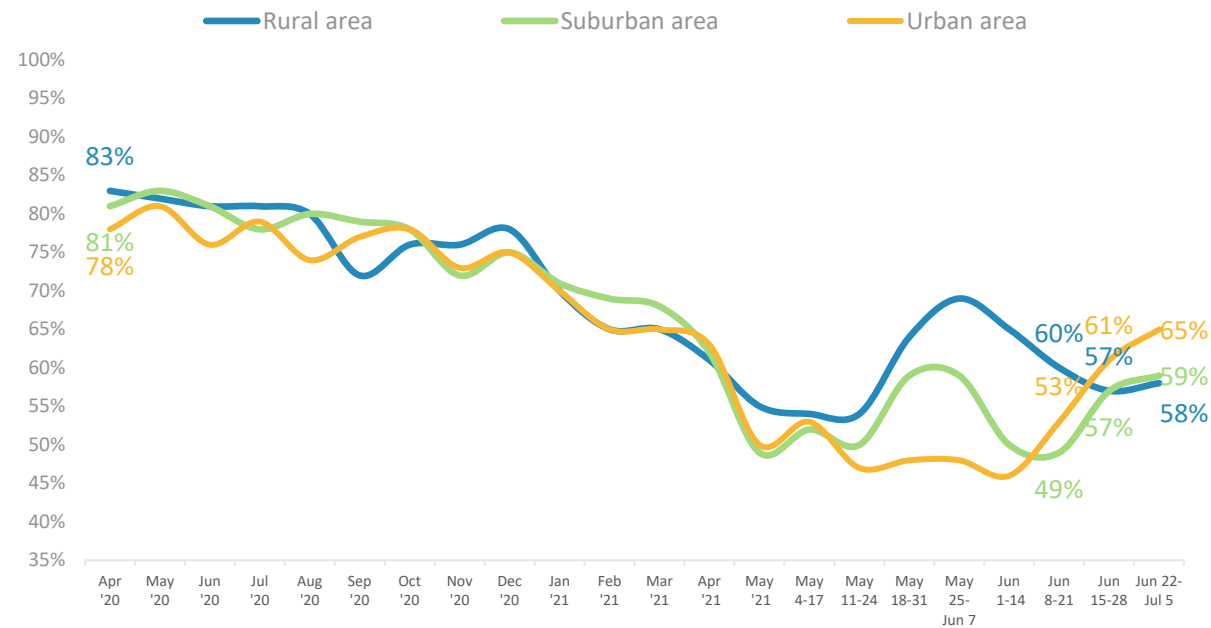
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

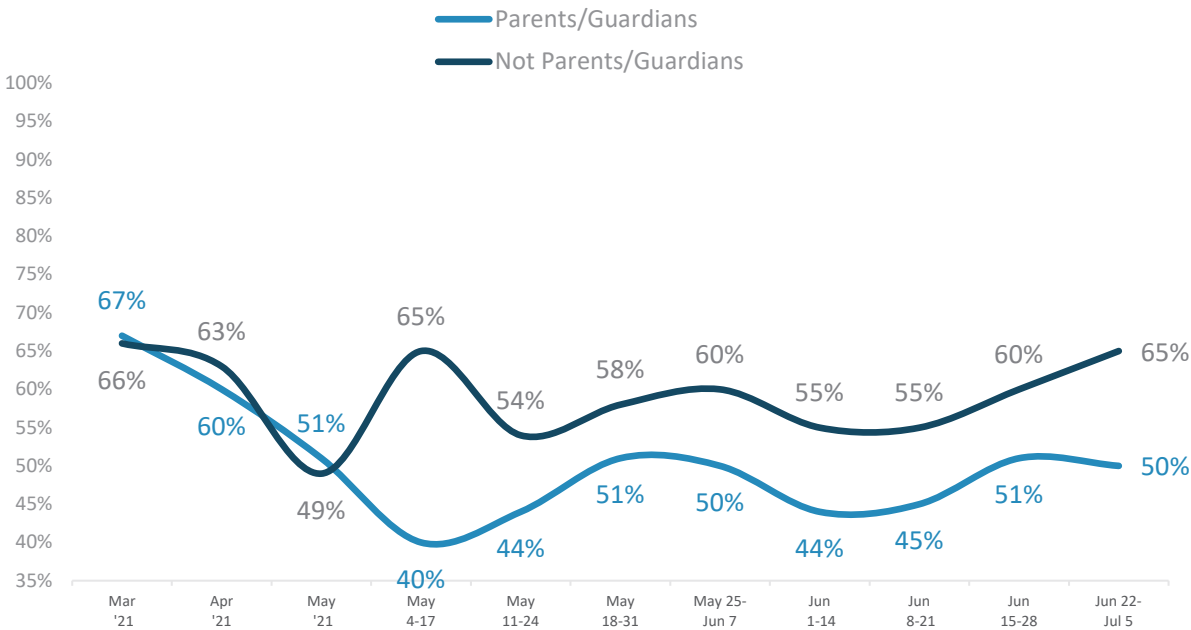
‘Right track’ scores remained highest in urban areas again this week, with rural and suburban ‘right track’ scores remaining at parity.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

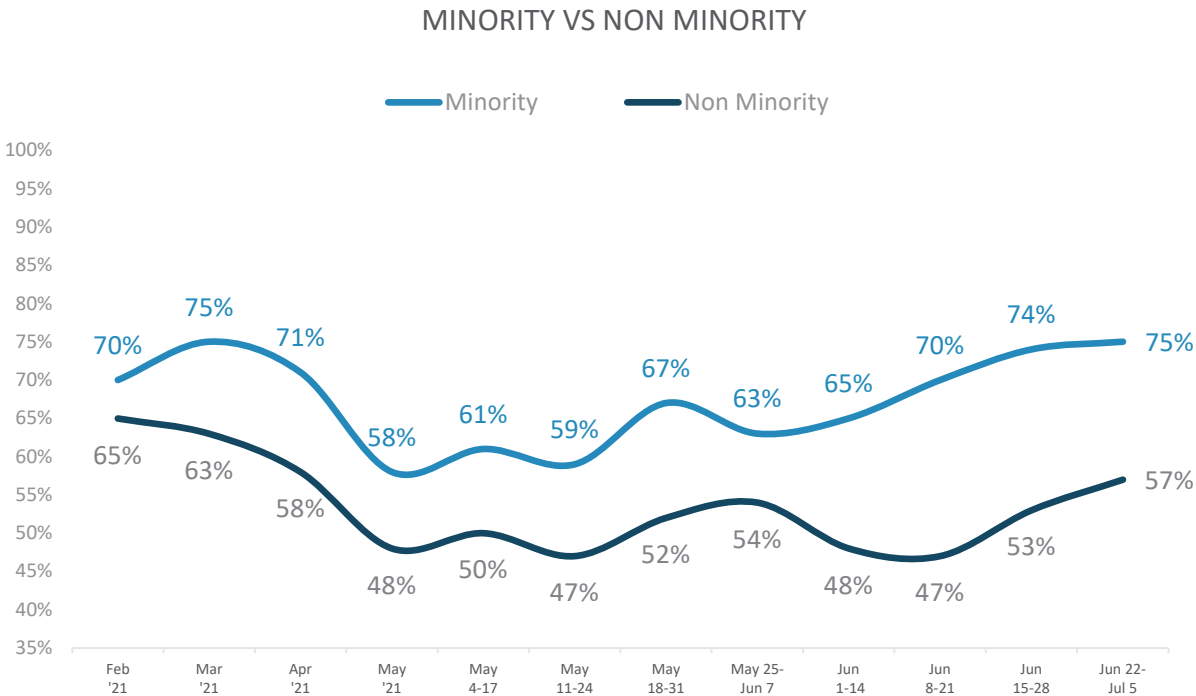
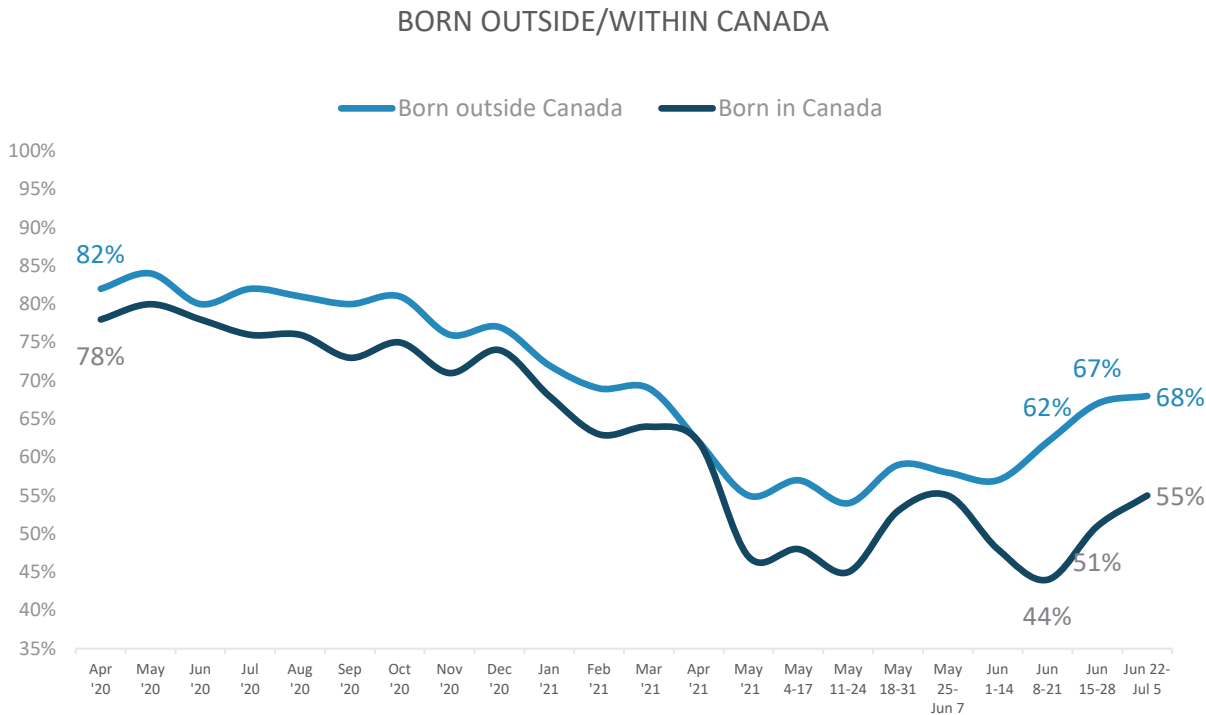


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

‘Right track’ scores continued to trend upward this week among those born in Canada and among non-minorities. And, while ‘right track’ scores remain highest among those born outside Canada and among minorities, these scores remained stable this week.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

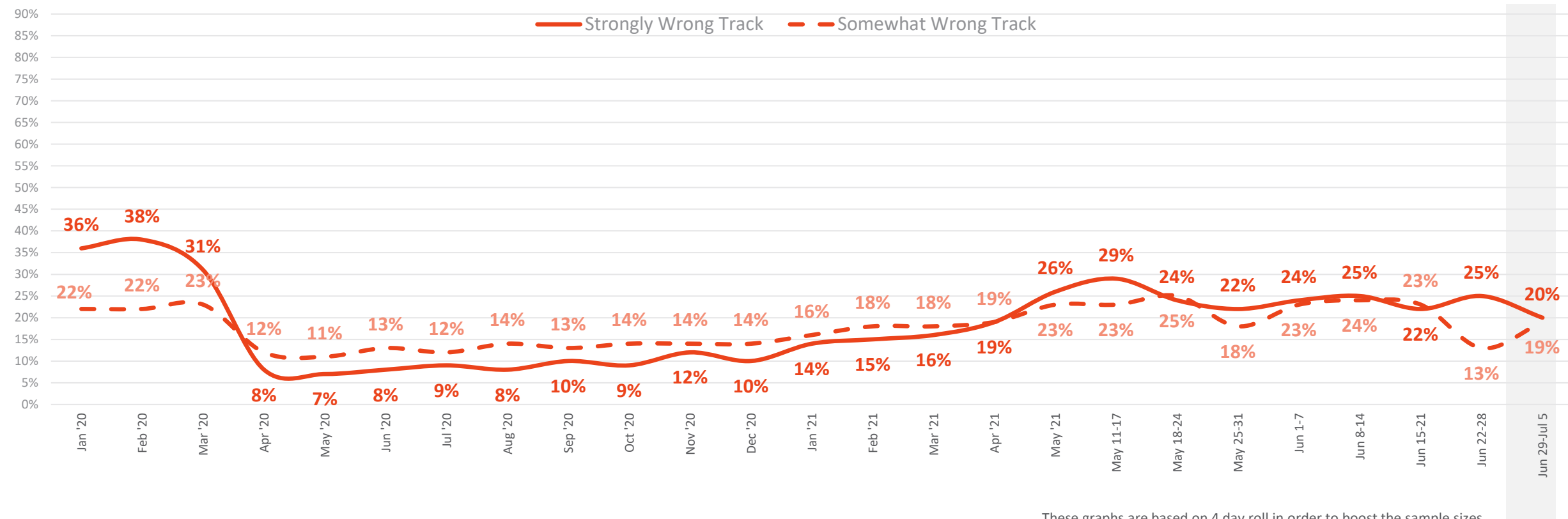


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

After a decline among those who believe the Ontario government as ‘strongly on the wrong track’ and an increase for ‘somewhat on the wrong track’, both scores are at parity this week.

‘Strongly’ on the Wrong Track versus ‘Somewhat’ on the Wrong Track

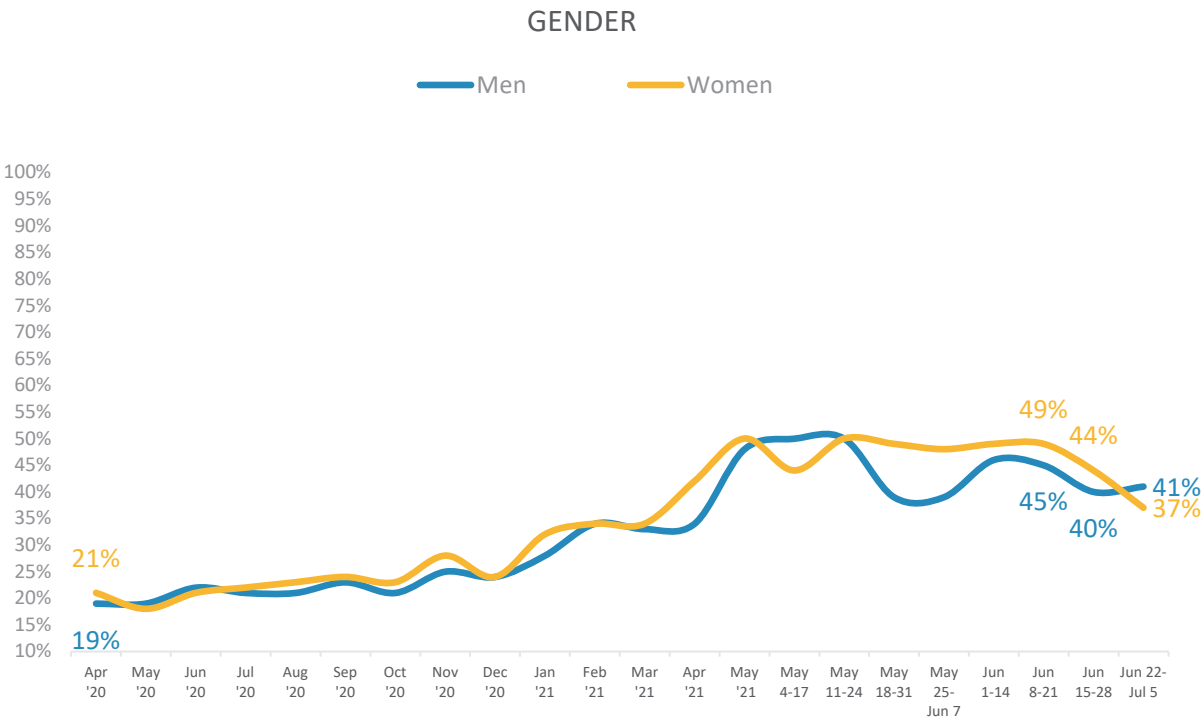
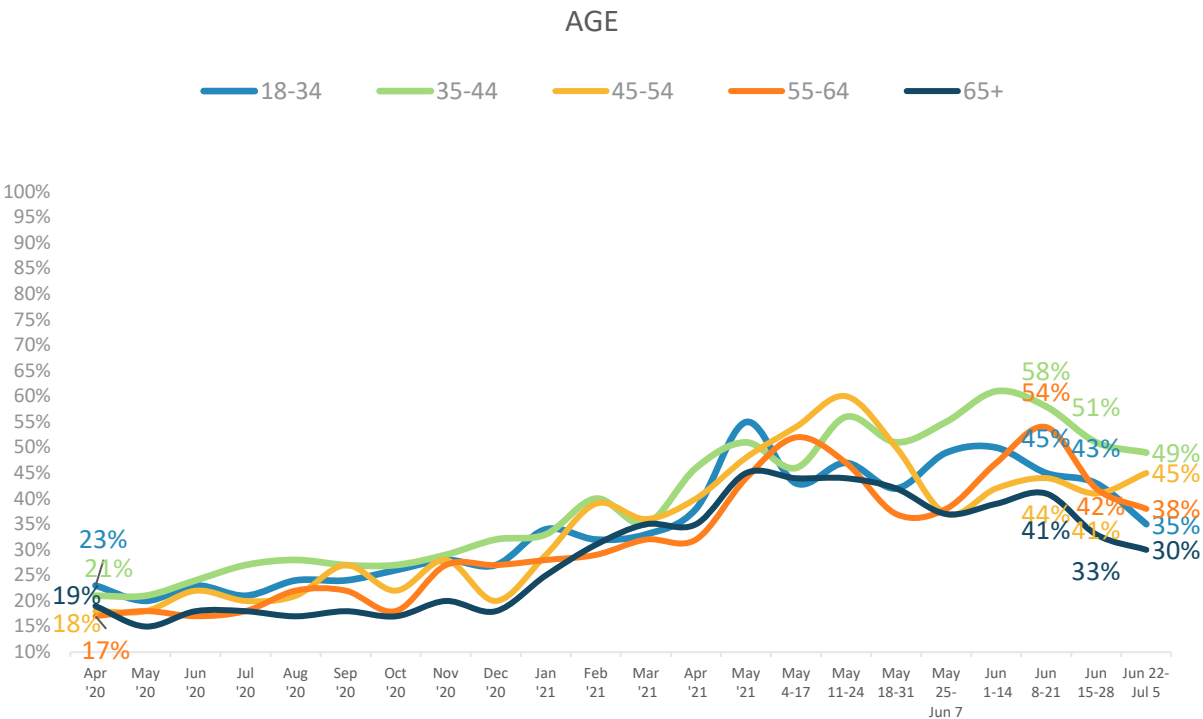


These graphs are based on 4 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

Mirroring ‘right track’ trends, ‘wrong track’ scores declined by varying degrees among all age groups with the exception of those aged 45-54 where there was a slight increase. A decline was also measured among women.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

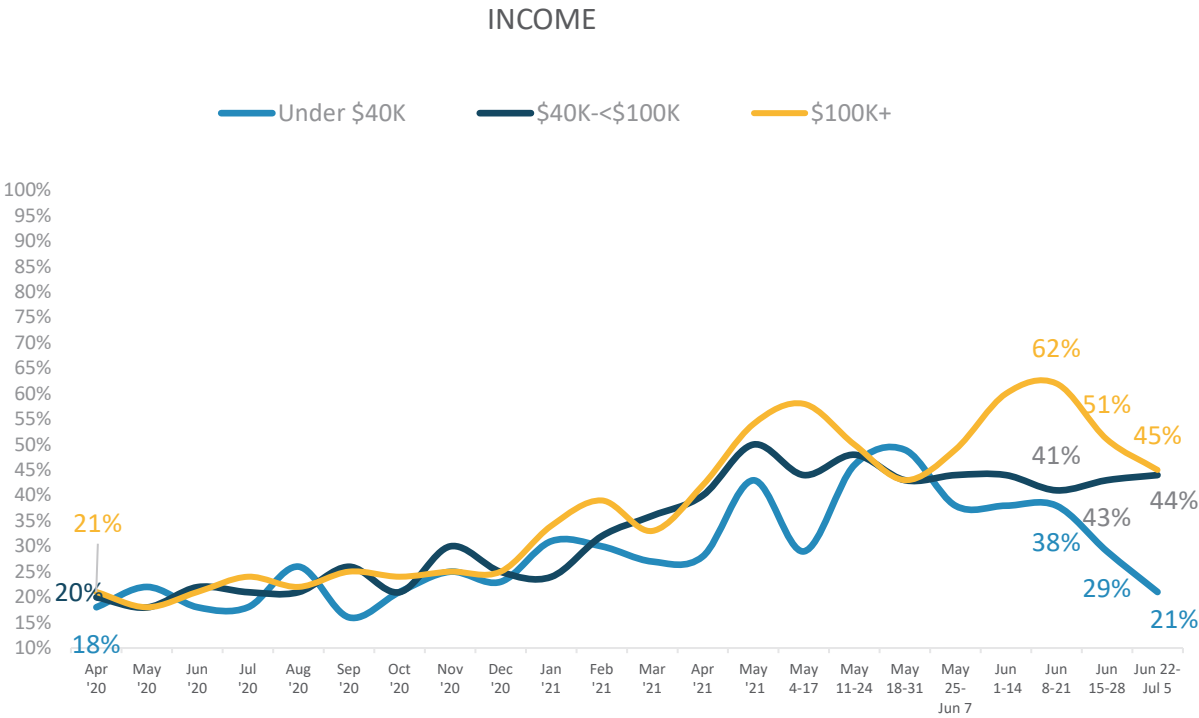
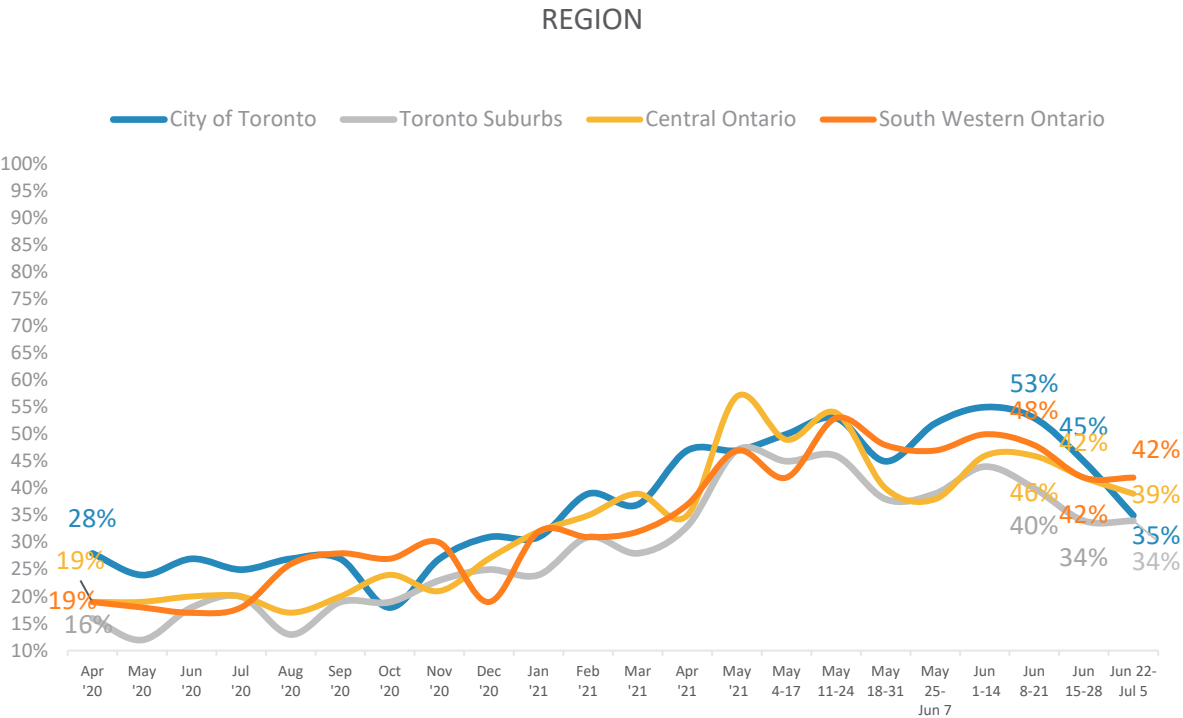


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

‘Wrong track’ scores continued to decline in the City of Toronto this week and are now on par with the Toronto suburbs. And, with further declines measured this week, ‘wrong track’ scores among those making <\$40k are less than half of those measured among Ontarians making >\$40k.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



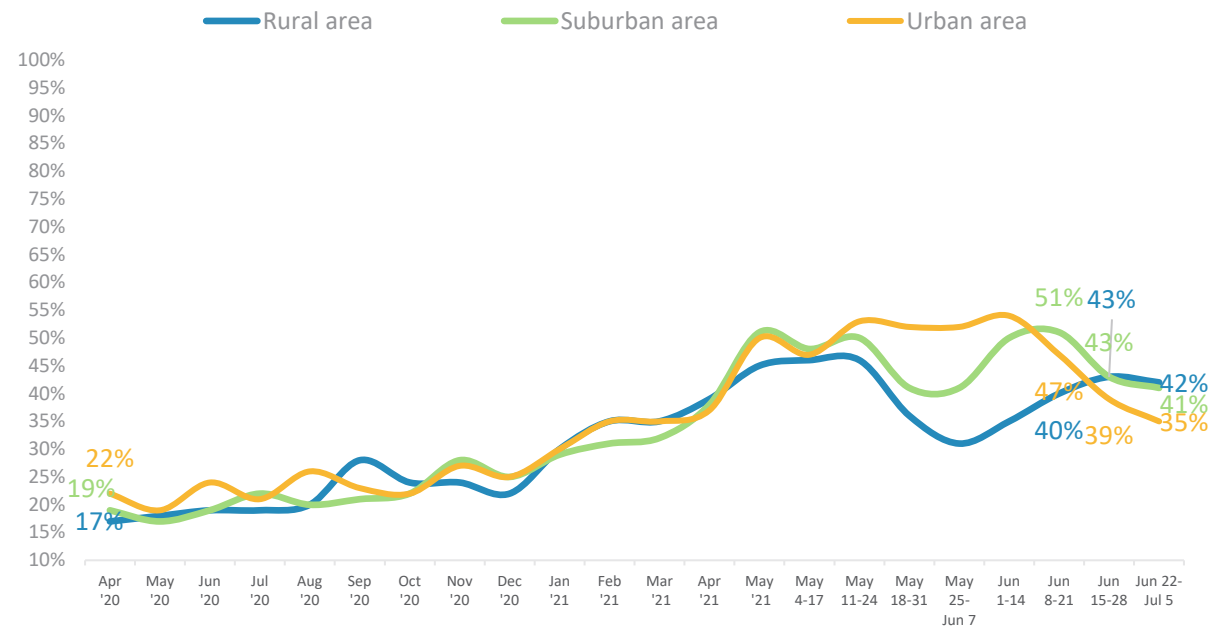
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

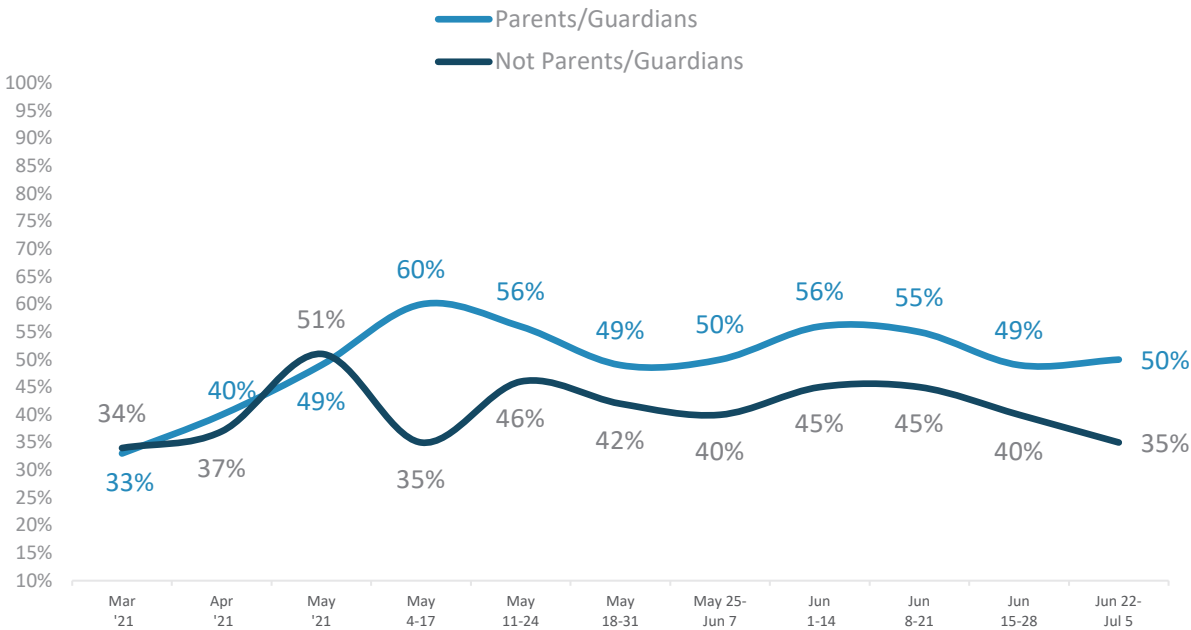
‘Wrong track’ scores continue to be lowest in urban areas, with suburban and rural areas remaining at par.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

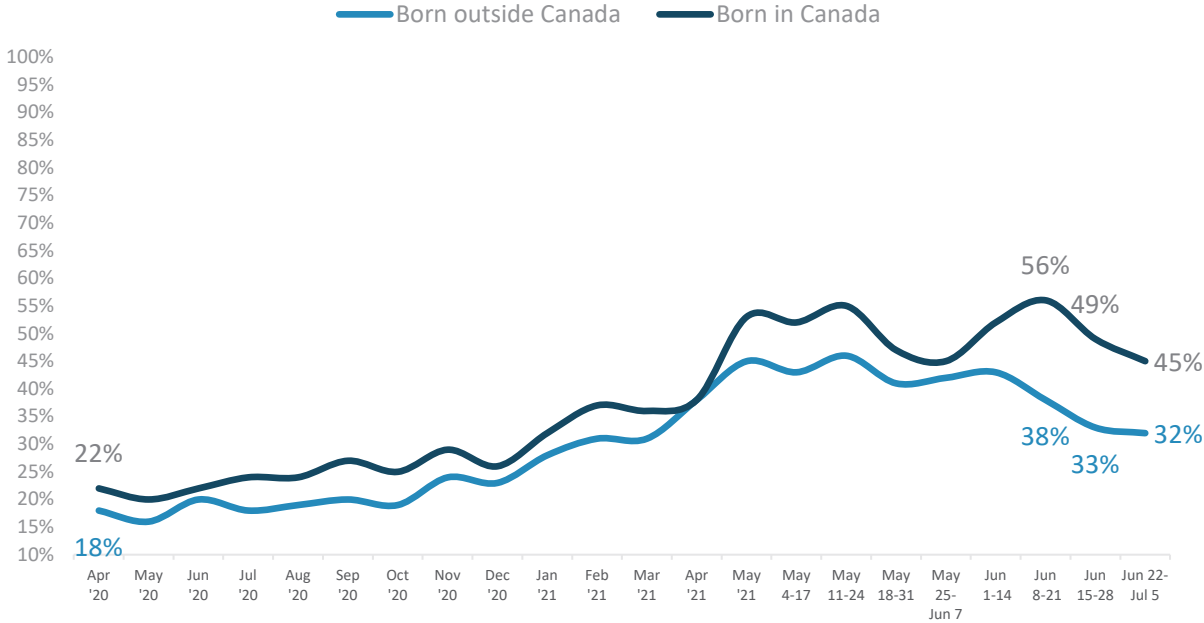


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

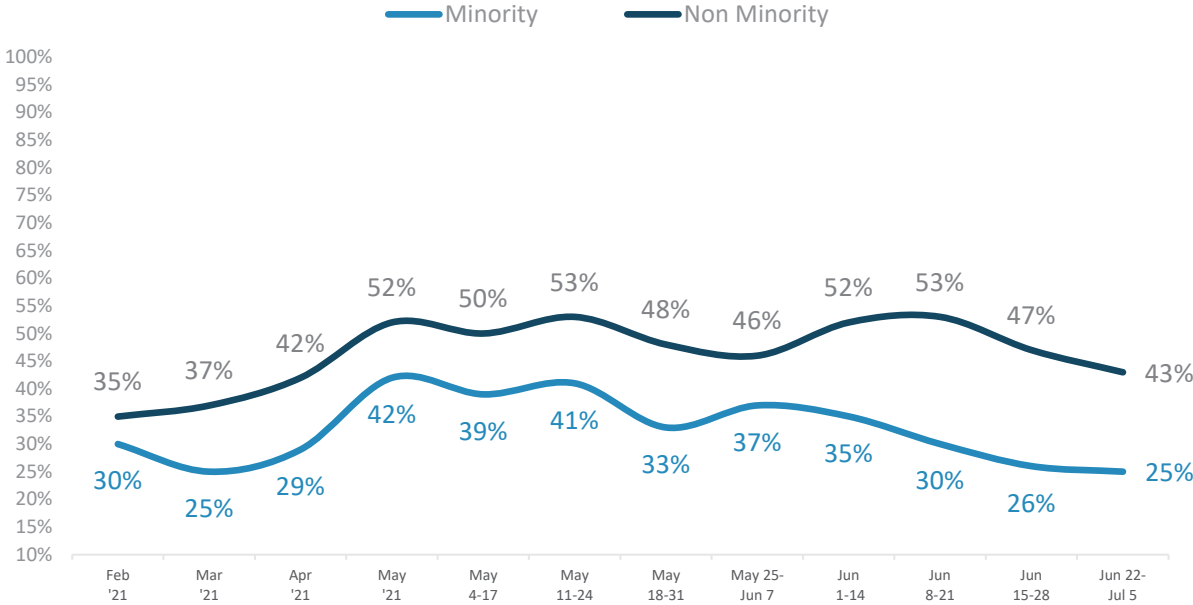
‘Wrong track’ scores declined again this week among those born in Canada and among non-minorities. Scores remained stable among Ontarians born outside of Canada and minorities.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



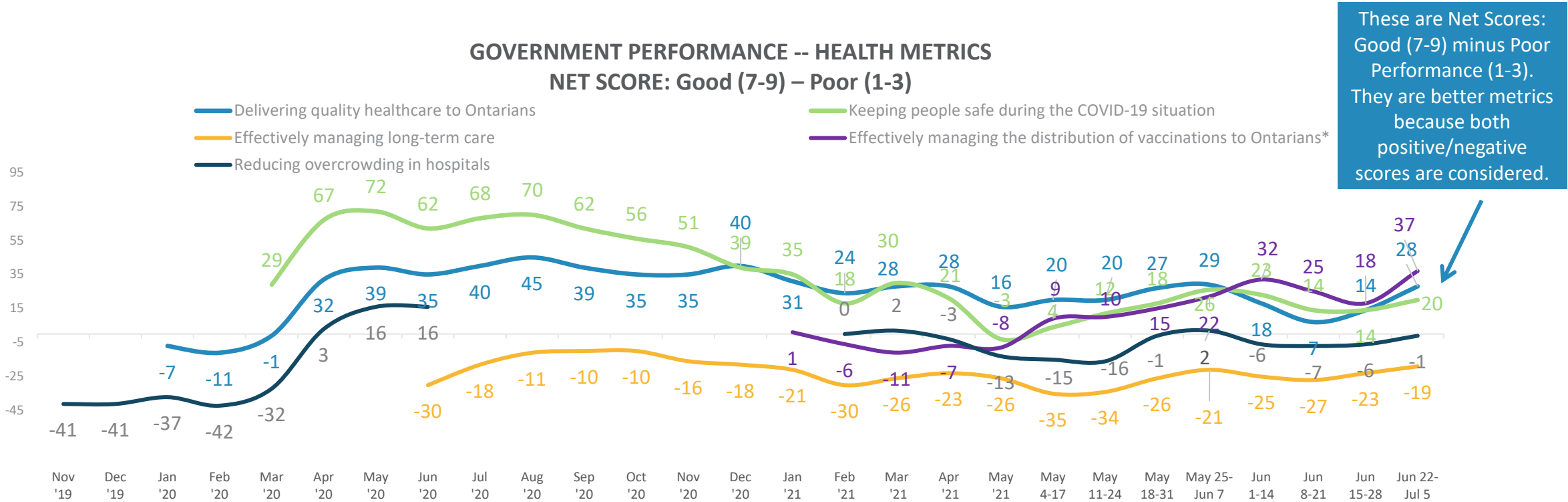
Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



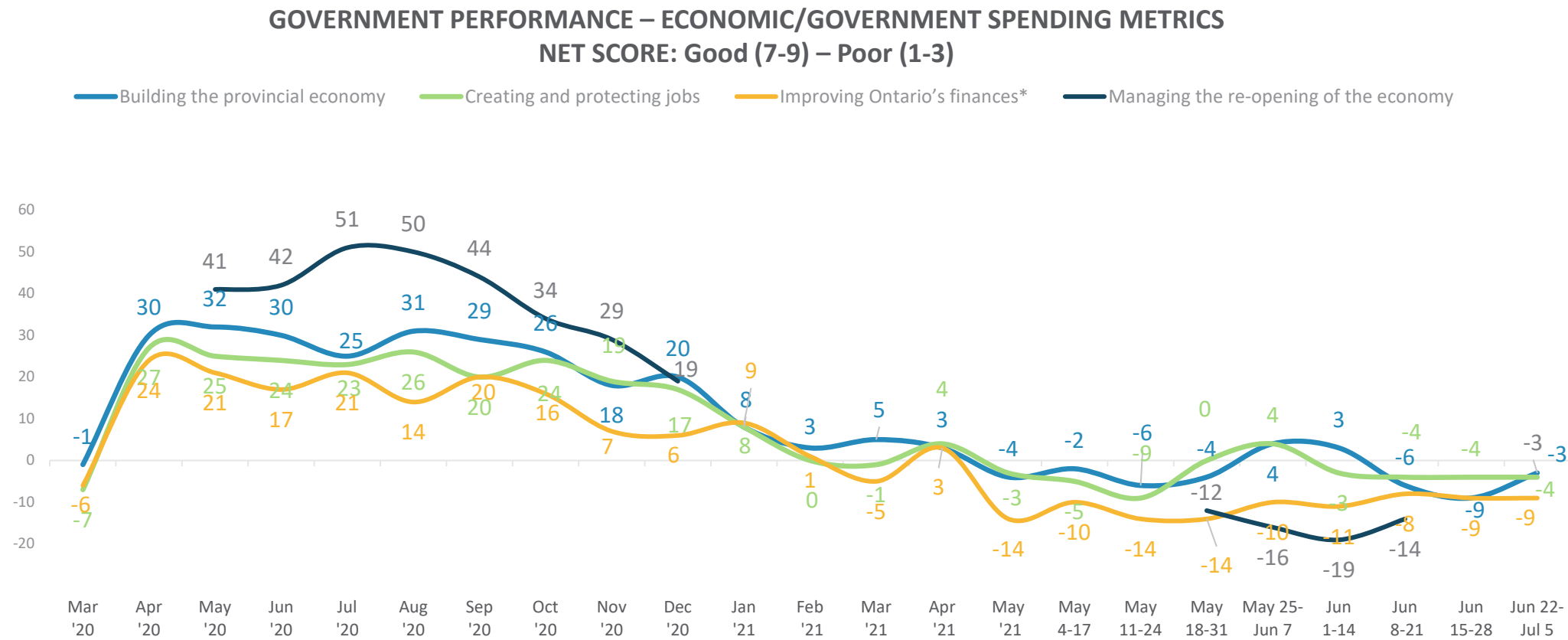
After two weeks of declines, positive rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing vaccinations’ increased this week to the highest level recorded to date. Results for ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ also increased this week.

- Of note, there were also increases measured this week for the three other health metrics.



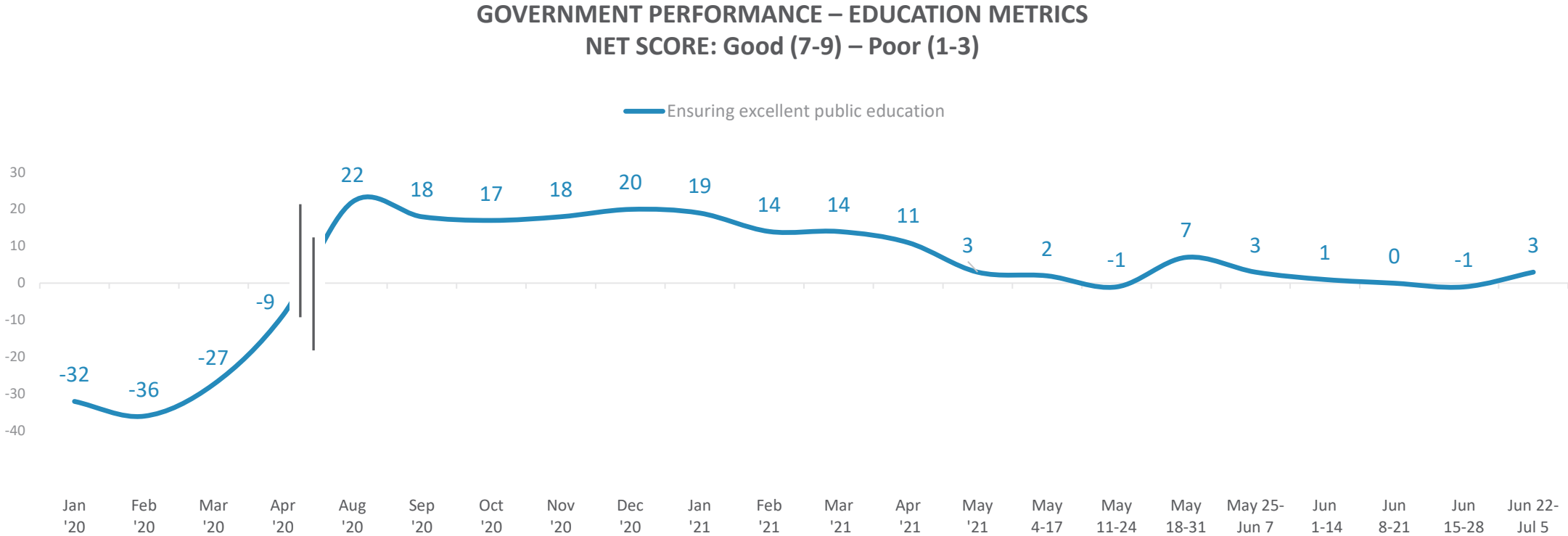
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

While remaining in negative territory, rating of the government’s performance for ‘managing the re-opening of the economy’ has improved 11-points to NET -3. There was also improvements measured for ‘building the provincial economy’ now also at NET -3. The other economic/government spending metrics remain unchanged.



Q5. Using a scale 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”
Bases vary

After several weeks of a slow decline, ‘ensuring excellent public education’ improved slightly this week and is out of negative territory.



Q5. Using a scale 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

SUPPORT FOR THE GRADUAL RE-OPENING OF THE ECONOMY



Support for the government's plan for a gradual 3-stage approach to reopening the Ontario economy remained stable this week at 82%, while intensity of support continued to trend upward with 42% now 'very' supportive.

	May '20
n=	1259
	%
TOTAL SUPPORT	87
Strongly support	42
Somewhat support	45
Somewhat oppose	5
Strongly oppose	4
TOTAL OPPOSE	9

	May 25-31	Jun 1-7	Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	varies					
	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORT	78	69	80	88	81	82
Very supportive	25	26	27	32	36	42
Somewhat supportive	53	43	53	57	45	40
Somewhat opposed	11	11	11	6	5	9
Strongly opposed	10	18	7	6	13	7
TOTAL OPPOSE	21	29	18	12	19	17

QCV-47b. The provincial government announced a gradual re-opening plan which involves a 3-stage approach, each lasting 2 to 4 weeks long and the length of each stage being determined by health indicators such as vaccine rollout, hospitalization incidences and severity of COVID 19 in the province. Overall do you support or oppose this overall approach?

QCV-47. This plan involves a 3 stage approach, each lasting 2 to 4 weeks long and the length of each stage being determined by medical indicators of the incidence and severity of COVID 19 in the province. Overall do you support or oppose this overall approach?

Base: Total sample

Preliminary results indicate that three-in-ten (30%) Ontarians support moving into the third stage of the re-opening plan immediately. A further 47% believe this should happen by the end of July.

As Ontario just moved into the first stage of the re-opening plan, when should Ontario move into the second stage of the re-opening plan?

	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28
n=	300	300
	%	%
Immediately	22	26
By the end of June	28	27
Early July	19	19
End of July	15	15
In a few months	10	9
Don't know/not sure	6	4

As Ontario just moved into the second stage of the re-opening plan, when should Ontario move into the third stage of the re-opening plan?

	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	300
	%
Immediately	30
End of July	47
In a few months	21
Don't know/not sure	3

QCV-206. As Ontario just moved into the second stage of the re-opening plan, when should Ontario move into the third stage of the re-opening plan? (previous phrasing) As Ontario just moved into the first stage of the re-opening plan, when should Ontario move into the second stage of the re-opening plan?

Base: Total sample

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Jobs training and skills development - followed by innovation and technology investment - are the top items in Ontario jobs and recovery approach. This is followed by the reduction of personal taxes and infrastructure investment.

	Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%
Jobs training and skills development	56	49	52	51
Innovation and technology investment	30	28	26	33
Reduce personal taxes	28	31	32	28
Infrastructure investment	30	30	31	27
Help hard-hit industries	25	25	19	21
Manufacturing incentives	11	15	17	18
Reduce business taxes	14	14	17	15
Don't know/Refuse	3	4	3	4

Ontarians are more inclined to support the reopening of the Canadian-US border to non-essential travel at this point compared to last summer and fall, with support presently at 56%.

To what extent do you support or oppose the opening up of the Canadian border to non-essential US visitors?

	Jul'20	Oct'20
n=	836	579
	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORT	15	13
Strongly support	7	8
Somewhat support	8	5
Neither support nor oppose	4	3
Somewhat oppose	12	11
Strongly oppose	68	71
TOTAL OPPOSE	80	82
Don't know/not sure		

Do you support or oppose the re-opening of the Canadian-US border to non-essential travel?

Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
varies			
%	%	%	%
51	56	58	56
22	30	27	28
28	26	31	28
-	-	-	-
25	21	21	16
23	19	20	24
48	41	41	40
			4

QER-2. Do you support or oppose the re-opening of the Canadian-US border to non-essential travel?
QCV-100B2. To what extent do you support or oppose the opening up of the Canadian border to non-essential US visitors?
Base: Total sample

Most Ontarians support requiring a proof of full vaccination (86%) or proof of a recent negative COVID-19 test (81%) should the border with the US re-open for non-essential travel.

% VERY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	300	300	300
	%	%	%
Proof of full vaccination	83	84	86
Proof of a recent negative COVID-19 test	78	78	81
Opening the border with no COVID-19 restrictions on who can enter	24	22	17

QER-5. Thinking now about reopening the border with the USA and the possibility that infections could increase if the border is opened for non-essential travel, how supportive are you of each of the following actions, should the Ontario government require these before agreeing to allow the border to fully reopen.

Base: Total sample

CHANGE IN COVID-19 CASES IF BORDER WITH US RE-OPENED FOR NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL

Ontarians remain split about the impact of re-opening the border with the US to non-essential travel: 48% think there would be little or no impact in the number of COVID-19 cases in the province, while 48% think there would be a significant increase in infections.

	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	300	300	300
	%	%	%
There would be a significant increase in COVID -19 cases in the province	42	48	48
There would be little or no impact in the number of COVID-19 cases in the province	54	48	48
Don't know/not sure	4	4	4

QER-4. If the border with the US were to be reopened to non-essential travel, which of the following do you imagine is most likely to happen?
Base: Total sample

As the vaccine rollout picks up and the economy starts to re-open, Ontarians appear to be wanting to spend money. Again this week, almost four-in-ten (37%) say they will be spending more money this year. This is much higher than a year ago when only 15% indicated that they wished to spend more.

- Compared to previous results, a larger proportion of Ontarians anticipate spending more money and fewer indicate they will be spending less than they normally would.

Since the time of the closing of parts of the economy in response to COVID – 19, have you been

	Jun '20
n=	1735
	%
Spending more than you would normally	12
Spending about as much as you would normally	24
Spending less than you would normally	64

And as the economy starts to reopen again do you anticipate that, for this time of year, you will be ...

Jun '20
1735
%
15
49
36

And Ontario shifts into Phase 3 of the re-opening of the economy, do you anticipate that, for this time of year, you will be ...

Aug '20	Sep '20
889	1181
%	%
16	16
34	39
48	43

With over 70% of Ontario adults vaccinated with their first dose and the number of COVID-19 infections trending downward, do you anticipate that, for this time of year, you will be ...

	Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	varies			
	%	%	%	%
Spending more money then you did at this time last year	33	33	37	37
Spending about the same amount of money as you did at this time last year	48	48	46	51
Spending less money then you did at this time last year	19	17	16	12
Don't know/not sure				<1

QER-3. With over 70% of Ontario adults vaccinated with their first dose and the number of COVID-19 infections trending downward, do you anticipate that, for this time of year, you will be ...

Base: Total sample

QCV-80. Since the time of the closing of parts of the economy in response to COVID – 19, have you been

QCV-81. And as the economy starts to reopen again do you anticipate that, for this time of year, you will be ...

Base: Total sample

QCV111. And Ontario shifts into Phase 3 of the re-opening of the economy, do you anticipate that, for this time of year, you will be ...

Base: Total sample

HAVING AN ECONOMIC PLAN FOR RECOVERY



The increase measured last week in support of a focus on economic issues by the Ontario government was retained this week with 52% of Ontarians in support of this. This week, 37% indicate they think the government’s focus in the coming months should be on health-related issues.

	May 11-24	May 18-31	May 25-Jun 7	Jun 1-14	Jun 8-21	Jun 15-28	Jun 22-Jul 5
n=	varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
It should focus on health-related issues surrounding COVID-19, including minimizing increases in the number of cases and accelerating the vaccine rollout.	50	50	44	47	48	39	37
It should focus on economic issues surrounding COVID-19, including ensuring the economy recovers as quickly as possible and helping prevent more businesses from closing.	40	39	45	45	45	53	52
Both a health and an economic focus are equally important.	9	10	9	7	6	8	10

Ontarians continue to want to hear more about the government’s plans for economic recovery, with over eight-in-ten (82%) agreeing with this.

It is essential that Ontario have a jobs and recovery plan in response to COVID-19

	Jun '20
n=	varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	95
Strongly agree	73
Somewhat agree	22
Neither agree nor disagree	2
Somewhat disagree	2
Strongly disagree	1
TOTAL DISAGREE	3

I want to hear more about the Ontario government’s plans for economic recovery

May 18-24	May 25-31	Jun 1-7	Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
varies						
%	%	%	%	%	%	%
80	84	83	76	82	85	82
55	50	56	49	58	60	52
25	34	27	27	24	25	30
7	10	3	6	5	4	5
5	3	9	9	3	5	6
6	2	4	8	7	5	6
11	5	13	17	10	11	12

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

TIME FOR THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TO START FOCUSING ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Over eight-in-ten (85%) Ontarians also continue to agree that it’s time for the Ontario government to start focusing more attention on economic recovery. This compares to 35% a year ago.

It is time for the government to put more focus on getting the economy moving and less on stopping the spread of COVID-19

	Jun '20	Jul '20
n=	varies	
	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	36	35
Strongly agree	14	15
Somewhat agree	21	20
Neither agree nor disagree	7	7
Somewhat disagree	24	25
Strongly disagree	32	31
TOTAL DISAGREE	56	56

It’s time for the Ontario government to start focusing more attention on economic recovery

May 18-24	May 25-31	Jun 1-7	Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
varies						
%	%	%	%	%	%	%
70	72	84	76	82	82	85
39	32	56	36	52	50	55
31	41	28	39	30	33	30
4	6	8	7	6	4	6
15	15	5	11	10	8	8
10	5	3	5	2	4	1
25	20	8	16	12	12	9

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

However, Ontarians continue to be uncertain whether the government has a plan for economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns, with half (52%) agreeing that the government doesn’t have a plan.

I don’t think the Ontario government has a plan for the economic recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 shutdowns

	May 18-24	May 25-31	Jun 1-7	Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	59	49	56	44	53	49	52
Strongly agree	28	19	22	17	19	22	20
Somewhat agree	32	30	34	26	34	27	32
Neither agree nor disagree	10	12	12	12	7	15	12
Somewhat disagree	19	19	19	25	24	23	23
Strongly disagree	10	15	9	15	14	10	12
TOTAL DISAGREE	29	34	29	40	38	33	35

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

Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF THE
GOVERNMENT'S PERFORMANCE
IN HANDLING
SECOND/THIRD/FOURTH WAVE OF COVID-19



MOST RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCREASE IN INFECTION CASES

Ontarians tend to believe that if there were a fourth wave of the pandemic in Ontario, allowing air travel from possible COVID variants hotspots (39%) would be the most responsible for the increase in infections. The emergence of a variety of COVID variants (20%) is the next most cited reason.

Which one of the following do you believe is the most responsible for the recent increase of infection cases and leading to a Wave 3 of COVID -19?

	May 4-10	May 11-17	May 18-24	May 25-31	Jun 1-7	Jun 8-14
n=	300	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Allowing air travel from possible COVID variants hotspots	29	36	28	28	32	35
The emergence of a variety of COVID variants	16	11	20	18	18	15
Infections introduced into Ontario by international travellers by land	13	15	14	14	15	11
Not restricting social contact quickly enough/(previous phrasing) The timing of restrictions limiting social contact	23	21	19	20	18	19
Infections introduced into Ontario by interprovincial travelers	6	6	6	4	4	7
All of these	4	4	6	7	6	4
Don't know/not sure	9	8	7	10	7	9

If there were a 4th wave of the pandemic in Ontario, which one of the following do you believe would be most responsible for the increase in infections?

Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun29-Jul 5
300	300	300
%	%	%
37	37	39
27	35	20
10	11	16
13	8	10
3	1	4
4	3	6
6	5	5

There is concern about the possibility of a fourth wave, with 58% of Ontarians saying they are concerned.

	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	3000	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	60	68	58
Very concerned	17	26	16
Somewhat concerned	43	43	42
Not too concerned	25	19	21
Not at all concerned	14	12	19
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	39	31	41

However, Ontarians tend to feel the Ontario government is prepared to handle a fourth wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly. Seven-in-ten (71%) believe the government is prepared for a fourth wave of infections.

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

	Oct '20	Nov '20
n=	621	1052
	%	%
TOTAL PREPARED	76	74
Very prepared	15	17
Somewhat prepared	62	57
Not very prepared/Not too prepared	15	16
Not at all prepared	7	8
TOTAL NOT PREPARED	21	24
Don't know/not sure		

How prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a 'fourth' wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly? Would you say the Ontario government is . .

Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
300	300	300
%	%	%
66	75	71
19	17	17
48	58	54
20	16	16
11	9	12
32	25	27
		2

QCV-211. How prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a 'fourth' wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly? Would you say the Ontario government is . .

QCV-127. Considering the increasing rate of infection, how prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a second wave of infections this fall? Would you say the Ontario government is...

Base: Total sample

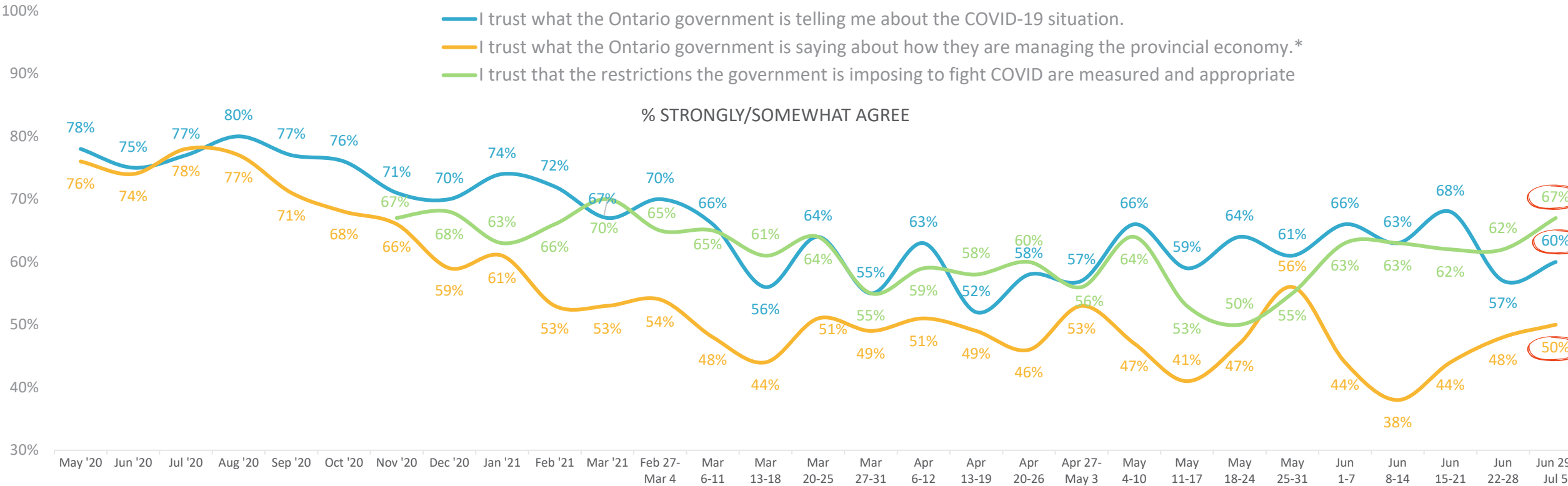
CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



TRUST IN THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COVID-19

‘How they are managing the provincial economy’ continued to trend upwards this week, however trust remains lower than that measured for the other government communications.

- Trust regarding what the government is ‘telling me about the COVID-19 situation’ as well as ‘the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured and appropriate’ also both increased this week.



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

COVID-19 INFECTIONS



Agreement that we are over the worst of COVID-19 continues to increase with 77% of Ontarians now believing this.

I believe that we are over the worst of COVID-19

	May 18-24	May 25-31	Jun 1-7	Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	53	60	70	68	71	75	77
Strongly agree	22	25	30	26	32	31	40
Somewhat agree	31	35	40	42	39	44	38
Neither agree nor disagree	7	8	8	7	8	7	6
Somewhat disagree	22	16	12	19	8	10	8
Strongly disagree	14	12	8	4	11	7	7
TOTAL DISAGREE	36	28	20	22	19	17	15

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

Base: Total sample

Ontarians also feel that the threat of contracting the virus has declined. Eight-in-ten Ontarians continue to believe the threat of contracting COVID-19 is much less now compared to a month ago – up from 26% at the beginning of May.

% STRONGLY/ SOMEWHAT AGREE	Jun '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Jan 16-21	Jan 23-28	Jan 30-Feb 4	Feb 6-11	Feb 13-18	Feb 20-25	Feb 27-Mar 4	Mar 6-11	Mar 13-18	Mar 20-25	Mar 27-31	Apr 6-12	Apr 13-19	Apr 20-26	Apr 27-May 3	May 4-10	May 11-17	May 18-24	May 25-31	Jun 1-7	Jun 8-14	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5
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	18	22	22	35	35	44	41	40	41	32	39	41	21	18	19	26	29	49	64	69	77	80	77	79	79

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

VACCINATION REQUIREMENT AT THE WORKPLACE, SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES



Preliminary results indicate that Ontarians are split in feeling safe and comfortable working with unvaccinated people.

I feel safe and comfortable working with unvaccinated people

	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	149
	%
TOTAL AGREE	49
Strongly agree	24
Somewhat agree	25
Somewhat disagree	18
Strongly disagree	32
TOTAL DISAGREE	50

QCV-212. (14) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

EVERYONE SHOULD BE FULLY VACCINATED TO RETURN TO A WORKPLACE

Early results show that two-thirds (65%) of Ontarians agree that to return to a workplace, everyone should have to prove they are fully vaccinated. And, intensity is strong with 43% ‘strongly’ agreeing.

To return to a workplace everyone should have to prove they are fully vaccinated

	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	150
	%
TOTAL AGREE	65
Strongly agree	43
Somewhat agree	23
Somewhat disagree	15
Strongly disagree	18
TOTAL DISAGREE	33

QCV-212. (14) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

Preliminary results show that a majority (58%) disagree that people have no right to know if a person is vaccinated or not.

People have no right to know if I’m vaccinated or not

	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	150
	%
TOTAL AGREE	41
Strongly agree	25
Somewhat agree	16
Somewhat disagree	19
Strongly disagree	39
TOTAL DISAGREE	58

QCV-212. (14) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

Early results indicate that seven-in-ten (71%) Ontarians agree that eligible elementary and high school students returning to in-class learning in September should be required to be fully vaccinated. And, fully half (50%) ‘strongly’ agree with this.

Eligible elementary and high school students returning to in-class learning in September should be required to be fully vaccinated

	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	149
	%
TOTAL AGREE	71
Strongly agree	50
Somewhat agree	20
Somewhat disagree	13
Strongly disagree	16
TOTAL DISAGREE	29

QCV-212. (14) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

Preliminary results show even more agreement that college and university students returning to campus life should be required to be fully vaccinated. Three-quarters (75%) of Ontarians agree with 62% ‘strongly’ agreeing.

College and university students returning to campus life should be required to be fully vaccinated

	Jun 29-Jul 5
n=	152
	%
TOTAL AGREE	75
Strongly agree	62
Somewhat agree	13
Somewhat disagree	6
Strongly disagree	18
TOTAL DISAGREE	24
Not applicable	1
Don't know	1

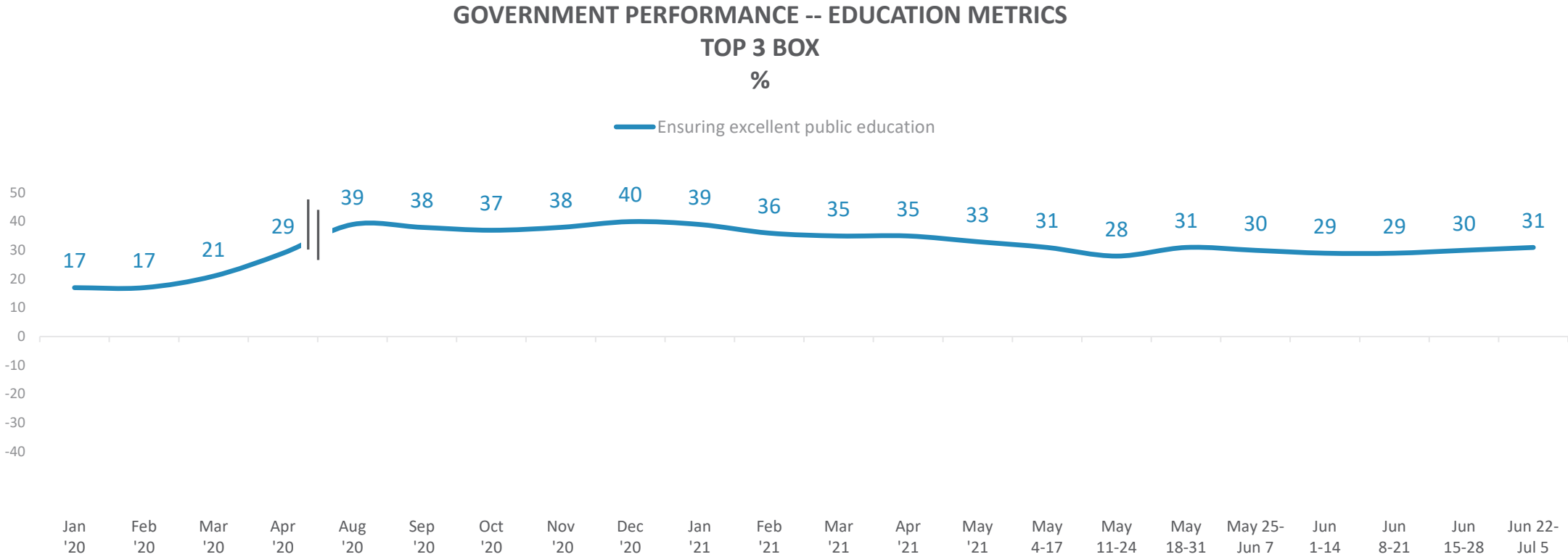
QCV-212. (14) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

APPENDIX – PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

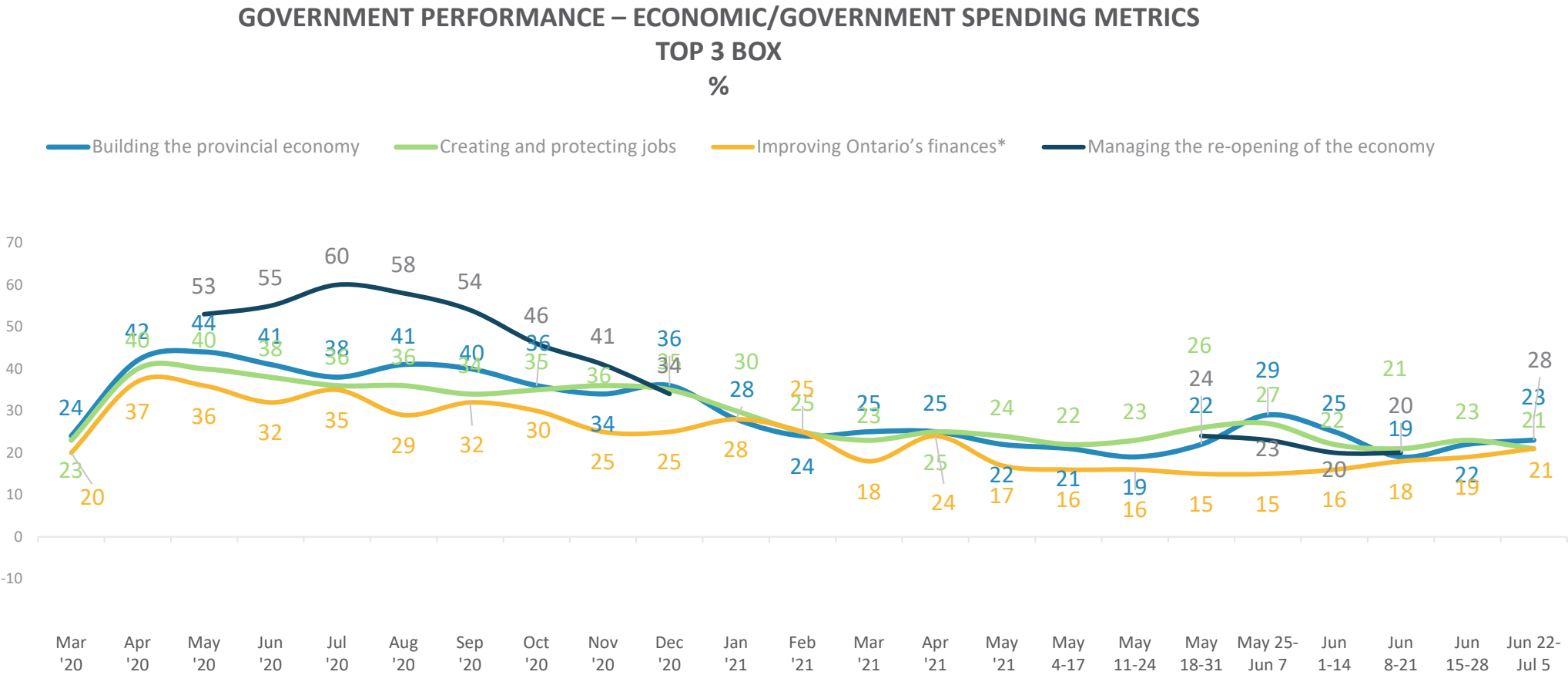


Positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ remained steady again this week.



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

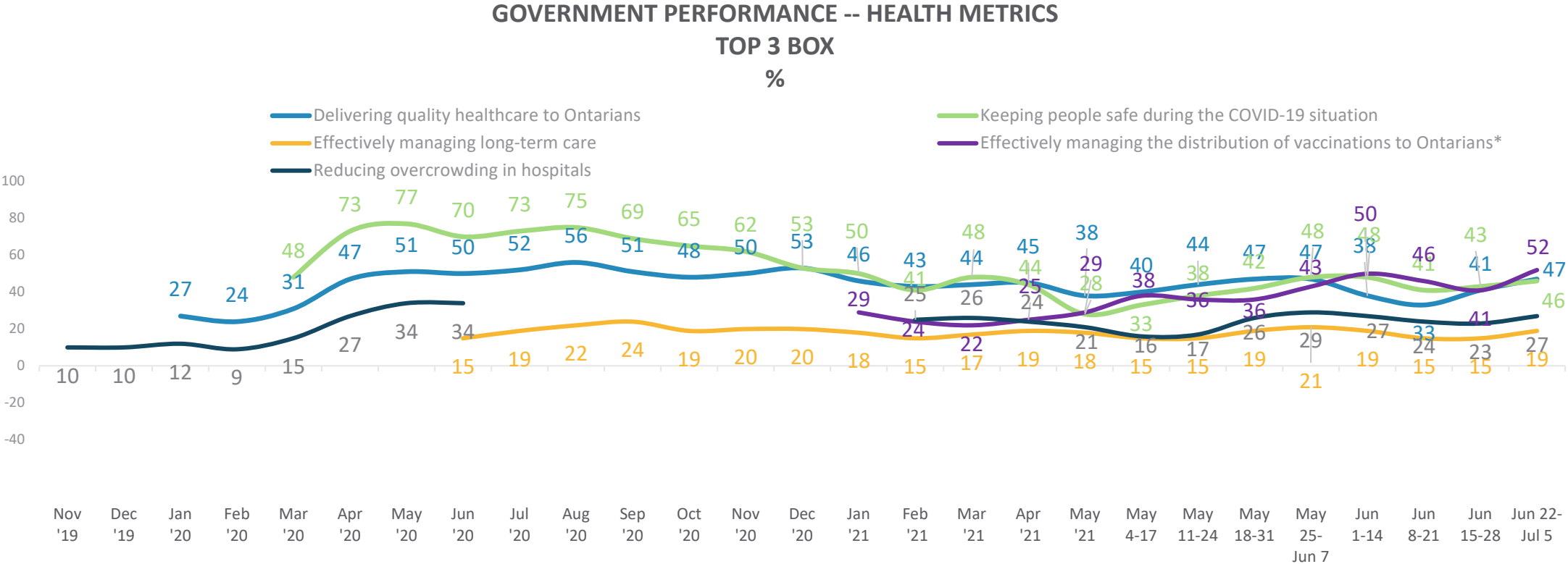
There has been an increase measured in the positive perceptions toward the government’s performance on ‘managing the re-opening of the economy’.



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

*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
**Former phrasing: “Sufficient business support during the COVID-19 situation”
Bases vary

This week there was an increase in the rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing the distribution of vaccinations to Ontarians’. There were also increases for the other four health metrics this week.



Q5. Using a scale 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: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary