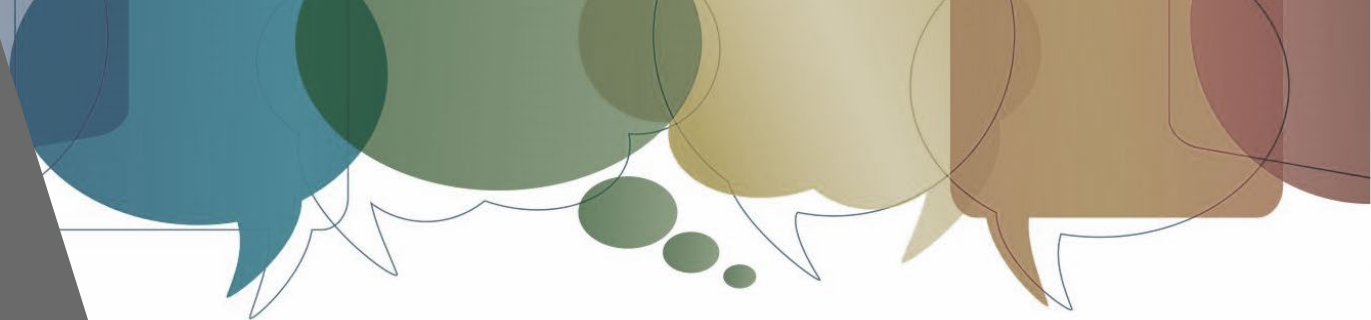




THE
**STRATEGIC
COUNSEL**

EXPERIENCE • PASSION • CREATIVITY

TORONTO | OTTAWA | CALGARY
www.thestrategiccounsel.com



PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #90

CABINET OFFICE
July 20th 2021

Ontario 

KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 The 'right track' scores is at 56% this week.

'Right track' scores declined this week in the Toronto suburbs, while there was an uptick in SW Ontario. As well, over the past two weeks, 'right track' scores have declined in both the urban and suburban areas while increasing slightly in the rural areas.

Connected to this, 'right track' scores have dropped among those born outside of Canada (9-points) as well as among minorities (13-points) over the last two weeks.

And, while Ontarians making <\$40k continue to register the highest 'right track' scores, there have been declines among those making <\$100k.

2 COVID-19, the top priority for the Ontario government, continues to be trending down and is now at its lowest point since the start of the pandemic. And, as COVID-19 infections ease and there is ample vaccine availability, the economy as the top priority has seen a gradual uptick in recent weeks.

3 A majority continues to support a focus on economic issues by the Ontario government in the coming months, with 53% supporting economic issues compared to 38% for health-related issues.

However, Ontarians want to hear more about the government's plans for economic recovery, with over eight-in-ten (85%) agreeing with this.

4 The government's performance for 'effectively managing vaccinations' remains the highest-rated health metric. Results for 'keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation' continued to trend up this week.

Ontarians remain confident that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered, with 73% agreeing with this.

And, while there remains concern about a fourth wave of the pandemic (with an increase measured this week), two-thirds (67%) of Ontarians believe the government is prepared for this.

5 While Ontarians continue to be uncertain whether the government has a plan for economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns, there was an 11-point decline this week to 43% that think the government doesn't have a plan.

Of note, the government's rating for 'managing the re-opening of the economy' has improved since the government's announcement of a gradual re-opening since early June.

Importantly, early results indicate that two-thirds (66%) of Ontarians think the Ontario economy is improving. However, most (62%) think it is 'slowly' improving. Of note, one-in-five (20%) would say it is worsening.

Key Findings

The majority (58%) of Ontarians report their family's financial situation stayed the same over the past year. However, those who say it worsened (27%) is double that who say it improved (14%).

However, Ontarians appear optimistic about the future with six-in-ten (63%) anticipating the financial situation of their household over the next year will be 'excellent/good' (up 7-points compared to the past year) while 6% anticipate it will be 'poor' (down 7-points compared to the past year).

Ontarians also tend to think that students should be vaccinated to return to schools and colleges/universities.

Seven-in-ten (72%) Ontarians agree that eligible elementary and high school students returning to in-class learning in September should be required to be fully vaccinated. And, just over half (55%) 'strongly' agree with this.

There are similar levels of agreement that college and university students returning to campus life should be required to be fully vaccinated, with 73% of Ontarians agreeing and 55% 'strongly' agreeing.

As the economy continues to reopen, there are questions about how to deal with those who are not vaccinated. Just over half (54%) of Ontarians indicate they do not feel safe and comfortable working with unvaccinated people.

And, just over six-in-ten (64%) Ontarians agree that to return to a workplace, everyone should have to prove they are fully vaccinated. Intensity is strong with 48% 'strongly' agreeing.

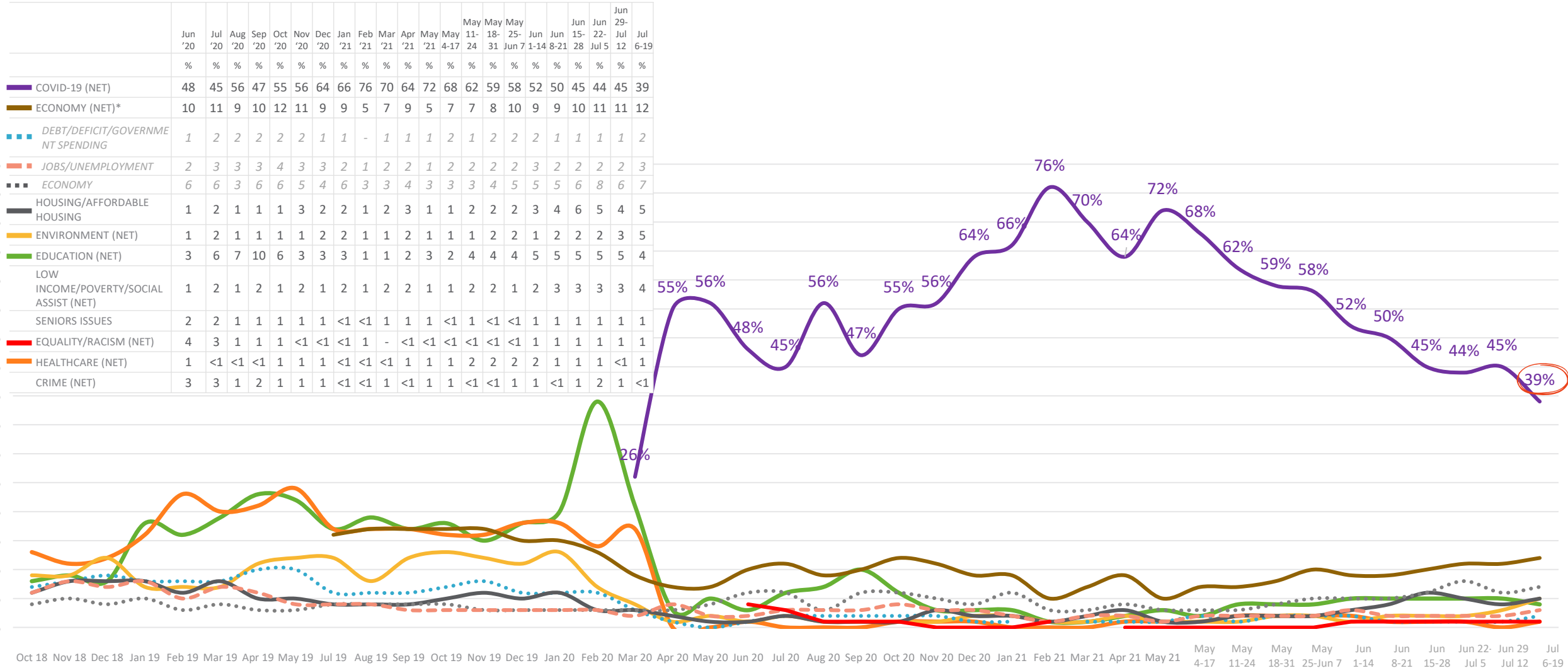
Interestingly, six-in-ten (59%) disagree that people have no right to know if a person is vaccinated or not.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



ONTARIANS' TOP PRIORITIES REQUIRING ATTENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT

The top priority COVID-19 continues to be trending down, and it is now at its lowest point since the start of the pandemic. As COVID-19 infections ease and vaccine rollout continues to be brisk, the economy as the top priority has seen a gradual uptick in recent weeks.



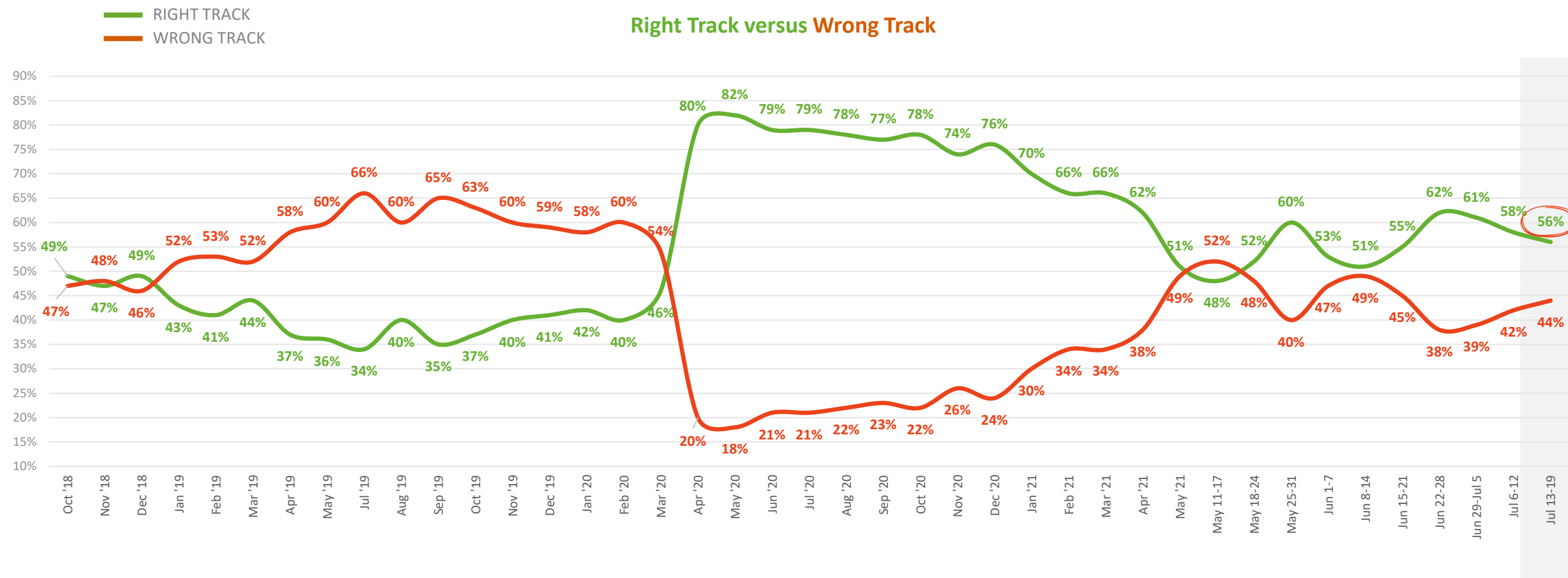
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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

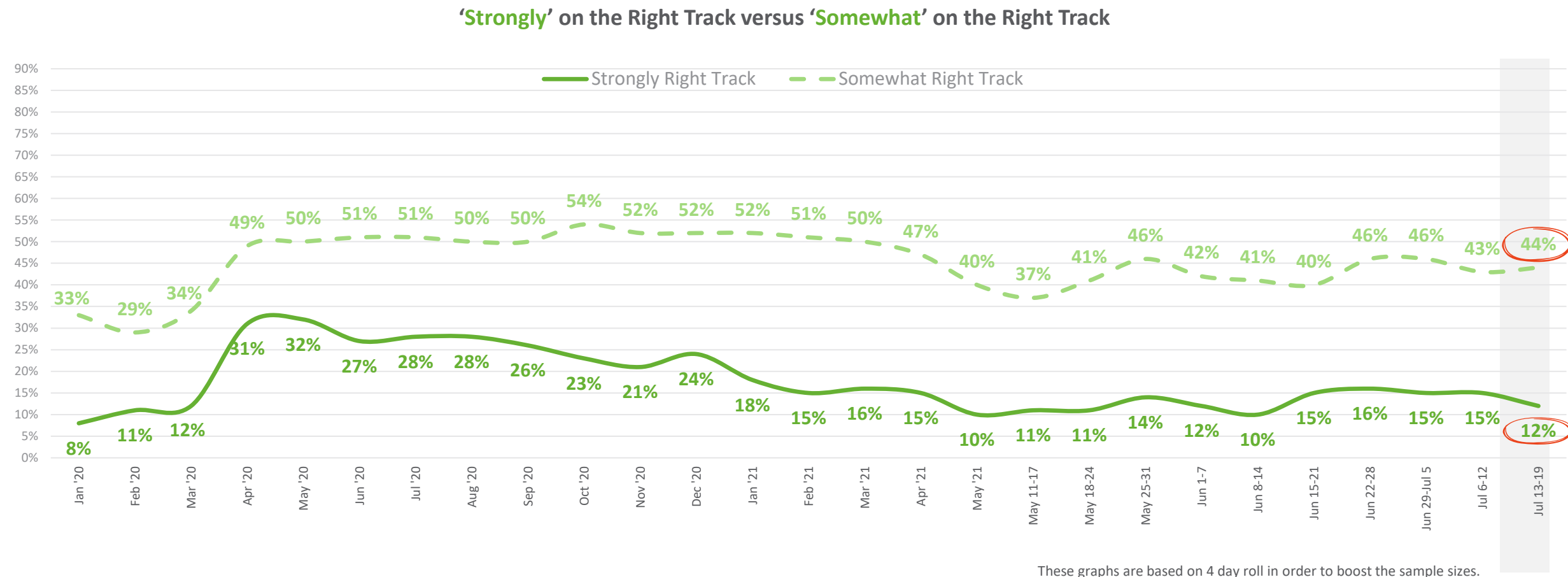


Over the past week, 'right track' scores is at 56%.



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

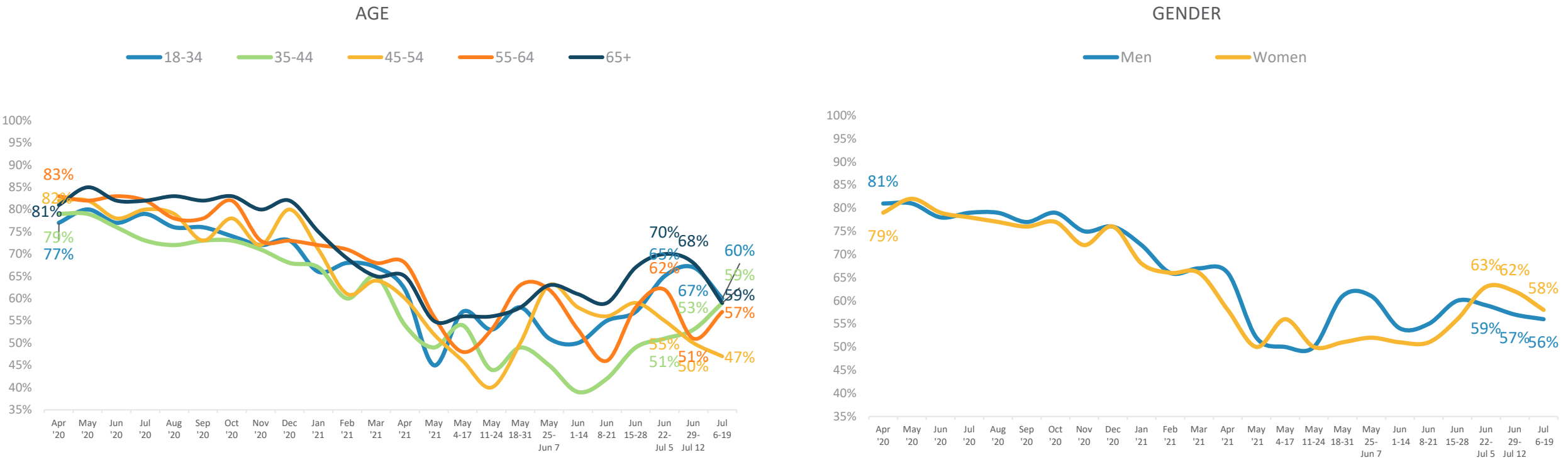
There was a slight decline in ‘right track’ scores this week among those who see the government as ‘strongly on the right track’.



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 declined this week among Ontarians aged 45-54 and 65+, while they moved upward among those aged 35-44. While declining among both genders, women have slightly higher ‘right track’ scores than men.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

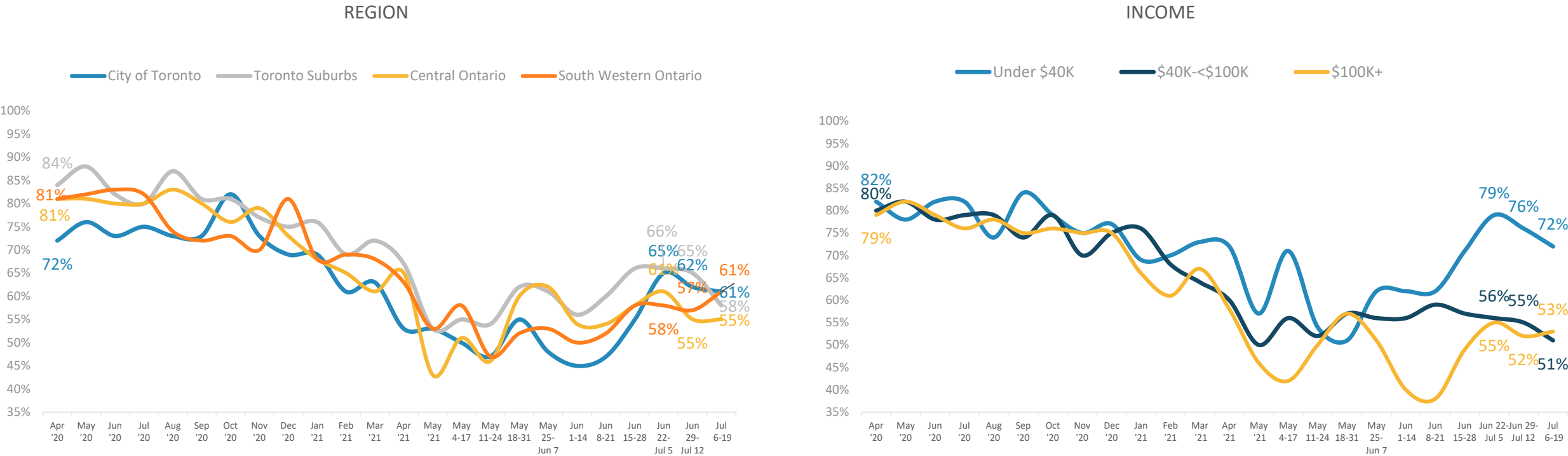


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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 declined this week in the Toronto suburbs, while there was an uptick in SW Ontario. And, while Ontarians making <\$40k continue to register the highest ‘right track’ scores, there have been declines among those making <\$100k.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



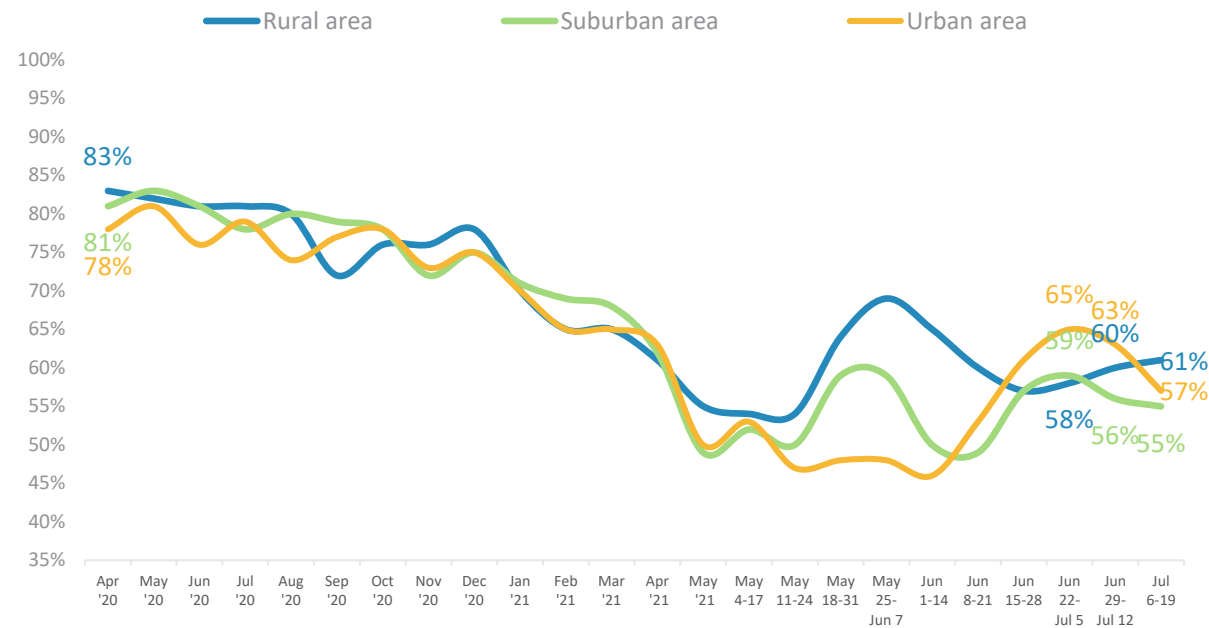
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

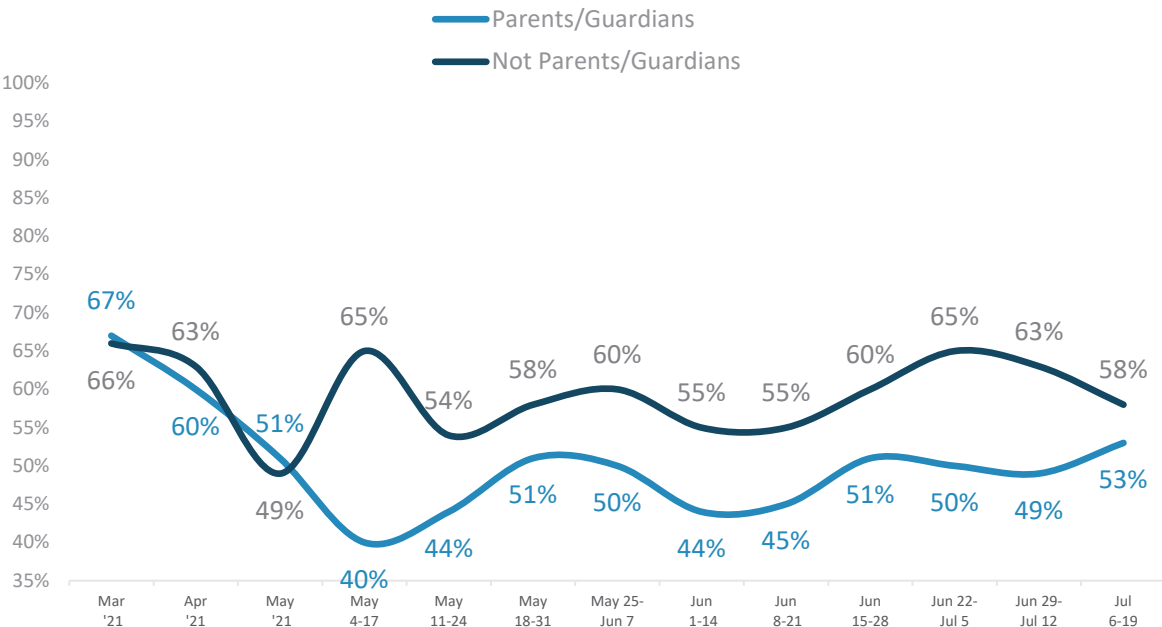
Over the past two weeks, ‘right track’ scores have declined in both the urban and suburban areas while increasing slightly in the rural areas.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS



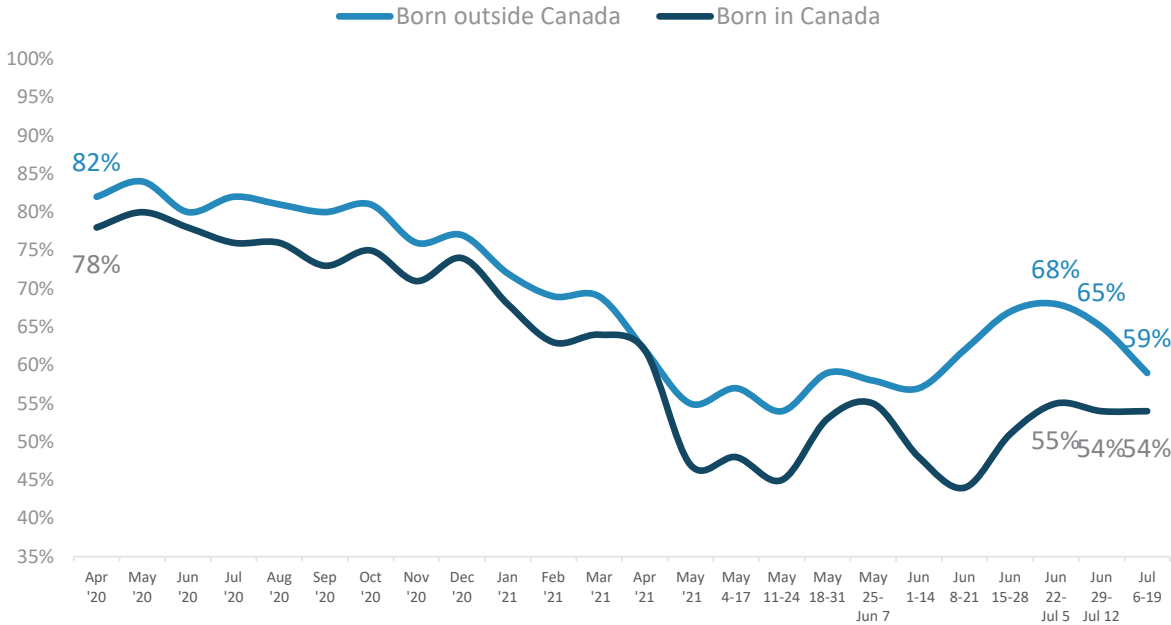
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

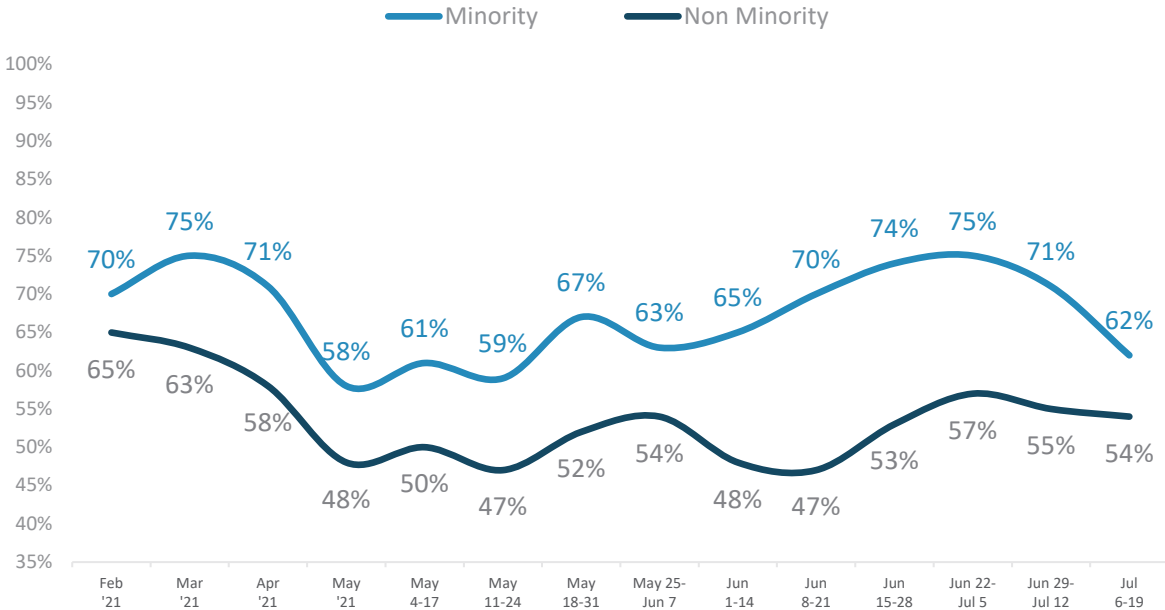
‘Right track’ scores have dropped among those born outside of Canada (9-points) as well as among minorities (13-points) over the last two weeks.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY

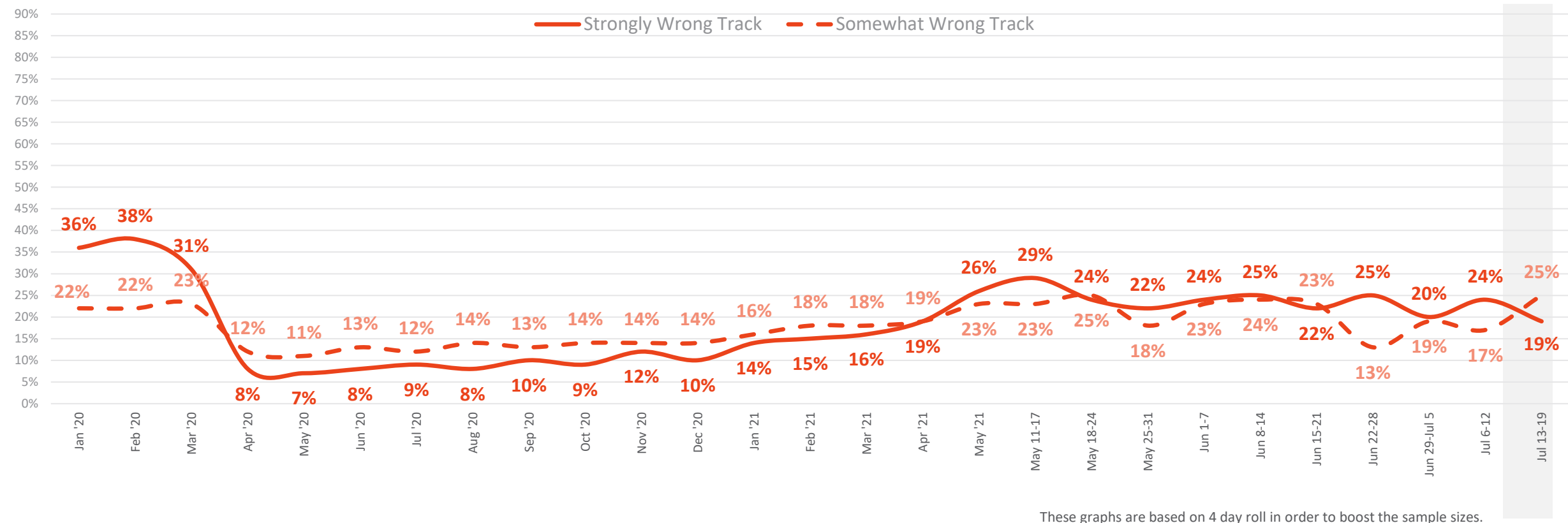


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

Variability continues as ‘strongly on the wrong track’ scores declined this week while ‘somewhat on the wrong track’ increased.

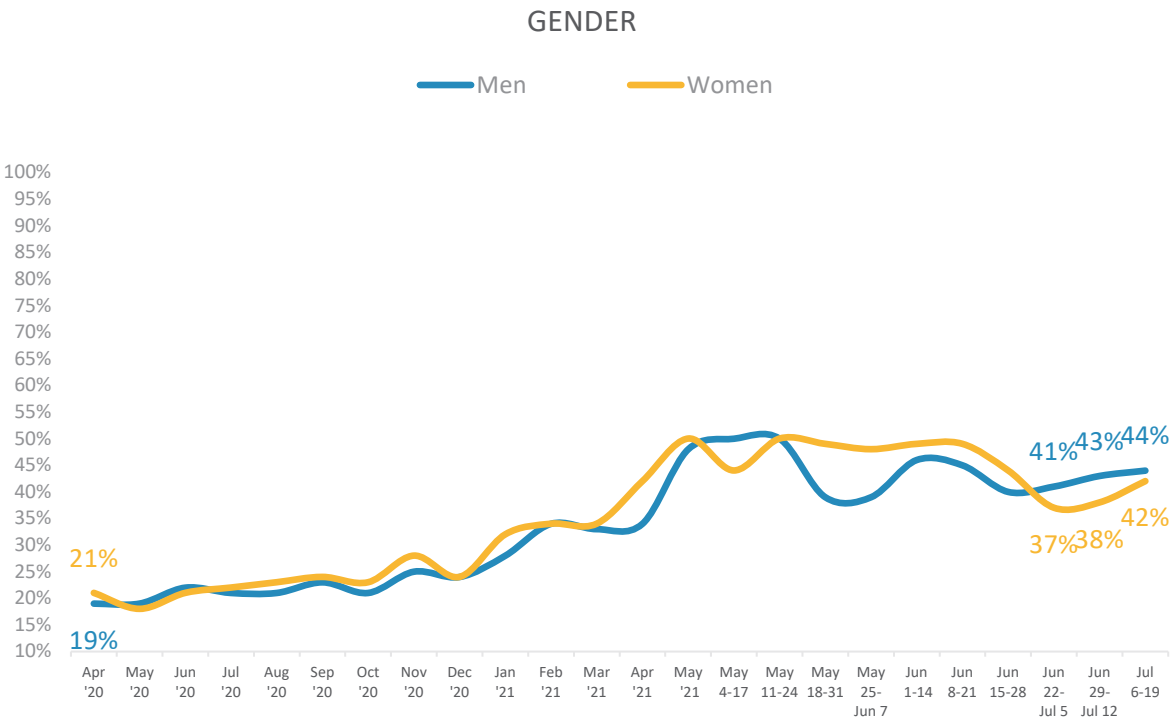
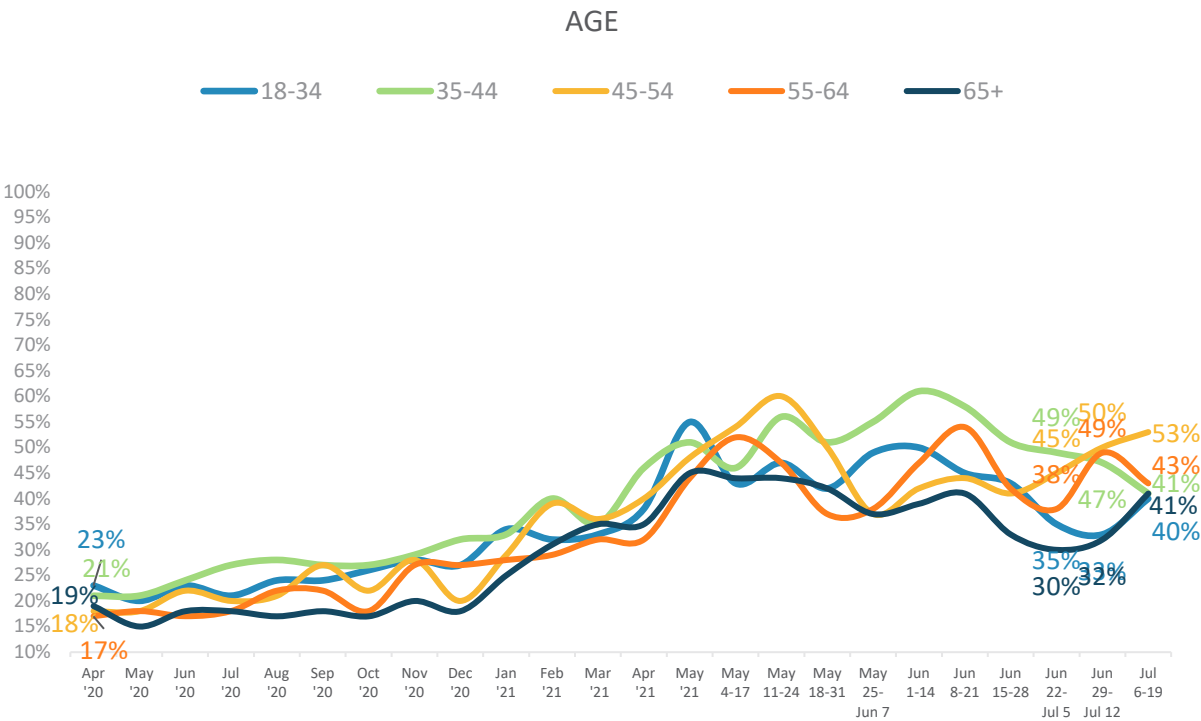
‘Strongly’ on the Wrong Track versus ‘Somewhat’ on the Wrong Track



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

Mirroring ‘right track’ trends, ‘wrong track’ scores among Ontarians aged 18-34, 45-54 and 65+ increased this week, while continuing to decline among those aged 35-44. ‘Wrong track’ scores remain higher this week among men, although there have been increases measured among both genders.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

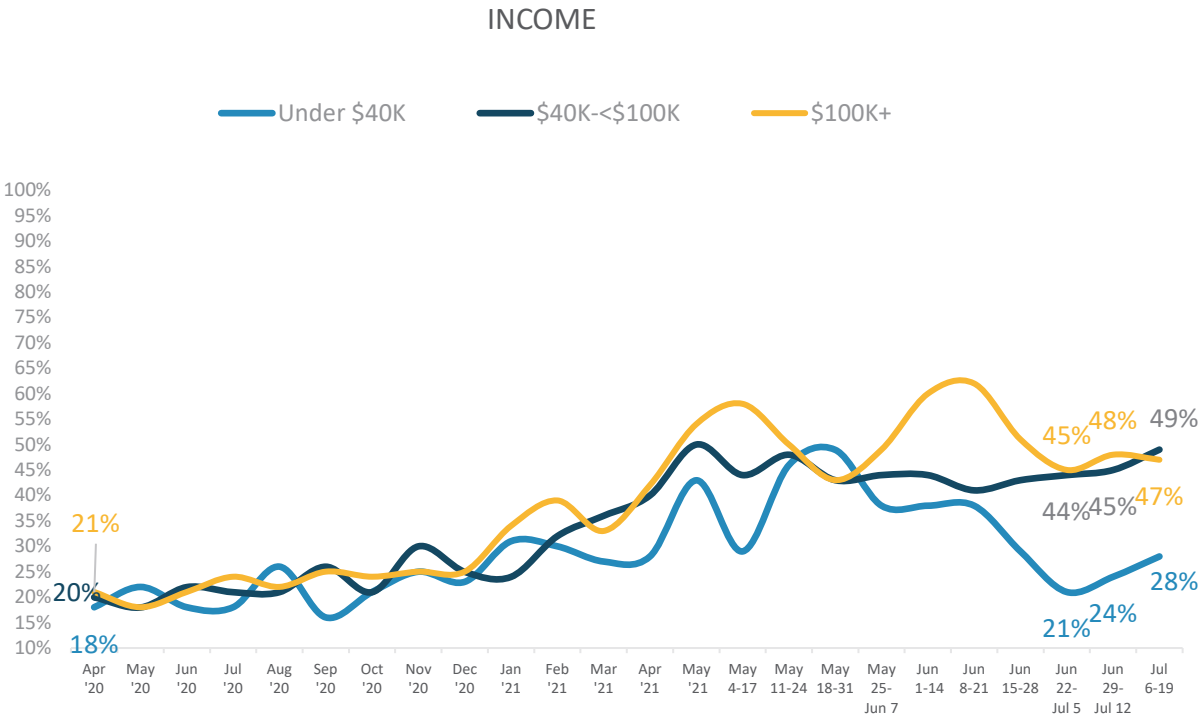
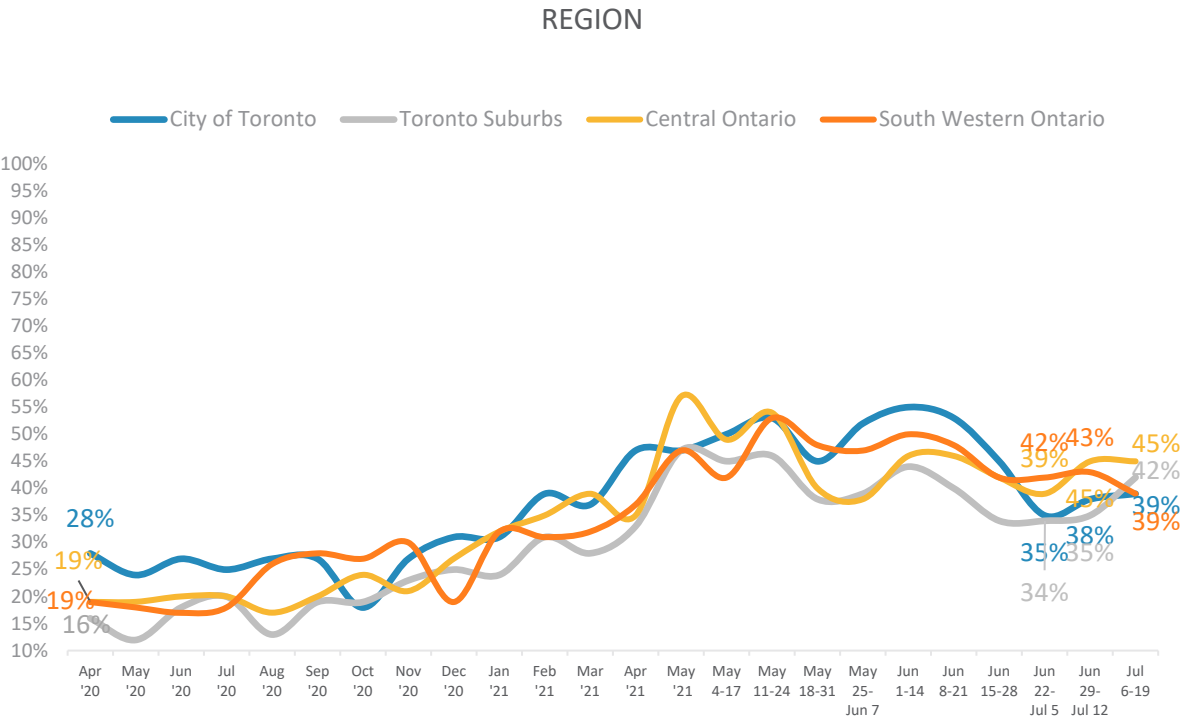


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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 increased in the Toronto suburbs while declining in SW Ontario. ‘Wrong track’ scores remain higher among Ontarians making >\$40k.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



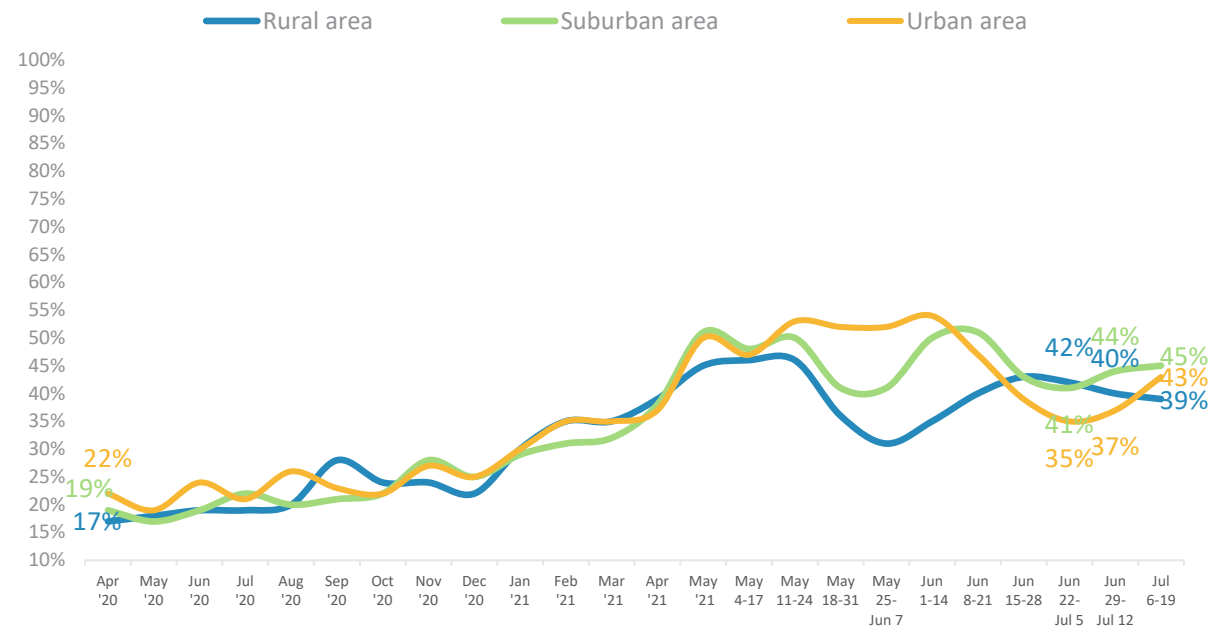
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

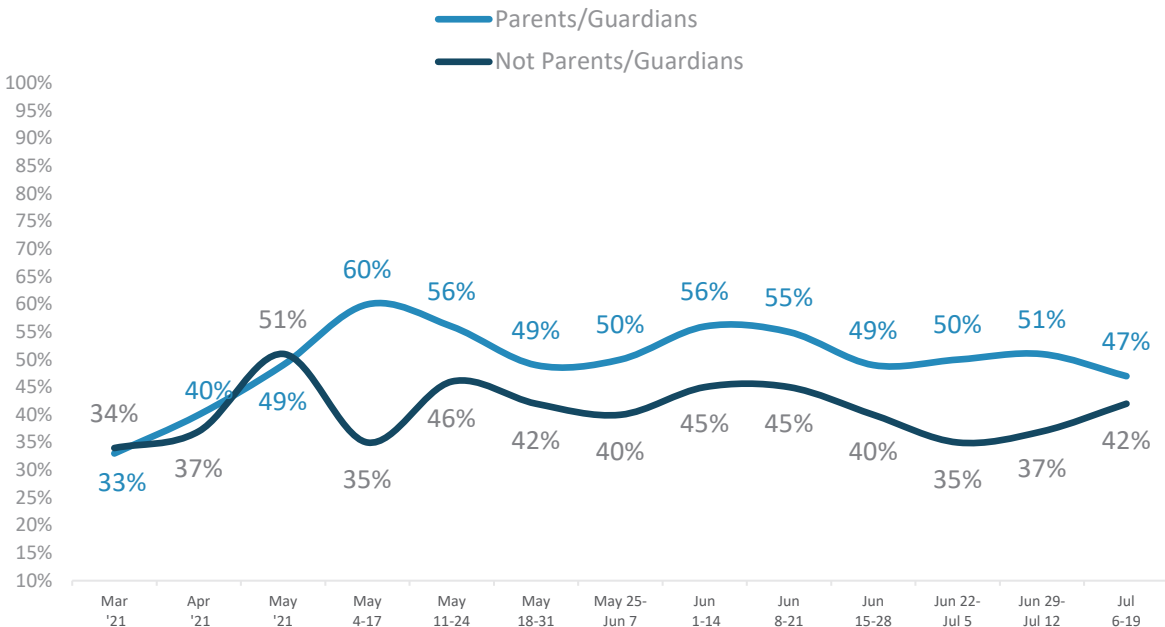
There have been increases in ‘wrong track’ scores in both urban and suburban areas over the past two weeks.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

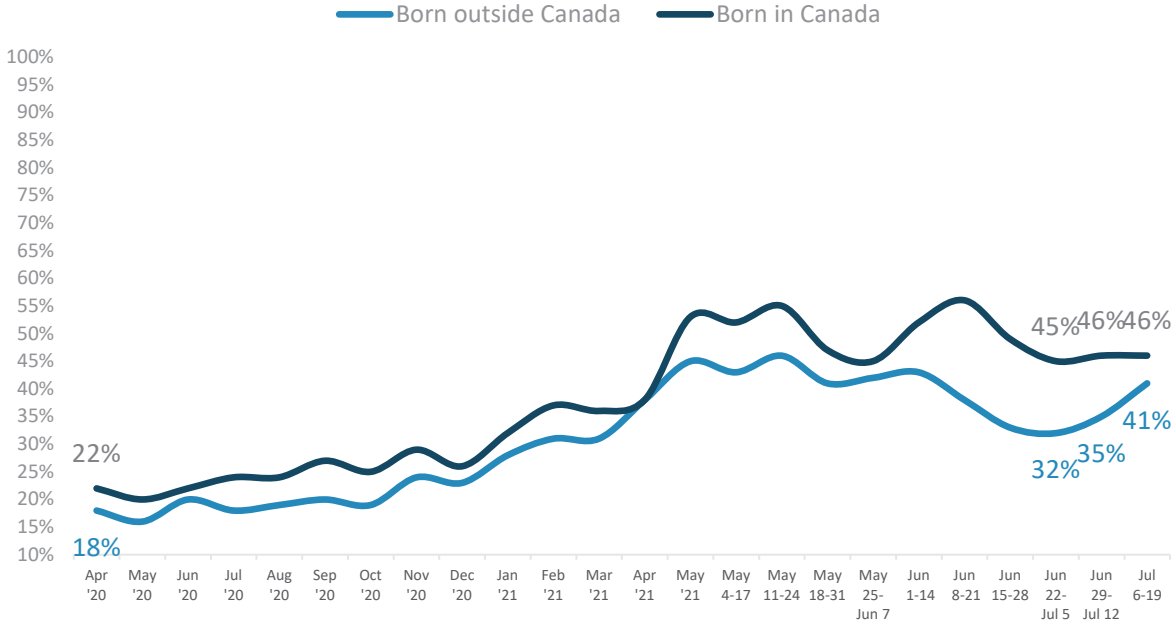


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

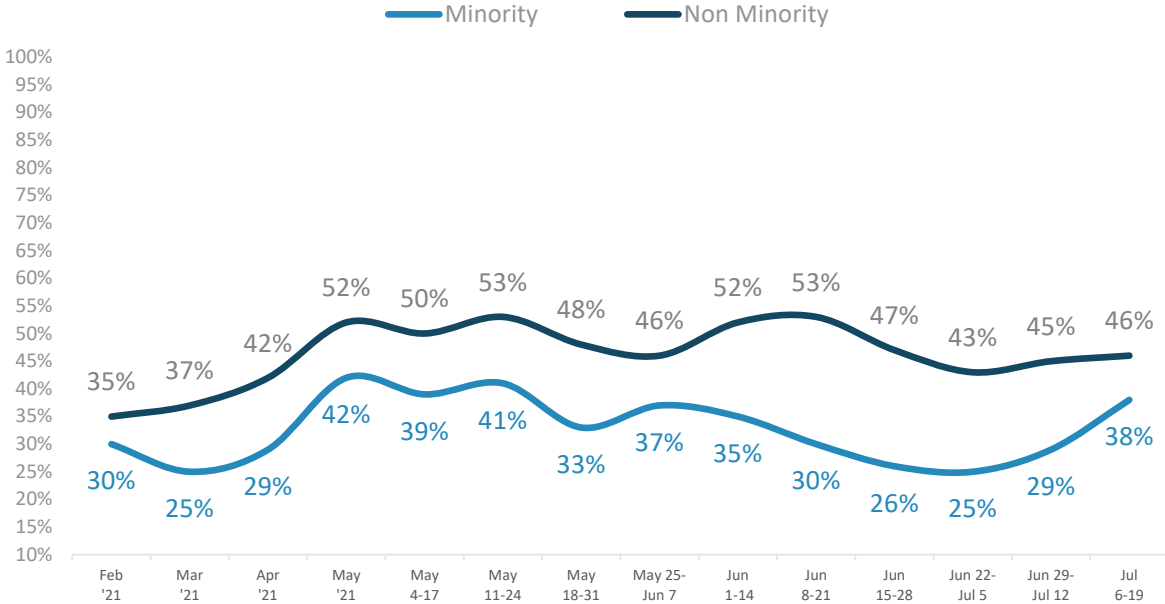
‘Wrong track’ scores increased again this week among those born outside of Canada and minorities.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



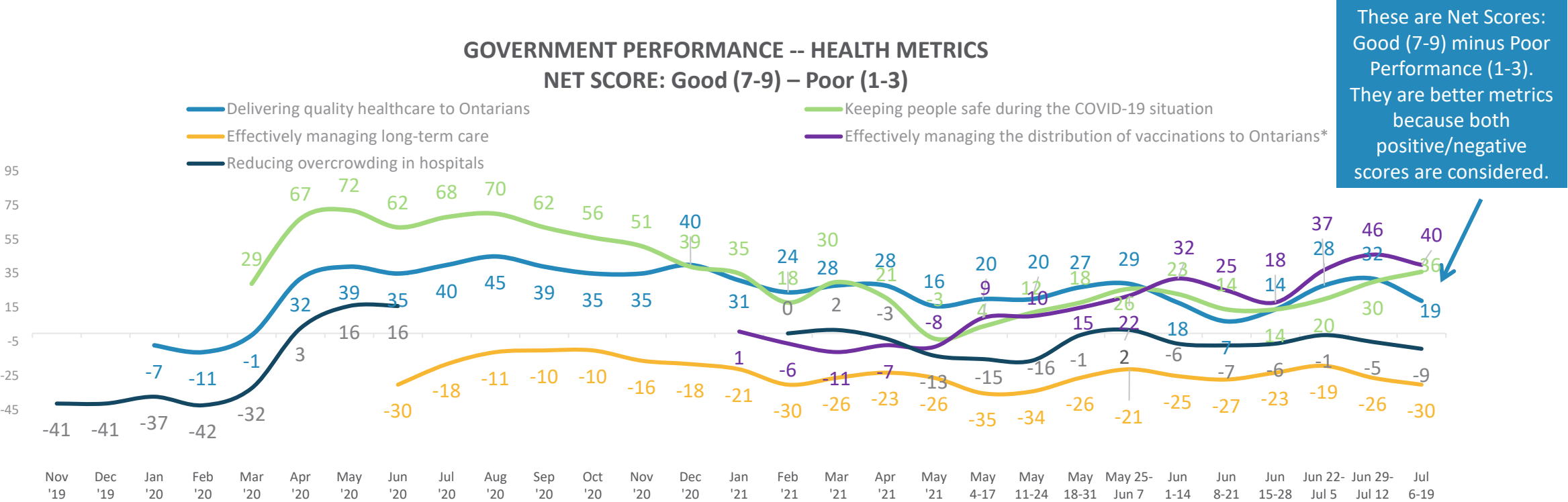
Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



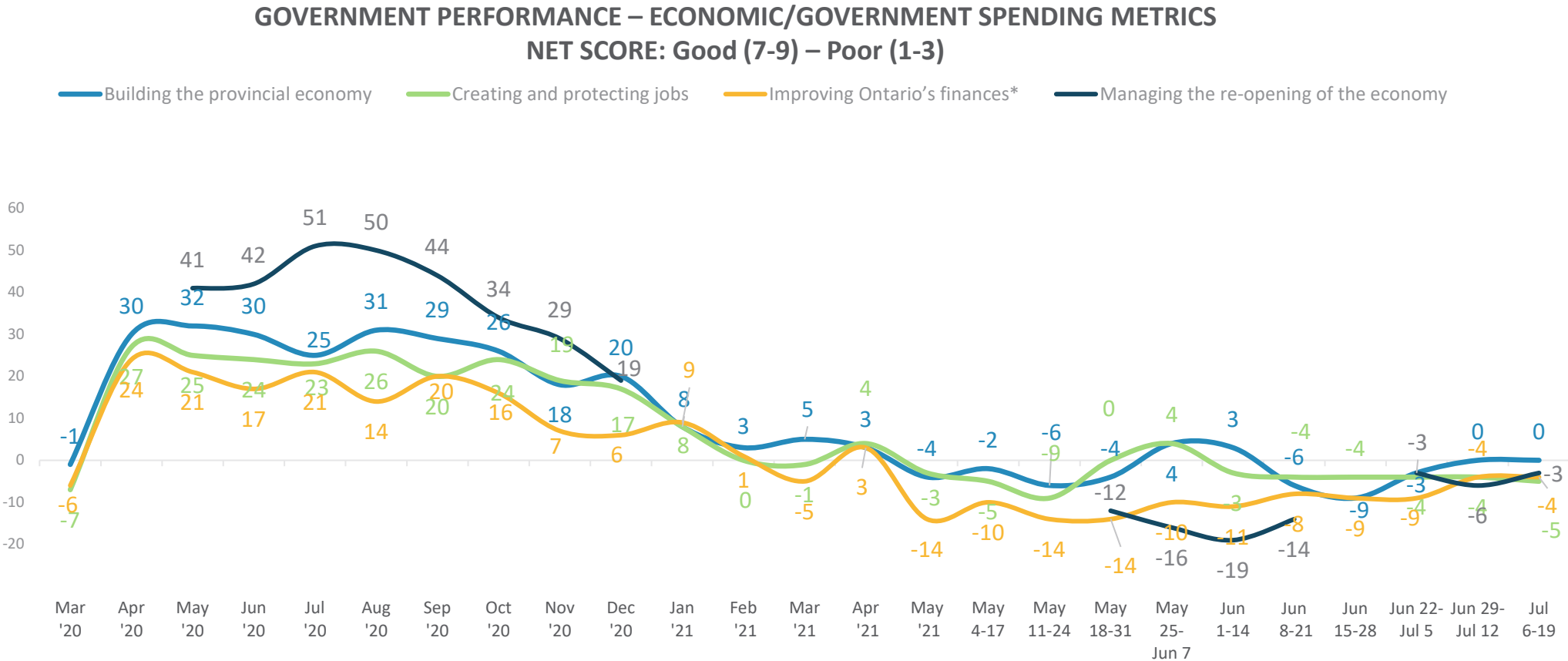
The highest-rated health metric continues to be the government’s performance on ‘effectively managing vaccinations’. Results for ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ continued to trend up this week.

- Of note, there were declines measured for ‘delivering quality healthcare to Ontarians’, ‘effectively managing long-term care’ and ‘reducing overcrowding in hospitals’.



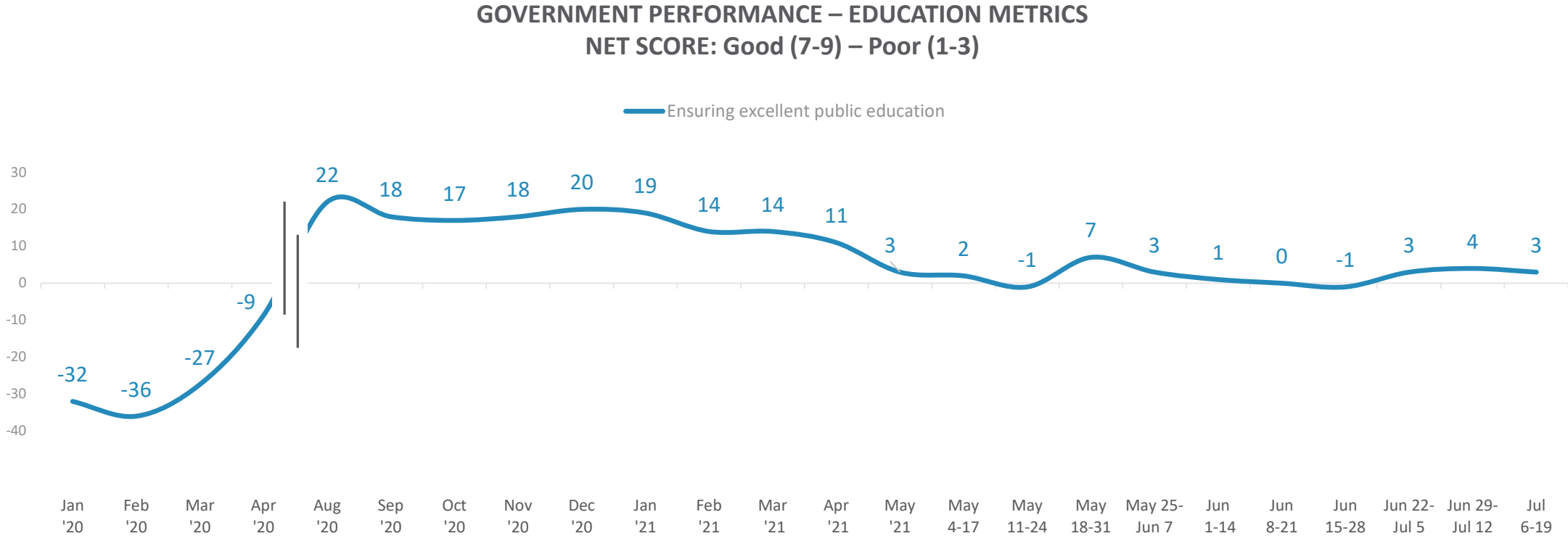
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

The government’s rating for ‘managing the re-opening of the economy has improved since the government’s announcement of a gradual re-opening since early June.



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

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘ensuring excellent public education’ remains unchanged over the past two months.



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

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF ONTARIANS



Over half (56%) of Ontarians describe the personal financial situation of their family over the last year as ‘excellent/good’. One-in-ten (12%) describe it as ‘poor’.

	Jun'21	Jul 13-19
n=	770	300
	%	%
TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD	57	56
Excellent	15	16
Good	42	40
Fair	31	31
Poor	9	10
Very poor	4	1
TOTAL POOR	12	12

CHANGE IN FINANCIAL SITUATION OVER THE PAST YEAR

The majority (58%) of Ontarians report their family’s financial situation stayed the same over the past year. However, those who say it worsened (27%) is double that who say it improved (14%).

	Jun'21	Jul 13-19
n=	764	300
	%	%
TOTAL IMPROVE	15	14
Improve a great deal	3	3
Improve somewhat	13	11
Stay the same	54	58
Worsen somewhat	24	21
Worsen a great deal	7	6
TOTAL WORSEN	31	27

QFP2 How, if at all, did your family's financial situation change over the past year? Did it...
Base: Total sample

ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLD OVER THE NEXT YEAR

Ontarians appear optimistic about the future with six-in-ten (63%) anticipating the financial situation of their household over the next year will be ‘excellent/good’ (up 7-points compared to the past year) while 6% anticipate it will be ‘poor’ (down 7-points compared to the past year).

	Jun'21	Jul 13-19
n=	763	300
	%	%
TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD	57	63
Excellent	12	16
Good	44	47
Fair	32	28
Poor	7	6
Very poor	2	-
TOTAL POOR	10	6

QFP3 And over the next year do you anticipate that the financial situation of your household will be...

Base: Total sample

GROUPS NEGATIVELY AFFECTED FINANCIALLY BY THE PANDEMIC

Preliminary results indicate that most (95%) Ontarians believe that small business workers have been negatively affected financially as a result of the pandemic. And, nine-in-ten believe this is true for hospitality (90%) and retail (89%) workers.

% VERY/SOMEWHAT NEGATIVELY AFFECTED	Jul 13-19
n=	300
	%
Small businesses workers	95
Hospitality workers	90
Retail workers	89
College and university students	82
Grocery and front-line workers	61

QER8 For the following groups, please indicate how much you believe each has been negatively affected financially as a result of the pandemic?
Base: Total sample

Early results indicate that two-thirds (66%) of Ontarians think the Ontario economy is improving. However, most (62%) think it is ‘slowly’ improving. Of note, one-in-five (20%) would say it is worsening.

	Jul 13-19
n=	300
	%
TOTAL IMPROVING	66
Quickly improving	4
Slowly improving	62
Unchanged	11
Slowly worsening	16
Quickly worsening	5
TOTAL WORSENING	20

MAIN REASON BELIEVE THE ECONOMY IS IMPROVING

Among those who think the Ontario economy is improving, their reason for believing this tends to be connected to the reopening of non-essential stores (43%) and restaurants (16%) as well as knowing people that are going back to work (22%).

IMPROVING	Jul 13-19
n=	197
	%
Non-essential stores are reopening	43
People I know are going back to work	22
Restaurants and bars are reopening	16
Seen, read, heard that the economy is improving	6
All of the above	7
Other	2

QER10 Which of the following is the main reason you believe the economy is IMPROVING?
Base: Those who say the Ontario economy is improving at QER9

MAIN REASON BELIEVE THE ECONOMY IS WORSENING

Among the Ontarians who believe the economy is worsening, they believe this because non-essential stores are not fully open (36%) and that there are people they know who are still unemployed (30%).

WORSENING	Jul 13-19
n=	61
	%
Non-essential stores are not fully open	36
People I know are still unemployed	30
All of the above/combination of the above	9
Restaurants and bars are not fully open	9
Seen, read, heard that the economy is not improving	6
Mismanagement by the government	5
Other	3

QER11 Which of the following is the main reason you believe the economy is WORSENING ?
Base: Those who say the Ontario economy is worsening at QER9

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 unchanged this week at 77%.

	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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	varies							
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL SUPPORT	78	69	80	88	81	82	77	77
Very supportive	25	26	27	32	36	42	42	29
Somewhat supportive	53	43	53	57	45	40	35	48
Somewhat opposed	11	11	11	6	5	9	7	12
Strongly opposed	10	18	7	6	13	7	11	9
TOTAL OPPOSE	21	29	18	12	19	17	18	21
Don't know/not sure								2

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

HAVING AN ECONOMIC PLAN FOR RECOVERY



As infection cases have dropped, a majority continues to support a focus on economic issues by the Ontario government in the coming months.

	May 11-24	May 18-31	May 25-Jun 7	Jun 1-14	Jun 8-21	Jun 15-28	Jun 22-Jul 5	Jun 29-Jul 12	Jul 6-19
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	37	38
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	54	53
Both a health and an economic focus are equally important.	9	10	9	7	6	8	10	8	7

Ontarians continue to want to hear more about the government’s plans for economic recovery, with over eight-in-ten (85%) 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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
varies								
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
80	84	83	76	82	85	82	85	85
55	50	56	49	58	60	52	63	59
25	34	27	27	24	25	30	22	25
7	10	3	6	5	4	5	7	5
5	3	9	9	3	5	6	4	5
6	2	4	8	7	5	6	4	4
11	5	13	17	10	11	12	8	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

TIME FOR THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TO START FOCUSING ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Over eight-in-ten (83%) 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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
varies								
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
70	72	84	76	82	82	85	85	83
39	32	56	36	52	50	55	54	52
31	41	28	39	30	33	30	31	30
4	6	8	7	6	4	6	5	5
15	15	5	11	10	8	8	6	9
10	5	3	5	2	4	1	4	3
25	20	8	16	12	12	9	10	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

While Ontarians continue to be uncertain whether the government has a plan for economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns, there was an 11-point decline this week to 43% that think 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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	59	49	56	44	53	49	52	54	43
Strongly agree	28	19	22	17	19	22	20	27	19
Somewhat agree	32	30	34	26	34	27	32	27	24
Neither agree nor disagree	10	12	12	12	7	15	12	7	9
Somewhat disagree	19	19	19	25	24	23	23	21	32
Strongly disagree	10	15	9	15	14	10	12	15	14
TOTAL DISAGREE	29	34	29	40	38	33	35	36	46

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 continue to believe that if there were a fourth wave of the pandemic in Ontario, allowing air travel from possible COVID variants hotspots (33%) would be the most responsible for the increase in infections. The emergence of a variety of COVID variants (26%) 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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
300	300	300	300	150
%	%	%	%	%
37	37	39	36	33
27	35	20	26	26
10	11	16	15	12
13	8	10	9	11
3	1	4	4	5
4	3	6	4	6
6	5	5	7	6

LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT 4TH WAVE OF THE PANDEMIC

This past week, Ontarians indicate they are increasingly concerned that the province may experience a fourth wave of the pandemic. This increase in the past week reflects the mounting media coverage of the spread of the Delta variant.

	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	60	68	58	57	64
Very concerned	17	26	16	21	19
Somewhat concerned	43	43	42	36	45
Not too concerned	25	19	21	22	22
Not at all concerned	14	12	19	21	13
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	39	31	41	43	35

However, Ontarians tend to feel the Ontario government is prepared to handle a fourth wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly. Two-thirds (67%) 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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
300	300	300	300	300
%	%	%	%	%
66	75	71	71	67
19	17	17	18	14
48	58	54	54	53
20	16	16	18	19
11	9	12	9	10
32	25	27	27	28
		2	2	4

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

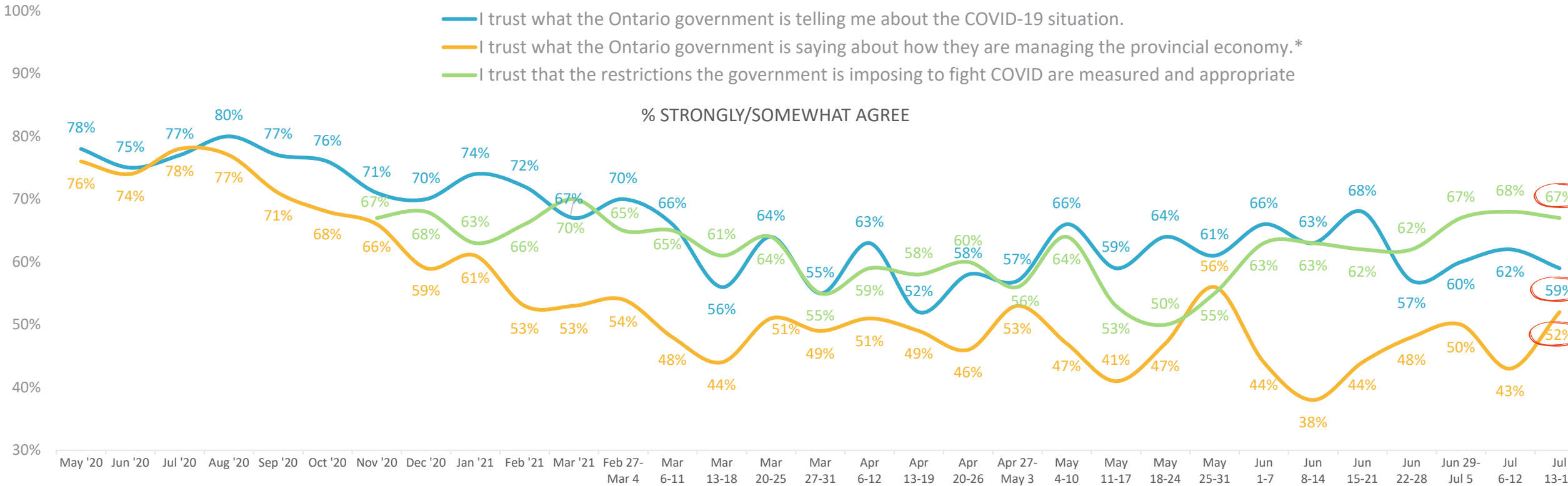
CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



TRUST IN THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COVID-19

After a decline last week, trust in government communications about ‘how they are managing the provincial economy’ rebounded to 52% this week.

- Trust regarding ‘the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured and appropriate’ remained steady this week, while there was a slight decline for ‘what the Ontario government is telling me about the COVID-19 situation’.



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



IS THE WORST OF THE PANDEMIC OVER IN ONTARIO?

About three-quarters (74%) of Ontarians agree that we are over the worst of COVID-19, although there was a decline this week in those that ‘strongly’ agree with 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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	53	60	70	68	71	75	77	77	74
Strongly agree	22	25	30	26	32	31	40	42	35
Somewhat agree	31	35	40	42	39	44	38	35	39
Neither agree nor disagree	7	8	8	7	8	7	6	6	5
Somewhat disagree	22	16	12	19	8	10	8	8	11
Strongly disagree	14	12	8	4	11	7	7	7	8
TOTAL DISAGREE	36	28	20	22	19	17	15	15	19

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

Base: Total sample

COVID-19 VACCINE



CONFIDENCE THE END OF COVID-19 IS NEAR WITH THE VACCINE READY

There continues to be confidence that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered, with 73% agreeing with this.

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

*I am confident the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered**

	Nov 21-26	Nov 28-Dec 3	Dec 5-10	Dec 12-17	Dec 19-23	Dec 29-Jan 7	Jan 9-14	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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	varies			varies																													
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	35	38	38	53	51	48	52	53	41	48	55	48	42	52	63	54	58	62	68	55	52	48	66	77	70	79	70	66	77	77	61	67	73
Strongly agree	12	15	14	19	10	17	19	24	14	14	17	14	15	22	24	24	20	8	45	10	19	20	25	32	35	36	39	25	33	33	32	35	32
Somewhat agree	23	24	24	34	41	30	33	29	27	34	38	34	27	30	38	30	37	54	22	45	34	28	41	46	35	43	31	41	44	44	29	32	42
Neither agree nor disagree	10	10	12	5	9	6	4	7	10	8	4	9	5	6	8	7	7	4	11	5	10	6	10	5	4	3	7	10	6	3	11	5	3
Somewhat disagree	18	20	22	19	20	20	22	20	21	19	18	14	19	20	15	17	16	26	17	12	22	22	7	9	13	10	13	17	11	11	13	12	11
Strongly disagree	32	30	25	21	20	26	21	20	27	24	19	28	32	19	12	20	19	8	5	26	16	22	16	8	10	8	10	6	5	8	14	16	12
TOTAL DISAGREE	50	50	47	40	40	45	44	39	48	42	38	41	51	39	27	37	36	34	22	38	37	44	22	17	22	18	22	23	16	20	28	27	23

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 am confident the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are now being administered*
*Previous phrasing: *I am confident the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that a vaccine is ready and now being administered*
*Previous phrasing: *I am confident the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that a vaccine is ready and being used*

Base: Total sample, base varies

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



Just over half (54%) of Ontarians indicate they do not feel safe and comfortable working with unvaccinated people.

I feel safe and comfortable working with unvaccinated people

	Jun 29-Jul 5	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	300	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	49	35	42
Strongly agree	24	20	21
Somewhat agree	25	14	21
Somewhat disagree	18	13	22
Strongly disagree	32	47	32
TOTAL DISAGREE	50	60	54

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

And, just over six-in-ten (64%) Ontarians agree that to return to a workplace, everyone should have to prove they are fully vaccinated. Intensity is strong with 48% ‘strongly’ agreeing.

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

	Jun 29-Jul 5	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	300	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	65	71	64
Strongly agree	43	48	48
Somewhat agree	23	23	16
Somewhat disagree	15	8	13
Strongly disagree	18	20	22
TOTAL DISAGREE	33	28	34

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

Base: Total sample

RIGHT TO KNOW IF AN INDIVIDUAL IS VACCINATED

Six-in-ten (59%) disagree that people have no right to know if a person is vaccinated or not. However, one-quarter ‘strongly’ agree that people don’t have a right to know if others are vaccinated.

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

	Jun 29-Jul 5	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	300	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	41	37	39
Strongly agree	25	23	24
Somewhat agree	16	15	14
Somewhat disagree	19	21	19
Strongly disagree	39	40	41
TOTAL DISAGREE	58	61	59

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

Base: Total sample

Seven-in-ten (72%) Ontarians agree that eligible elementary and high school students returning to in-class learning in September should be required to be fully vaccinated. And, just over half (55%) ‘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	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	300	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	71	67	72
Strongly agree	50	48	55
Somewhat agree	20	19	17
Somewhat disagree	13	10	11
Strongly disagree	16	19	14
TOTAL DISAGREE	29	28	26

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

Base: Total sample

There are similar levels of agreement that college and university students returning to campus life should be required to be fully vaccinated, with 73% of Ontarians agreeing and 55% ‘strongly’ agreeing.

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

	Jun 29-Jul 5	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19
n=	300	300	300
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	75	72	73
Strongly agree	62	55	55
Somewhat agree	13	16	18
Somewhat disagree	6	9	7
Strongly disagree	18	18	19
TOTAL DISAGREE	24	27	25

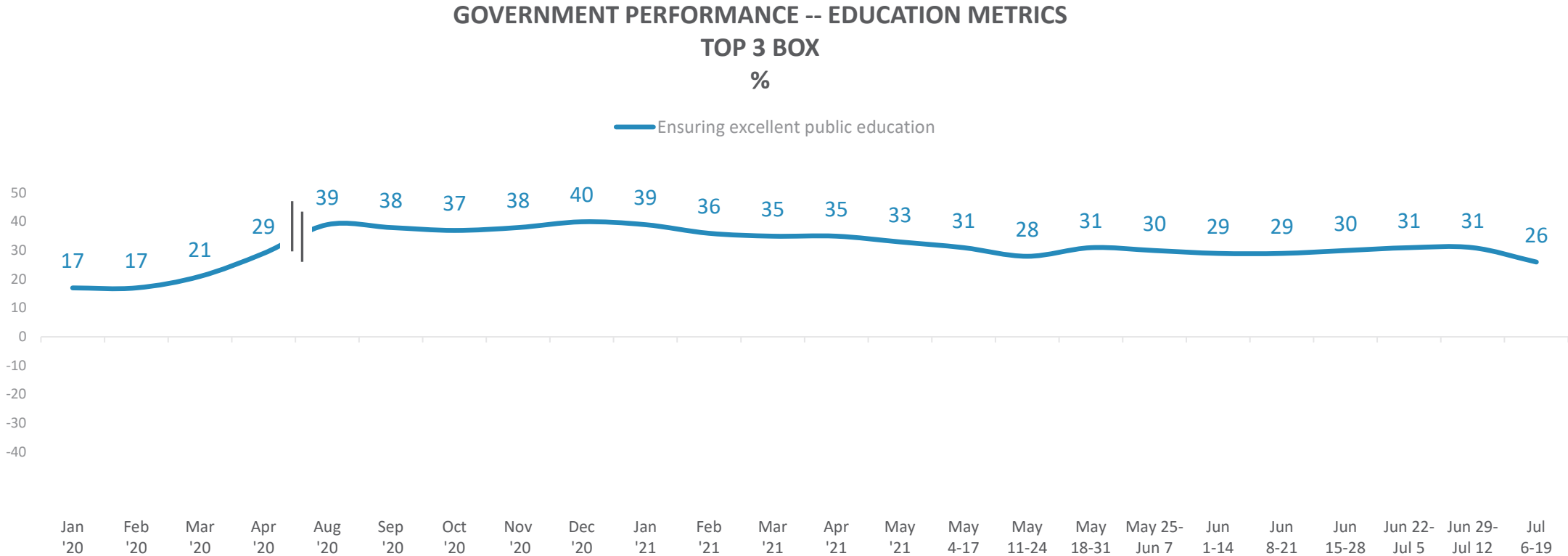
QCV-212. (14) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: Total sample

APPENDIX – PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

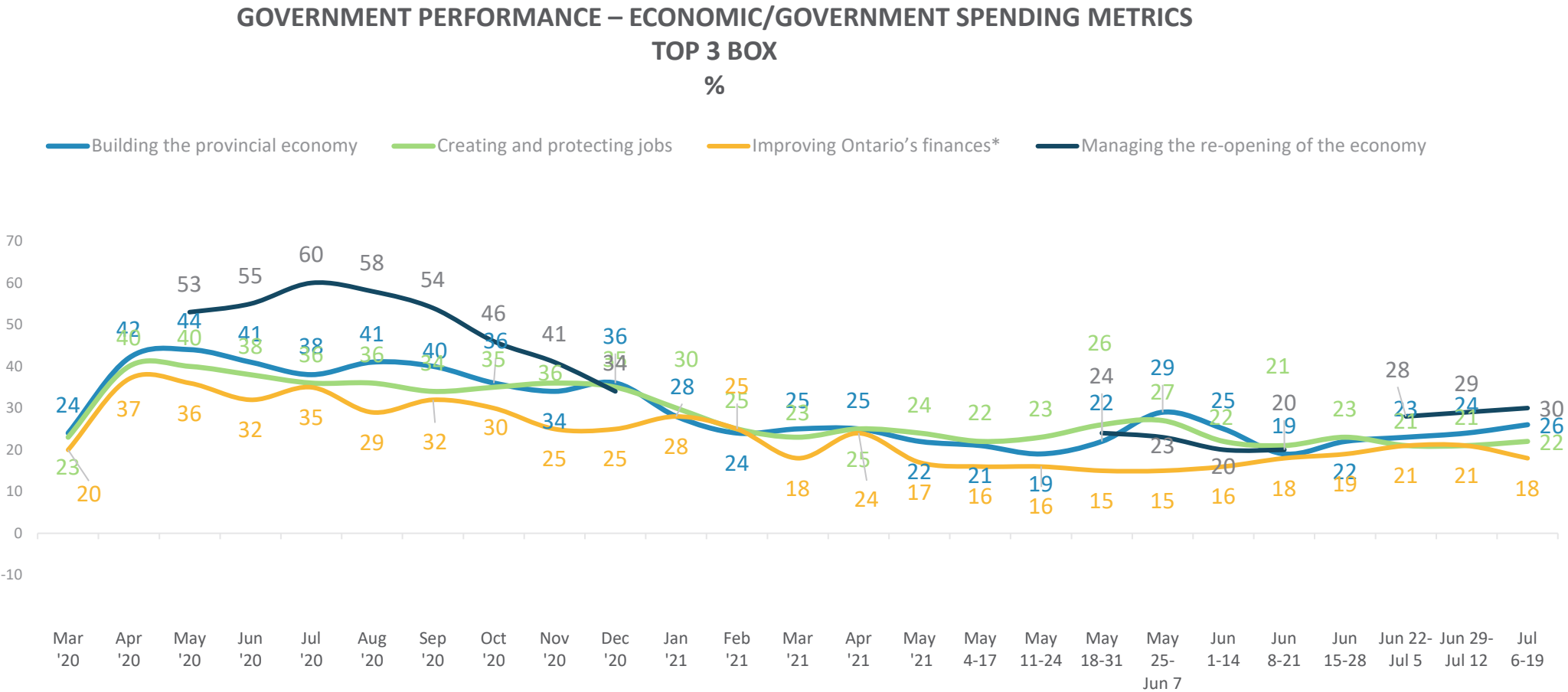


After remaining steady for many weeks, positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ declined 5-points to 26%.



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

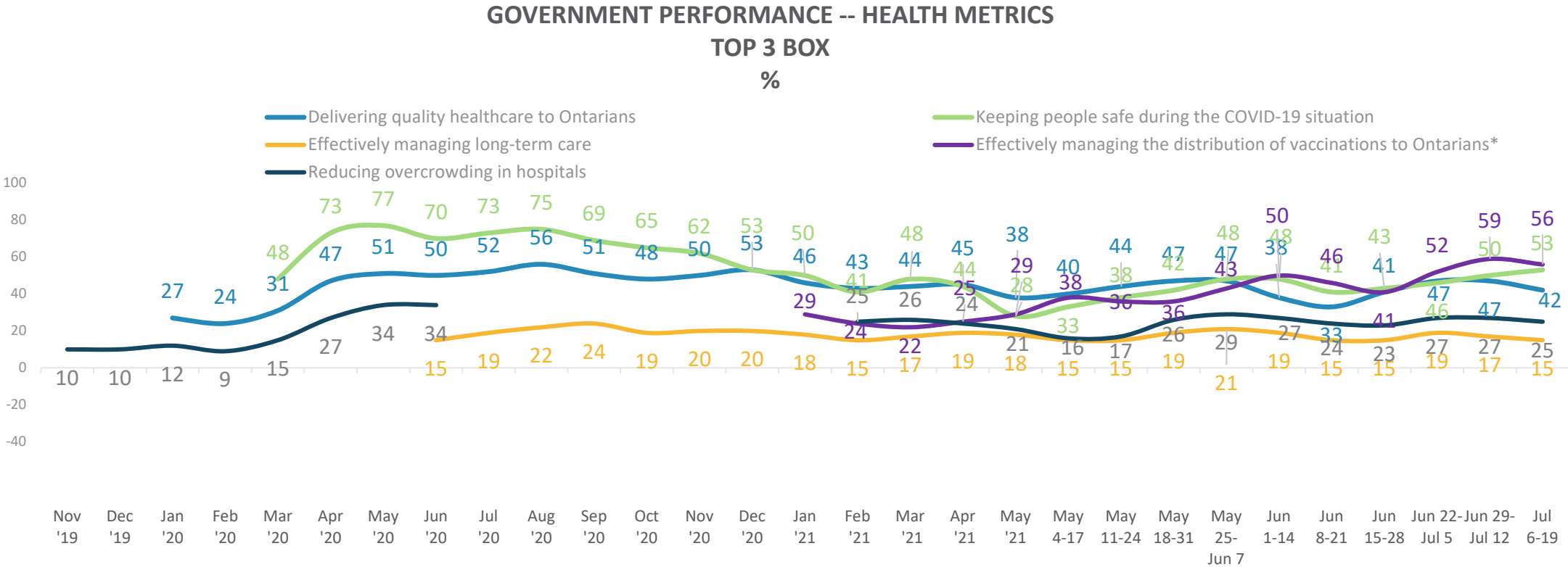
Positive perceptions toward the government’s performance for ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ declined slightly this week.



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

This week, there were declines in the rating of the government’s performance for the health metrics with the exception of ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ which has been trending upward.



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