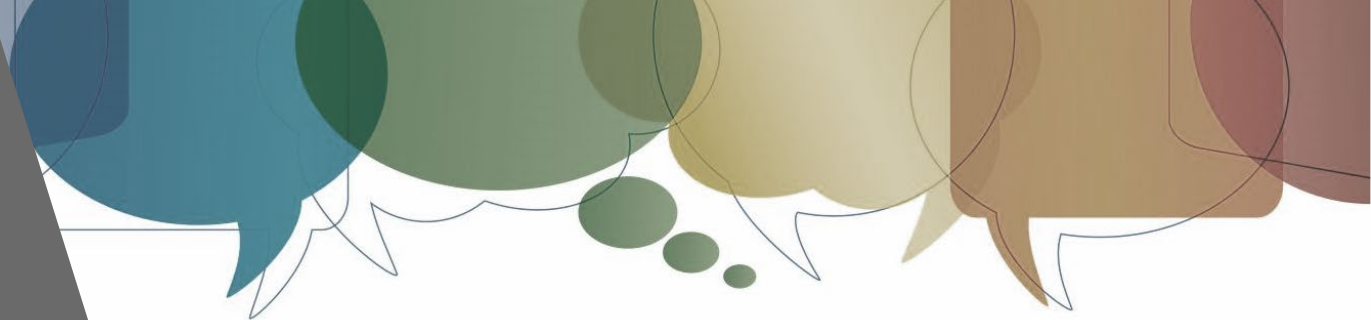




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PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #92

CABINET OFFICE
August 3rd 2021



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1

Over the past two weeks, 'right track' scores have increased to 62%.

'Right track' scores are highest among Ontarians aged 65+ while remaining lowest among those aged 45-54.

Again this week, men have higher 'right track' scores than women, although the gap closed slightly.

3

Connected to this, there was a slight uptick for COVID-19 as a top priority this week (after steady declines since April), probably reflecting the much higher media coverage of the Delta variant.

A majority continues to support a focus on economic issues by the Ontario government in the coming months, with a 10-point gap this week between a focus on economic (51%) or health-related (41%) issues.

However, Ontarians want to hear more about the government's plans for economic recovery, with eight-in-ten (78%) agreeing with this. Importantly, Ontarians remain uncertain whether the government has a plan for economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns, with just under half (47%) that think the government doesn't have a plan.

2

Over the past four weeks, there have been increases in the rating of the government's performance for 'effectively managing vaccinations' and 'keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation'. Both remain the top rated health metrics.

However, the decline last week in the proportion of Ontarians who agree that we are over the worst of COVID-19 was retained this week.

Ontarians also indicate they are increasingly concerned that the province may experience a fourth wave of the pandemic – increasing from 57% in early July to 72% this week. This increase likely reflects the mounting media coverage of the spread of the Delta variant.

4

The government's performance rating for 'managing the re-opening of the economy' continues to improve and has increased 21-points since June. There was also an uptick for 'creating and protecting jobs' this week after remaining unchanged for several weeks.

That said, perceptions about the status Ontario's economy bears close watching in the coming weeks. While about six-in-ten (62%) Ontarians think the Ontario economy is improving, there have been declines since mid-July when tracking began. And, most (59%) think it is 'slowly' improving. Of note, one-quarter (24%) would say it is worsening.

Key Findings

The majority (54%) of Ontarians report their family's financial situation stayed the same over the past year. However, the proportion who say it worsened (31%) is double that who say it improved (15%).

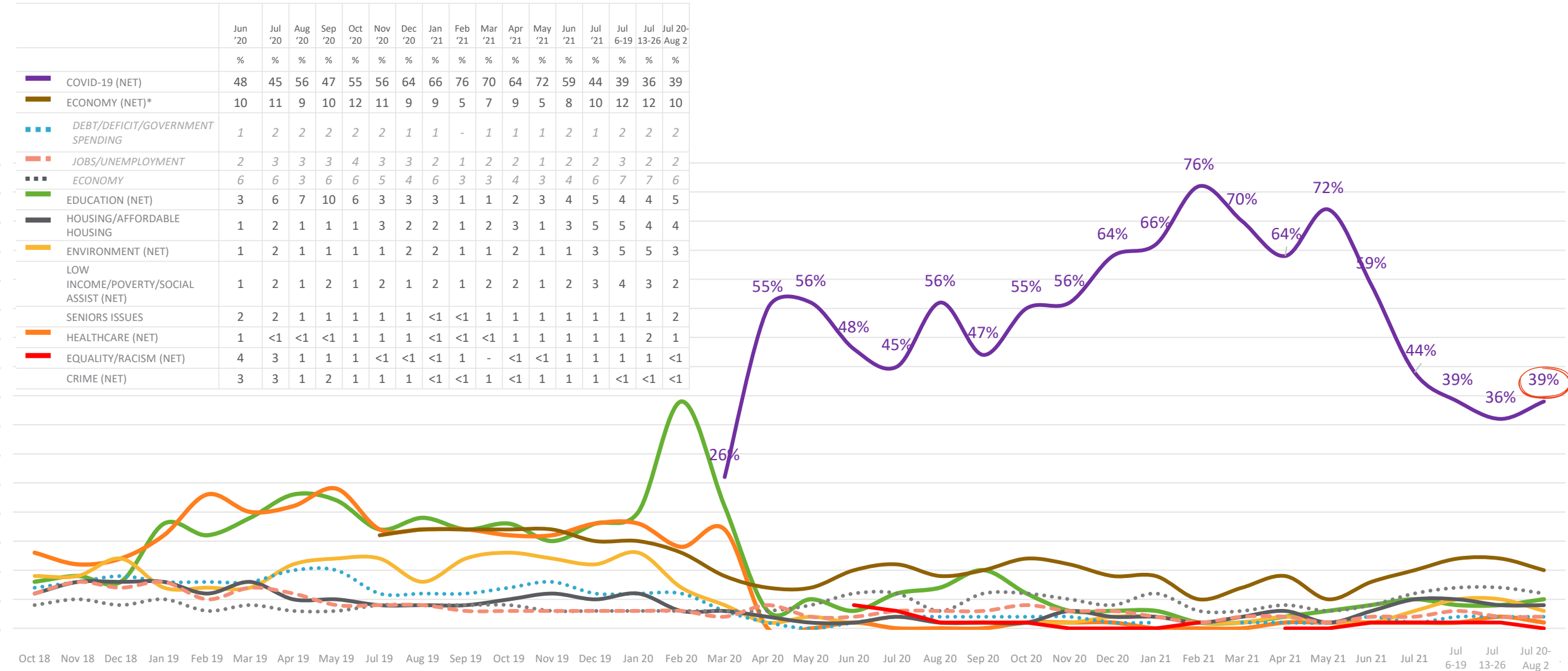
And, while Ontarians appear optimistic about the future with just over half (53%) anticipating the financial situation of their household over the next year will be 'excellent/good', this metric bears watching as there has been a 10-point decline since mid-July. One-in-ten (11%) anticipate it will be 'poor'.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



ONTARIANS' TOP PRIORITIES REQUIRING ATTENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT

After steady declines, there was a slight uptick for COVID-19 as a top priority this week, probably reflecting an upsurge in media stories about the threats of the Delta variant.



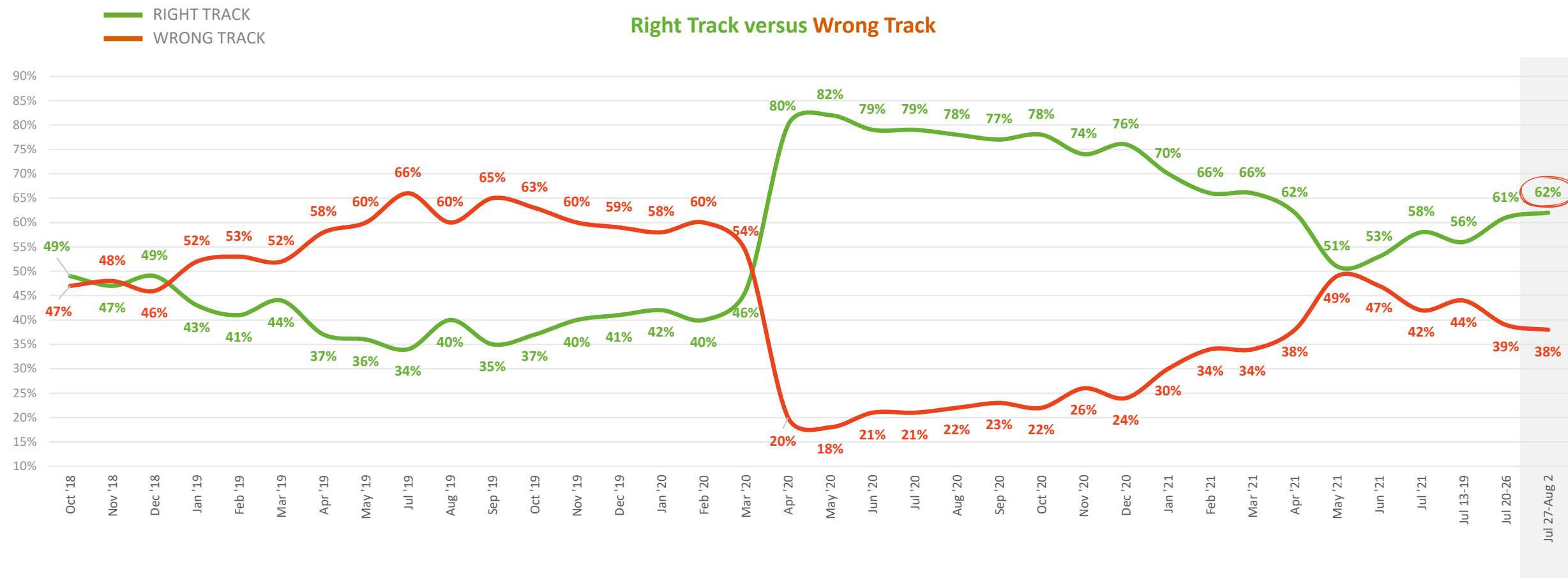
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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

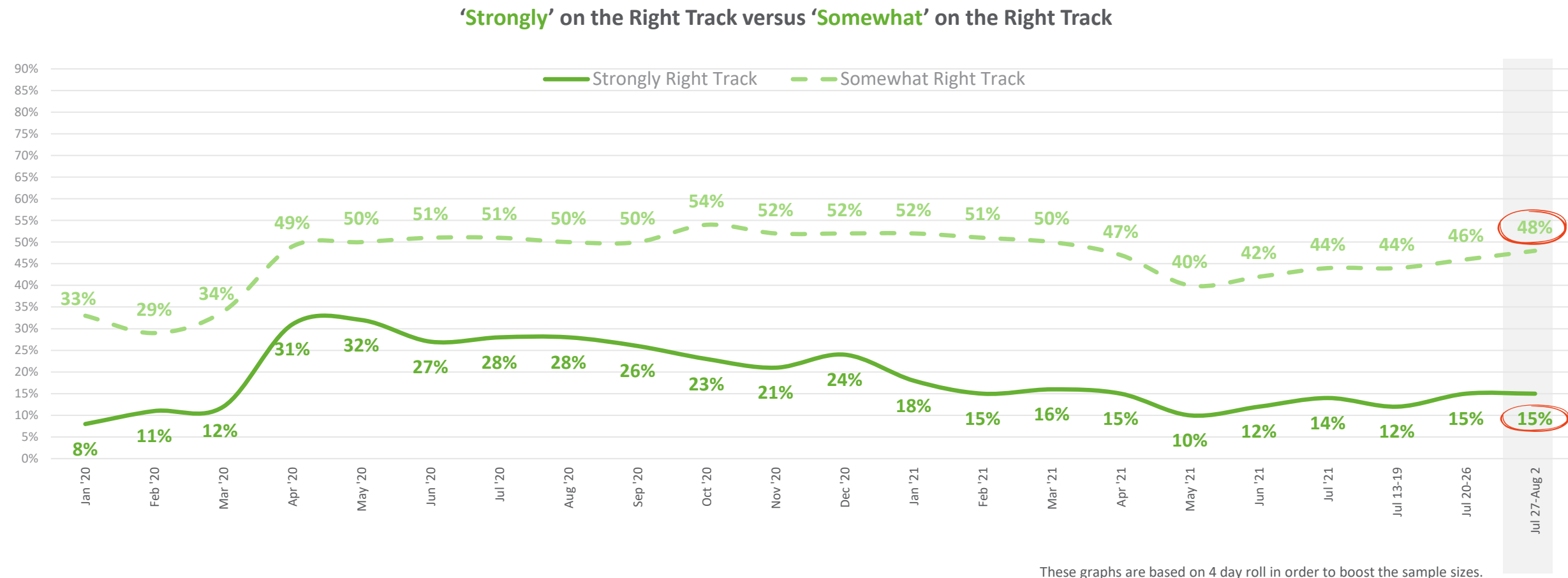


Over the past two weeks, 'right track' scores have increased to 62%.



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

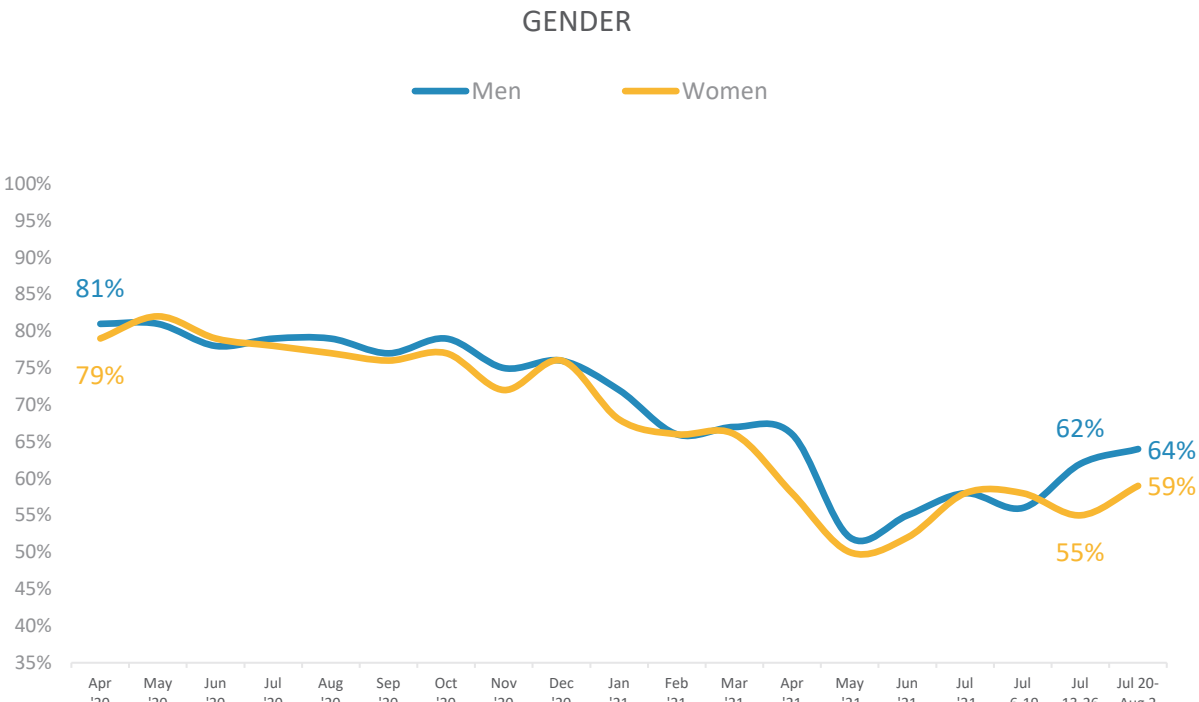
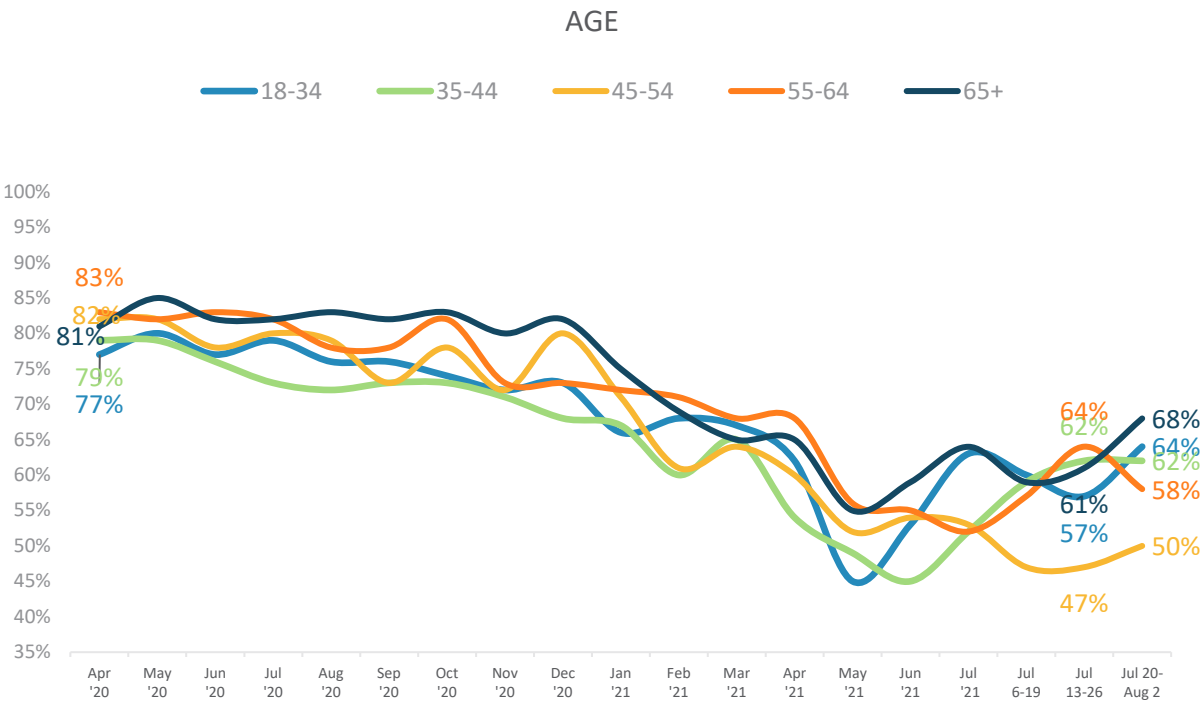
The proportion that believes the government is ‘somewhat on the right track’ continues to slowly trend upward while ‘strongly right track’ remained unchanged this week.



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

‘Right track’ scores are highest among Ontarians aged 65+ while remaining lowest among those aged 45-54. Again this week, men have higher ‘right track’ scores than women, although the gap closed slightly.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

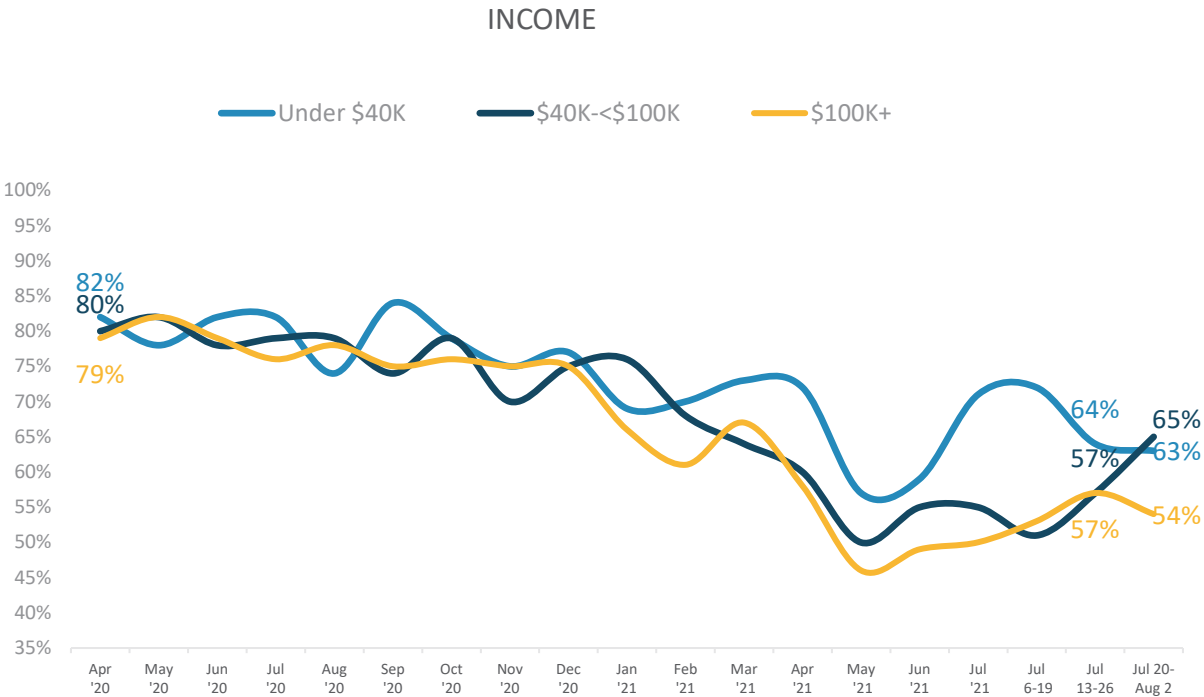
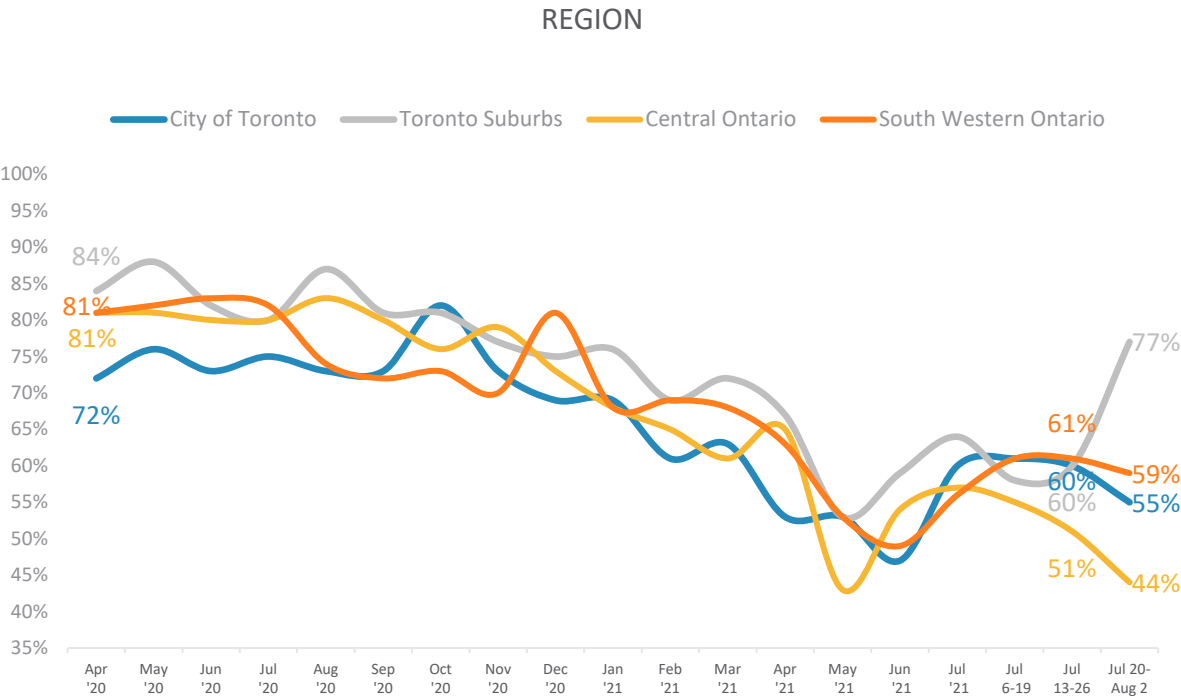


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

This week, there was an increase in ‘right track’ scores in the Toronto suburbs, while declines were measured in the City of Toronto and Central Ontario. There was an increase in ‘right track’ scores among those making \$40k to \$100k.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



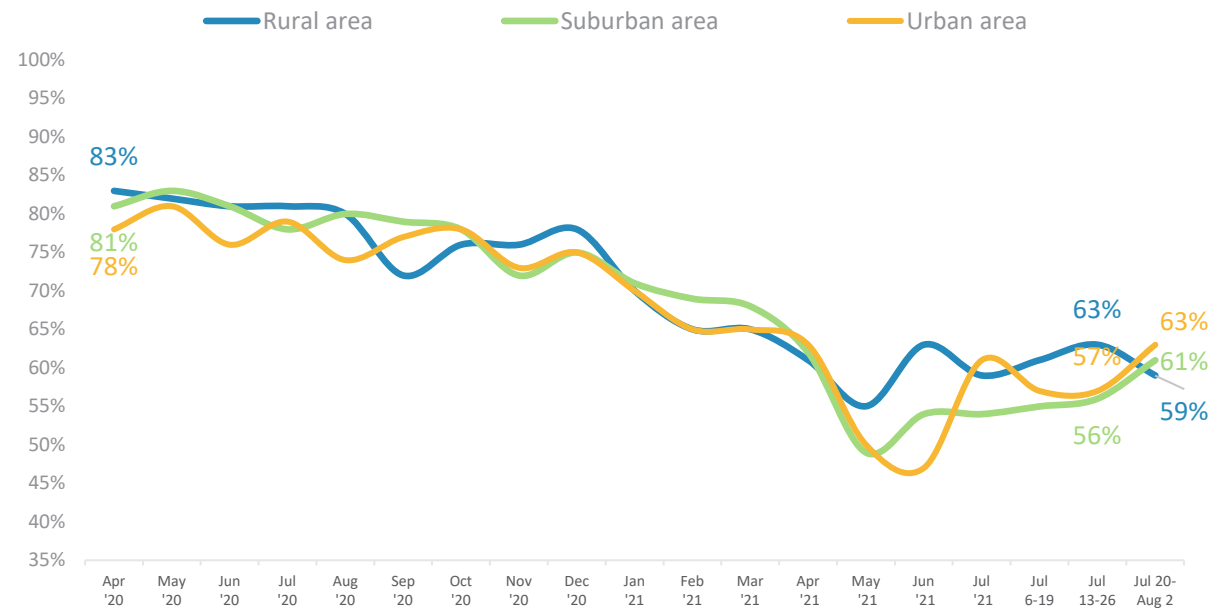
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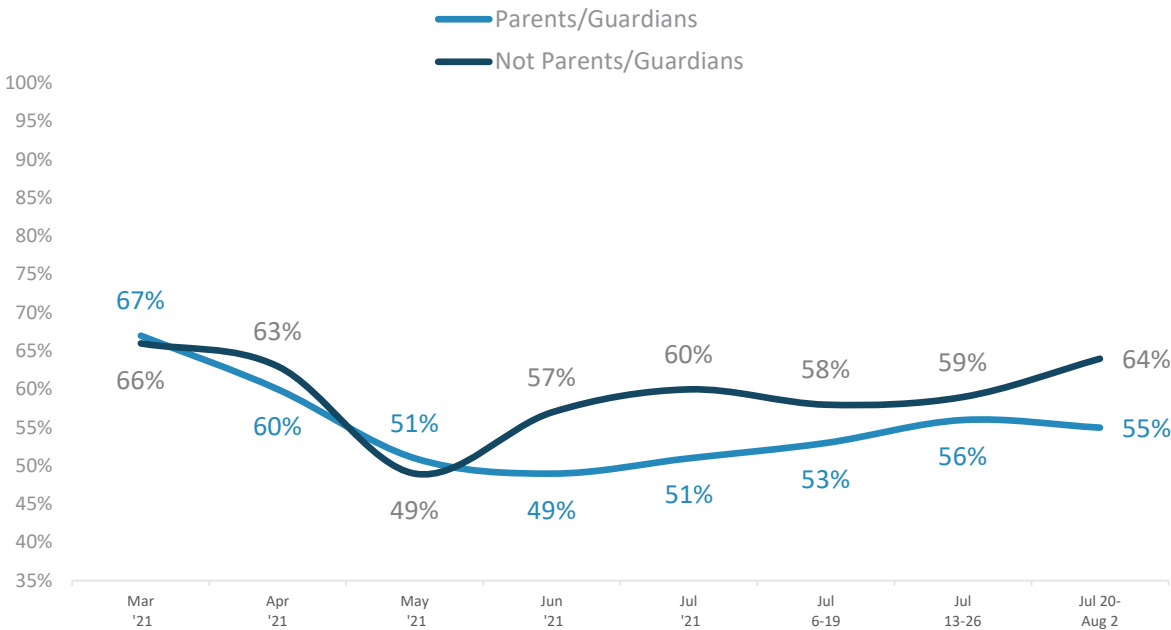
‘Right track’ scores have increased this week in both suburban and urban areas, while a decline was measured in rural areas.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

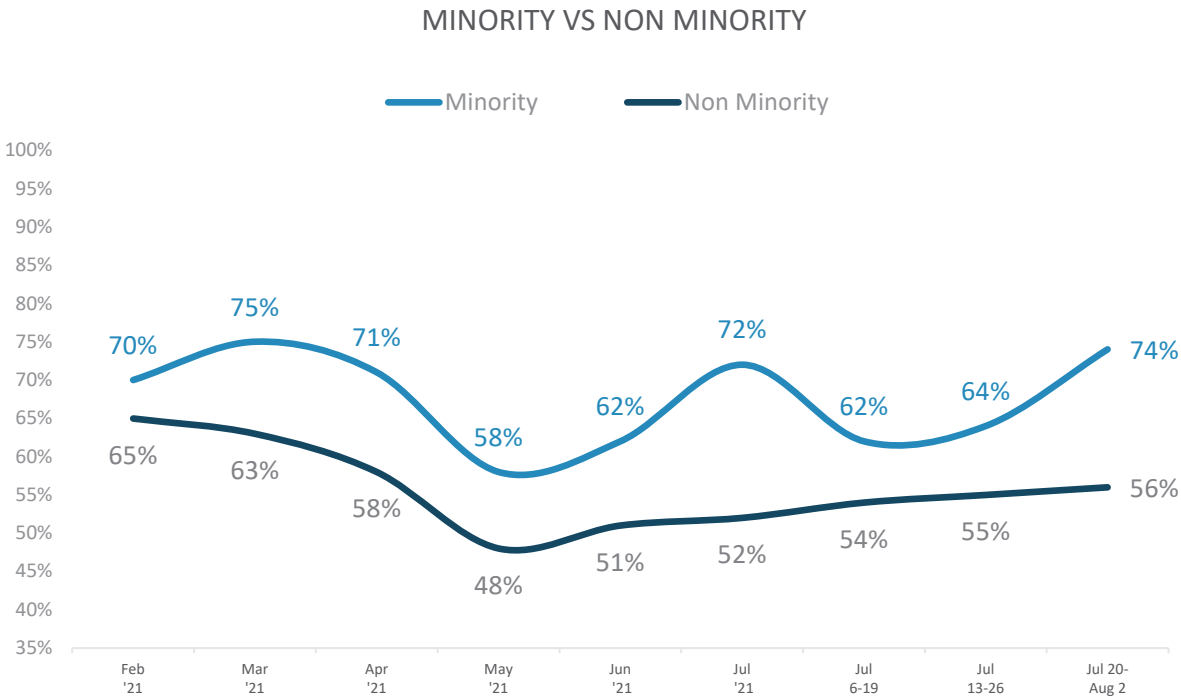
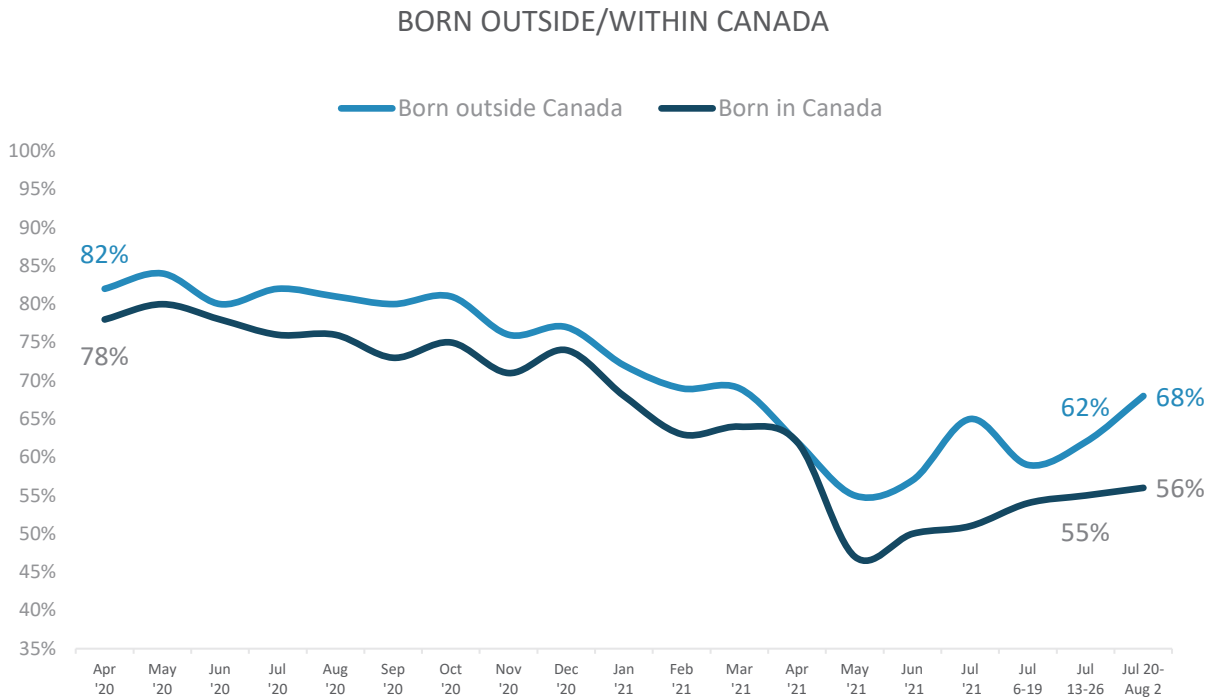


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

There were increases again this week in ‘right track’ scores among those born outside of Canada and minorities (after experiencing declines). While remaining lower, ‘right track’ scores have been slowly increasing among those born in Canada and non-minorities.

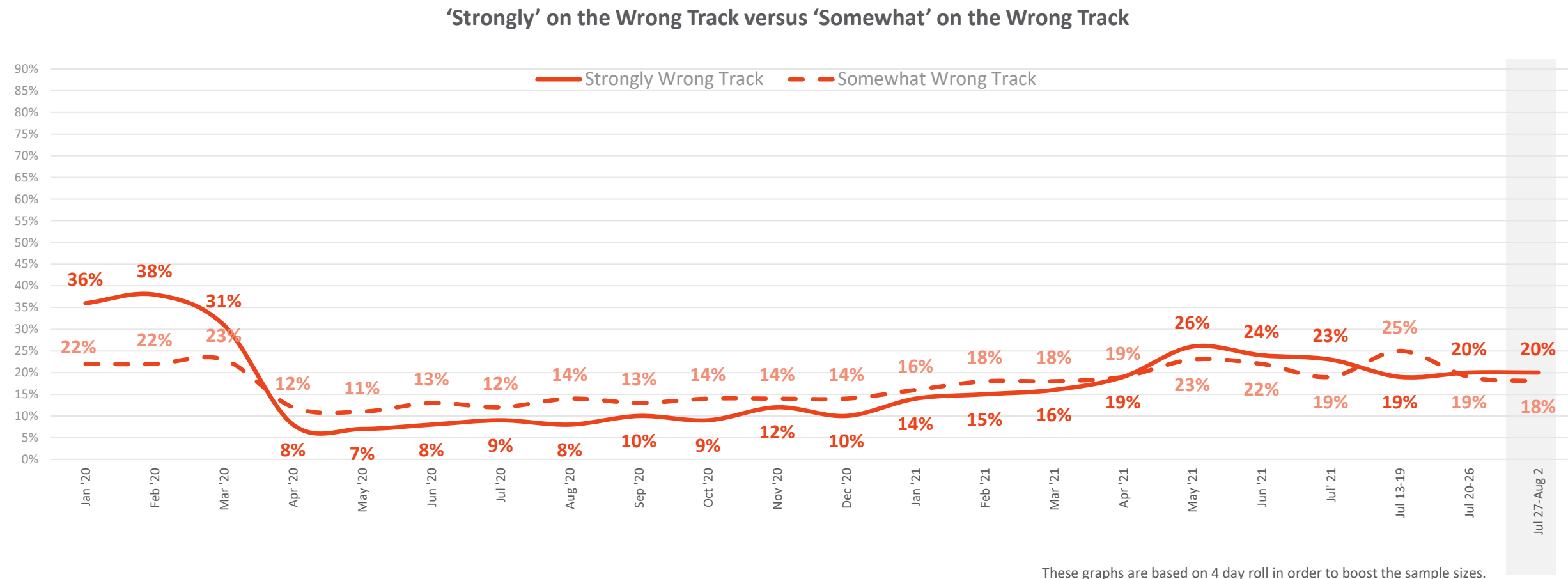
Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



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

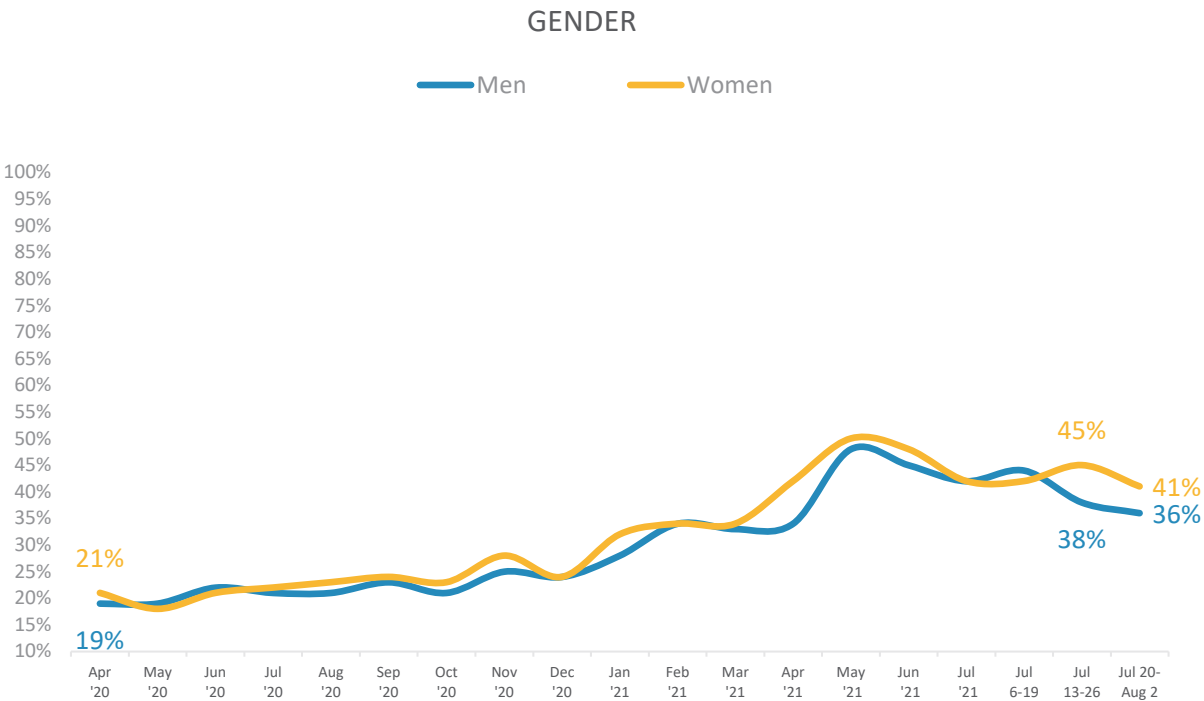
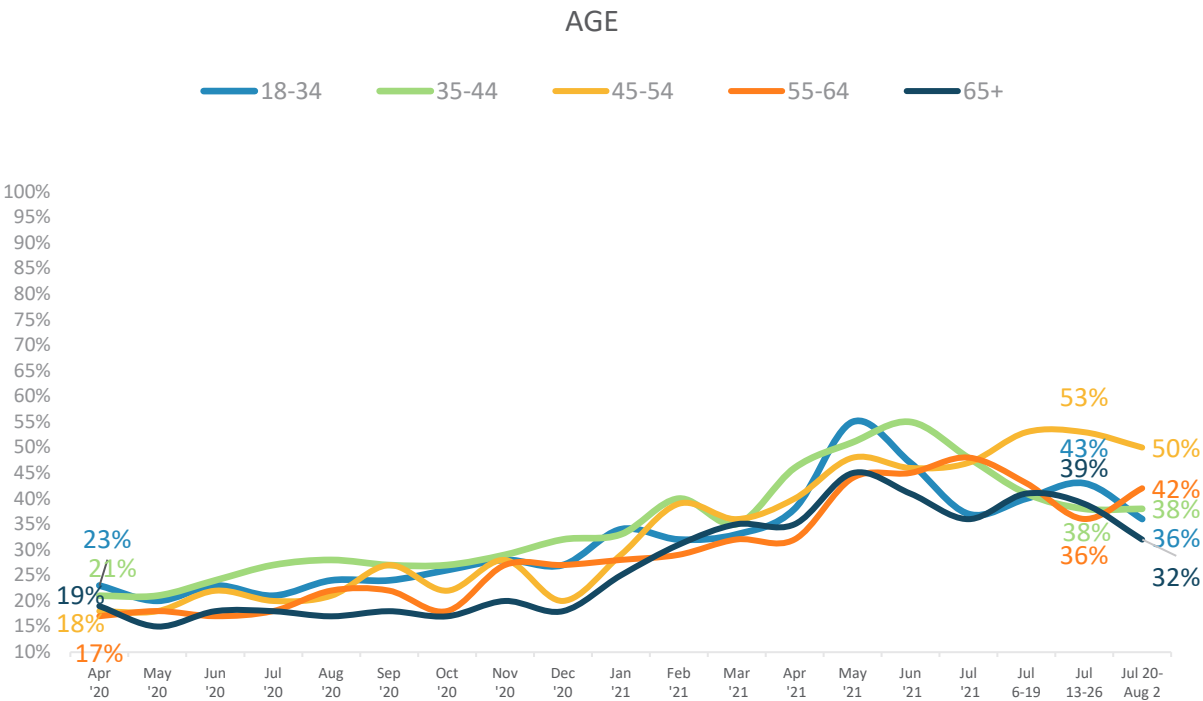
This week, the proportion who believe the government is ‘strongly on the wrong track’ and ‘somewhat on the wrong track’ remained unchanged.



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 are lowest among Ontarians aged 65+ and remain highest among those aged 45-54. ‘Wrong track’ remains higher among women than men this week, although the gap is slightly smaller.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

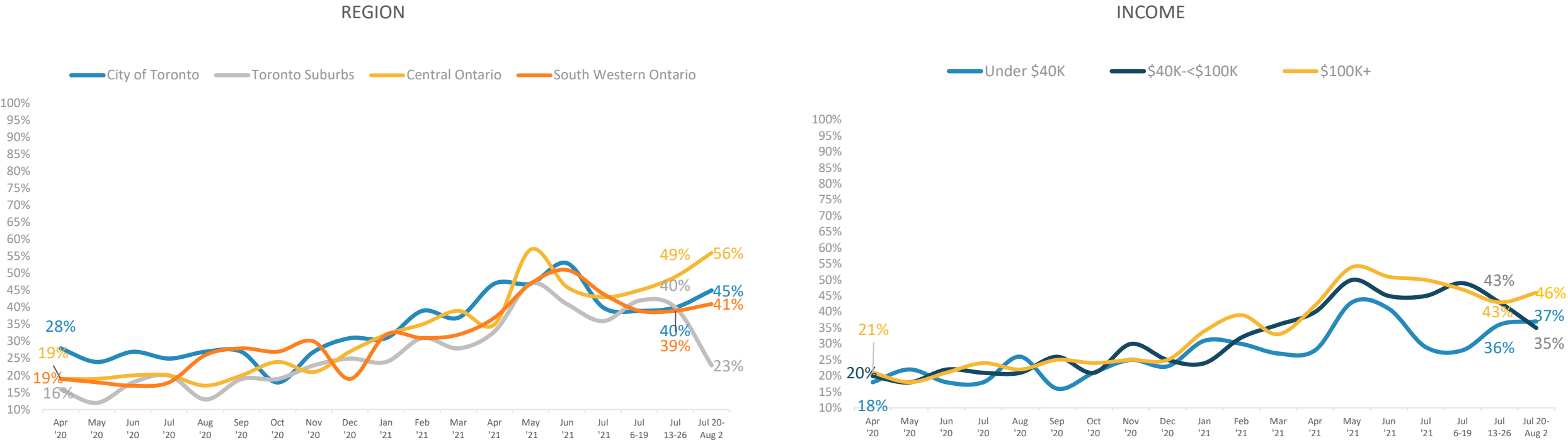


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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 increase in Central Ontario while declining in the Toronto suburbs. There was also a decline this week in ‘wrong track’ scores among Ontarians making between \$40k-<\$100k.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



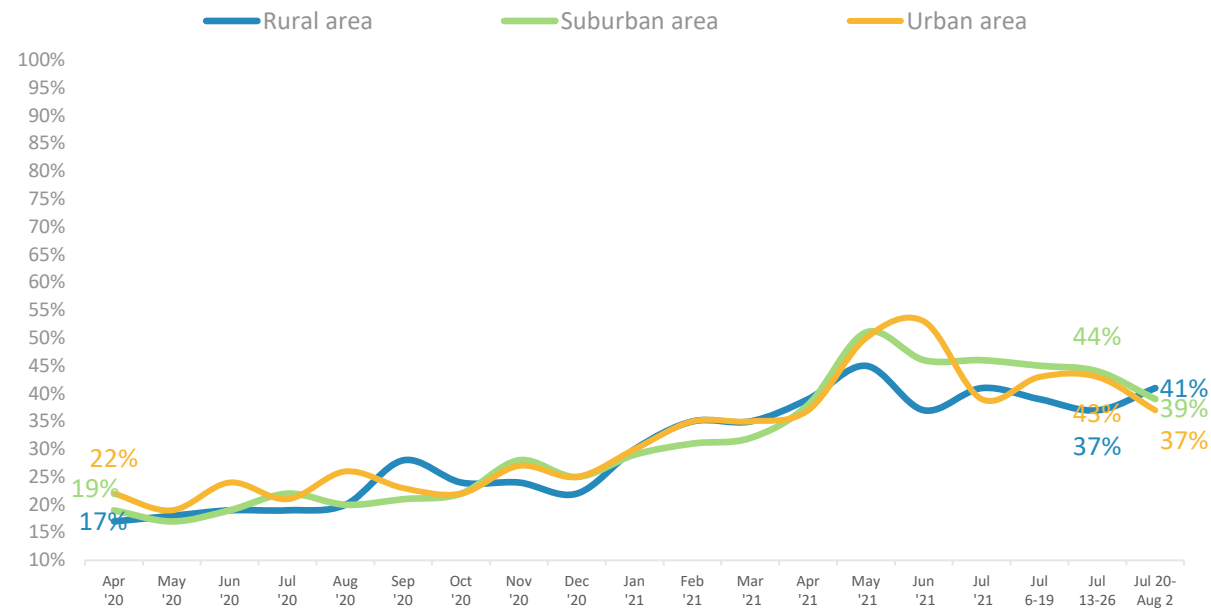
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

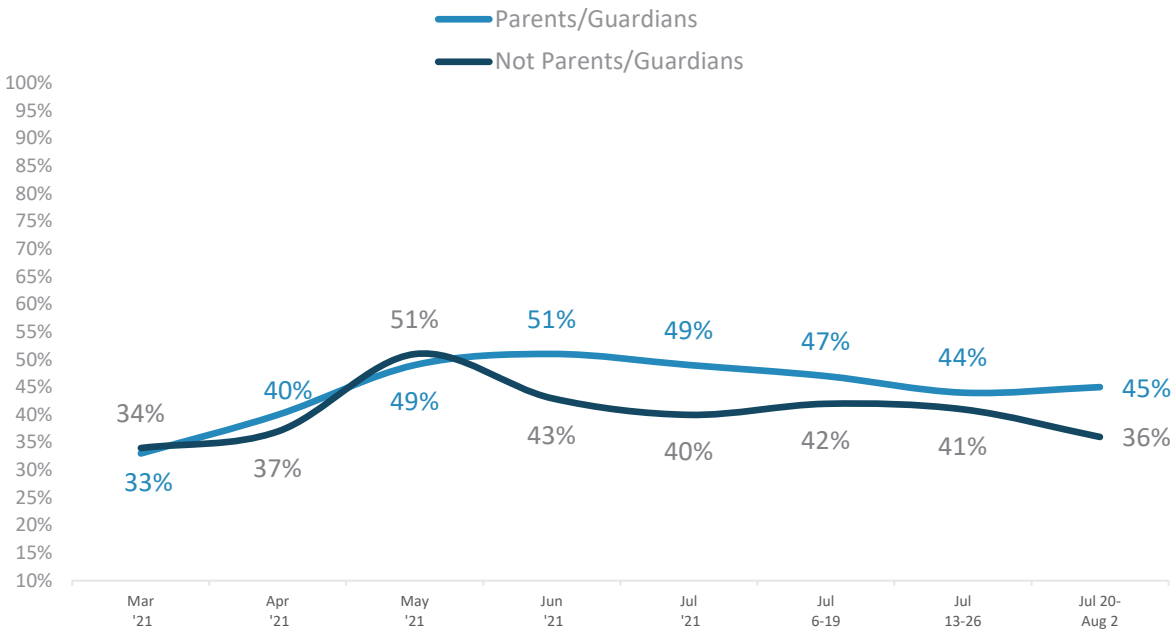
‘Wrong track’ scores declined in both urban and suburban areas this week, while there was an uptick in the rural areas.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

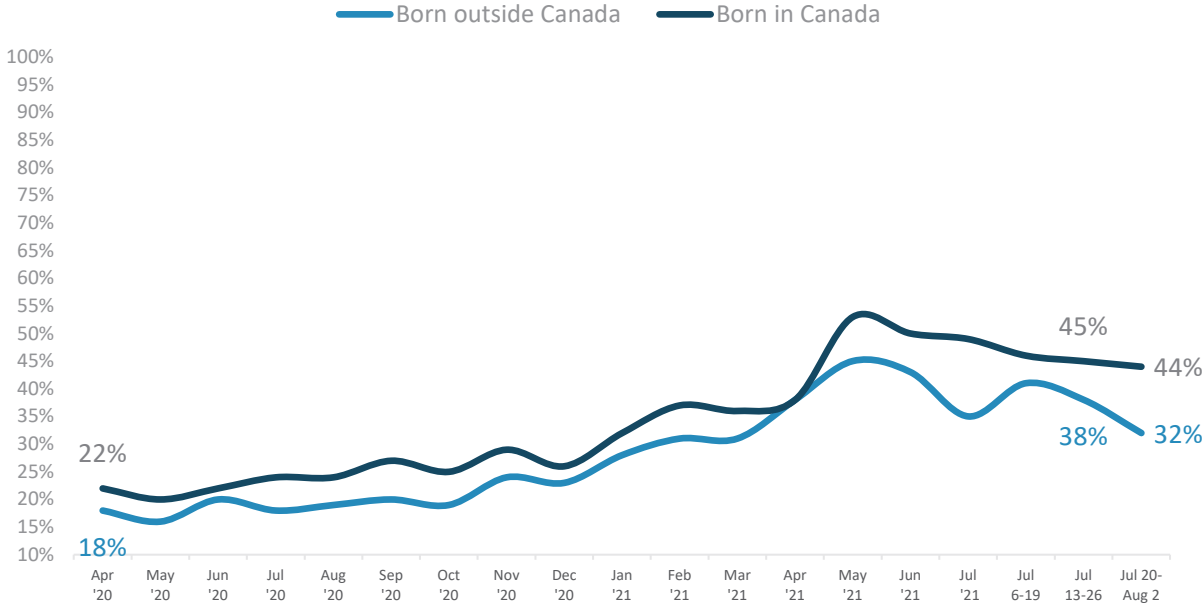


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

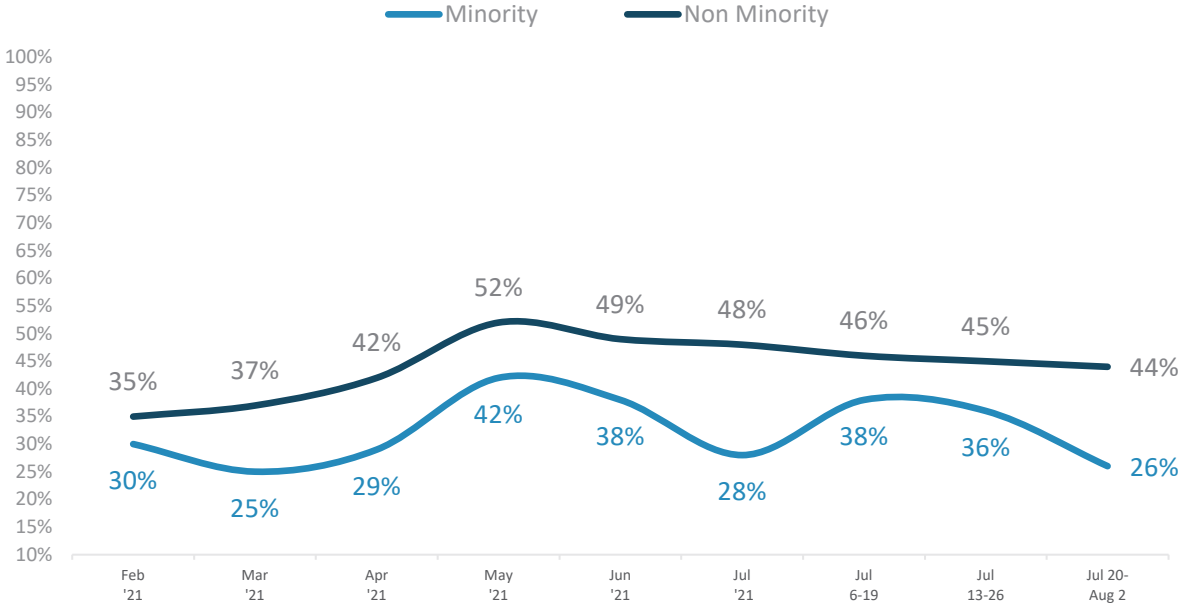
Again this week, ‘wrong track’ scores declined among Ontarians born outside Canada and minorities. And, ‘wrong track’ scores have been slowly trending down among those born in Canada and non-minorities.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



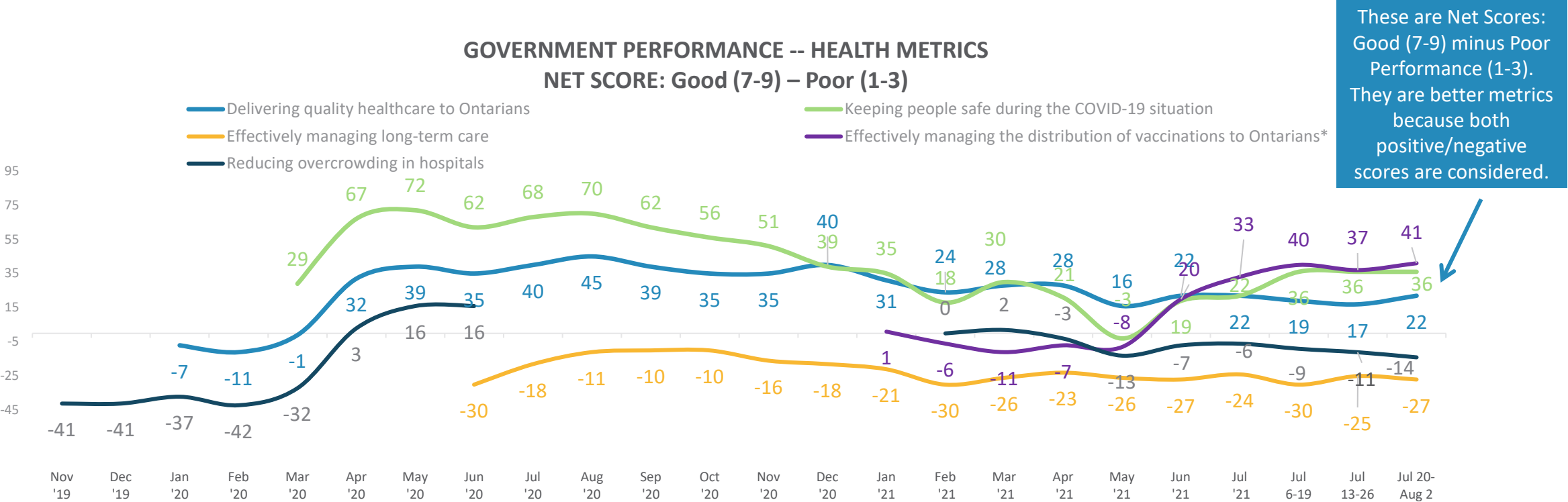
Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



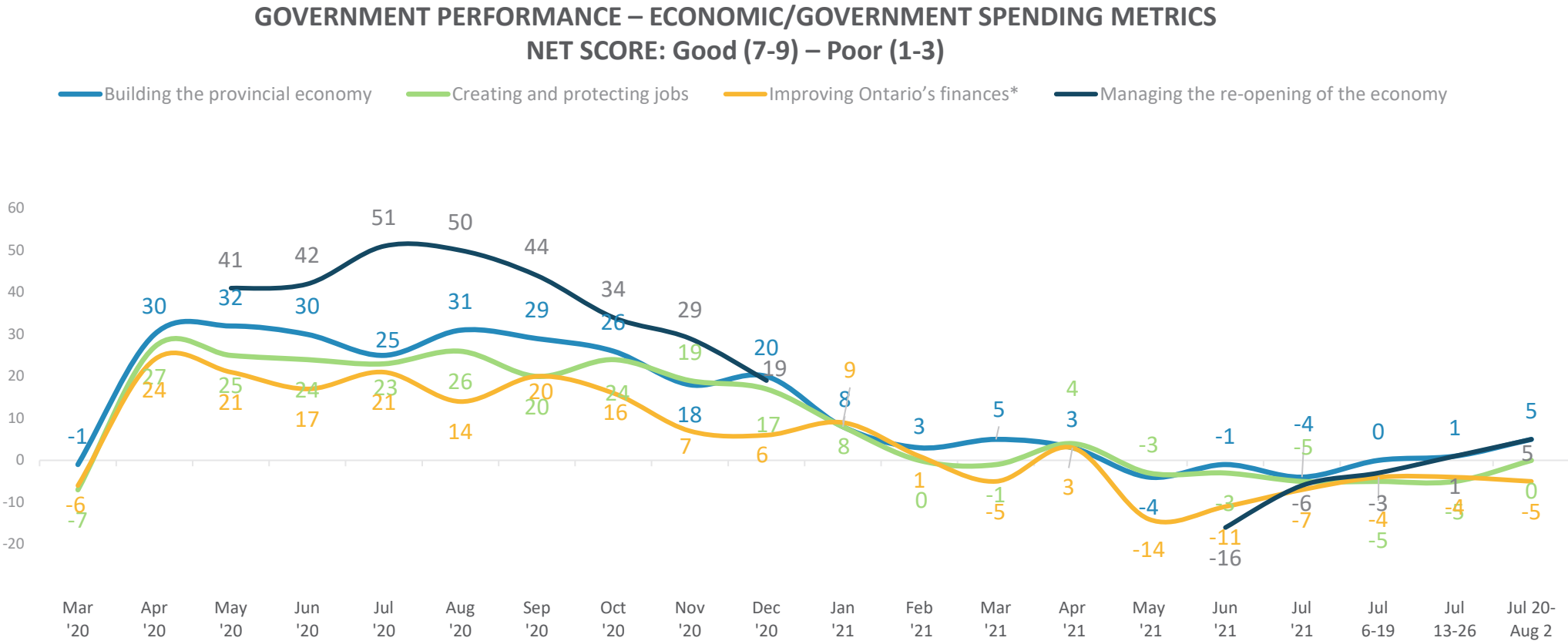
Over the past four weeks, there have been increases in the rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing vaccinations’ and ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’. Both remain the top rated health metrics.

- There was an increase measured for ‘delivering quality healthcare to Ontarians’, while the other health metrics had slight declines.



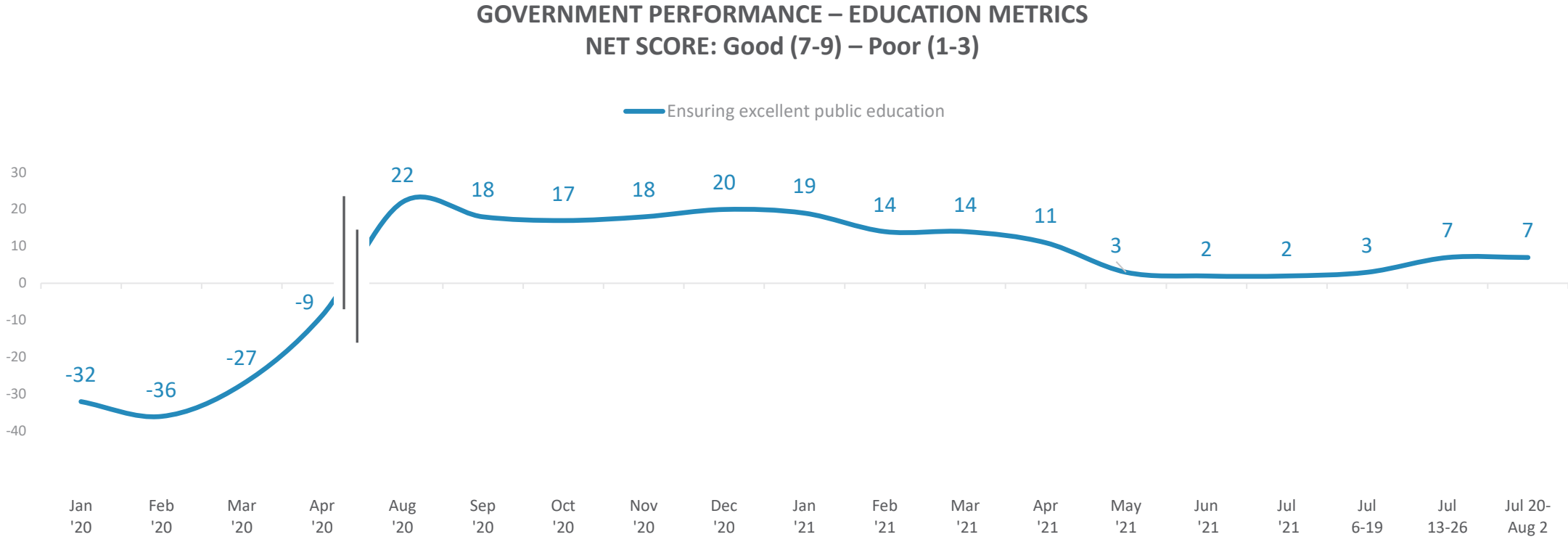
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

Plus, the government’s performance rating for ‘managing the re-opening of the economy’ continues to improve and has increased 21-points since June. There was also an uptick for ‘creating and protecting jobs’ this week after remaining unchanged for several weeks.



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’ remained unchanged this week at NET 7.



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



While fully half (50%) of Ontarians describe the personal financial situation of their family over the last year as ‘excellent/good’, this proportion has been declining. Over one-in-ten (15%) describe it as ‘poor’.

	Jun'21	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	770	Varies		
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD	57	56	53	50
Excellent	15	16	10	13
Good	42	40	43	37
Fair	31	31	34	34
Poor	9	10	9	11
Very poor	4	1	3	5
TOTAL POOR	12	12	12	15

CHANGE IN FINANCIAL SITUATION OVER THE PAST YEAR

The majority (54%) of Ontarians report their family’s financial situation stayed the same over the past year. However, the proportion who say it worsened (31%) is double that who say it improved (15%).

	Jun'21	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	764	Varies		
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL IMPROVE	15	14	13	15
Improve a great deal	3	3	3	2
Improve somewhat	13	11	10	13
Stay the same	54	58	54	54
Worsen somewhat	24	21	25	23
Worsen a great deal	7	6	6	8
TOTAL WORSEN	31	27	31	31

ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLD OVER THE NEXT YEAR

Ontarians appear optimistic about the future with just over half (53%) anticipating the financial situation of their household over the next year will be ‘excellent/good’. However, this metric bears watching as there has been a 10-point decline since mid-July. One-in-ten (11%) anticipate it will be ‘poor’.

	Jun'21	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	763	Varies		
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD	57	63	57	53
Excellent	12	16	10	10
Good	44	47	47	44
Fair	32	28	35	32
Poor	7	6	6	7
Very poor	2	-	1	4
TOTAL POOR	10	6	7	11

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

Most (95%) Ontarians continue to 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 retail (90%) and hospitality (90%) workers.

% VERY/SOMEWHAT NEGATIVELY AFFECTED	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
Small businesses workers	95	96	95
Retail workers	89	93	90
Hospitality workers	90	92	90
College and university students	82	83	86
Grocery and front-line workers	61	65	68

About six-in-ten (62%) Ontarians think the Ontario economy is improving. However, there have been declines since mid-July when tracking began. And, most (59%) think it is ‘slowly’ improving. Of note, one-quarter (24%) would say it is worsening.

	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL IMPROVING	66	64	62
Quickly improving	4	3	4
Slowly improving	62	60	59
Unchanged	11	10	10
Slowly worsening	16	19	17
Quickly worsening	5	6	7
TOTAL WORSENING	20	25	24

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 (33%) and restaurants (16%) as well as knowing people that are going back to work (32%) – with this proportion increasing 10-points this week.

IMPROVING	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	197	160	156
	%	%	%
Non-essential stores are reopening	43	33	33
People I know are going back to work	22	22	32
Restaurants and bars are reopening	16	19	16
Seen, read, heard that the economy is improving	6	12	5
People adapting to change/less fear/starting to feel safe	-	3	1
All of the above	7	9	9
Slowly changing back	-	-	1
Other	-	-	2

MAIN REASON BELIEVE THE ECONOMY IS WORSENING

Among the Ontarians who believe the economy is worsening, they believe this because they have seen, read, or heard this about the economy (20%) or that there are people they know who are still unemployed (24%).

WORSENING	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	61	63	61
	%	%	%
People I know are still unemployed	30	20	24
Seen, read, heard that the economy is not improving	6	15	20
Non-essential stores are not fully open	36	20	12
Mismanagement by the government	5	4	12
Restaurants and bars are not fully open	9	7	7
People not working (e.g., getting free money, companies not hiring)	-	6	2
Businesses struggling or had to permanently close	-	3	2
Prices increasing (e.g., interest rates)	-	5	1
Government spending/debt	-	3	-
Other	3	4	4
All of the above/combination of the above	9	8	12
Don't know			4

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

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, with a 10-point gap this week between a focus on economic (51%) or health-related (41%) issues.

	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	Jul 13-26	Jul 20-Aug 2
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	39	41
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	52	51
Both a health and an economic focus are equally important.	9	10	9	7	6	8	10	8	7	6	6

Ontarians also continue to want to hear more about the government’s plans for economic recovery, with eight-in-ten (78%) 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	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
varies										
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
80	84	83	76	82	85	82	85	85	81	78
55	50	56	49	58	60	52	63	59	53	52
25	34	27	27	24	25	30	22	25	28	26
7	10	3	6	5	4	5	7	5	6	7
5	3	9	9	3	5	6	4	5	8	8
6	2	4	8	7	5	6	4	4	4	6
11	5	13	17	10	11	12	8	9	12	13

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

Eight-in-ten (79%) 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% about 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	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
varies										
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
70	72	84	76	82	82	85	85	83	83	79
39	32	56	36	52	50	55	54	52	52	45
31	41	28	39	30	33	30	31	30	31	34
4	6	8	7	6	4	6	5	5	4	8
15	15	5	11	10	8	8	6	9	9	8
10	5	3	5	2	4	1	4	3	4	4
25	20	8	16	12	12	9	10	12	13	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

Ontarians remain uncertain whether the government has a plan for economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19 shutdowns, with just under half (47%) 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	Jul 20-26	Jul 27- Aug 2
n=	varies										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	59	49	56	44	53	49	52	54	43	46	47
Strongly agree	28	19	22	17	19	22	20	27	19	18	19
Somewhat agree	32	30	34	26	34	27	32	27	24	28	27
Neither agree nor disagree	10	12	12	12	7	15	12	7	9	10	16
Somewhat disagree	19	19	19	25	24	23	23	21	32	24	28
Strongly disagree	10	15	9	15	14	10	12	15	14	17	8
TOTAL DISAGREE	29	34	29	40	38	33	35	36	46	41	36

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

If there were a fourth wave of COVID-19, a plurality believes allowing air travel from possible COVID variants hotspots (32%) would be the most responsible. As borders open, about one-in-five (17%) Ontarians believe that the virus will be bought across land borders.

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	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
Varies						
%	%	%	%	%	%	%
37	37	39	36	33	30	32
27	35	20	26	26	23	20
10	11	16	15	12	19	17
13	8	10	9	11	6	14
3	1	4	4	5	2	4
4	3	6	4	6	9	6
6	5	5	7	6	11	7

QCV-200. (Q199) 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? (Previous phrasing) 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?

Base: Total sample

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37

LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT 4TH WAVE OF THE PANDEMIC

Ontarians indicate they are increasingly concerned that the province may experience a fourth wave of the pandemic. This increase likely 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	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	60	68	58	57	64	70	72
Very concerned	17	26	16	21	19	26	29
Somewhat concerned	43	43	42	36	45	44	43
Not too concerned	25	19	21	22	22	16	15
Not at all concerned	14	12	19	21	13	13	12
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	39	31	41	43	35	30	27

However, Ontarians tend to feel the Ontario government is prepared to handle a fourth wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly. This week, three-quarters (74%) 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	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
Varies						
%	%	%	%	%	%	%
66	75	71	71	67	69	74
19	17	17	18	14	17	15
48	58	54	54	53	52	59
20	16	16	18	19	17	14
11	9	12	9	10	10	12
32	25	27	27	28	27	26
		2	2	4	4	-

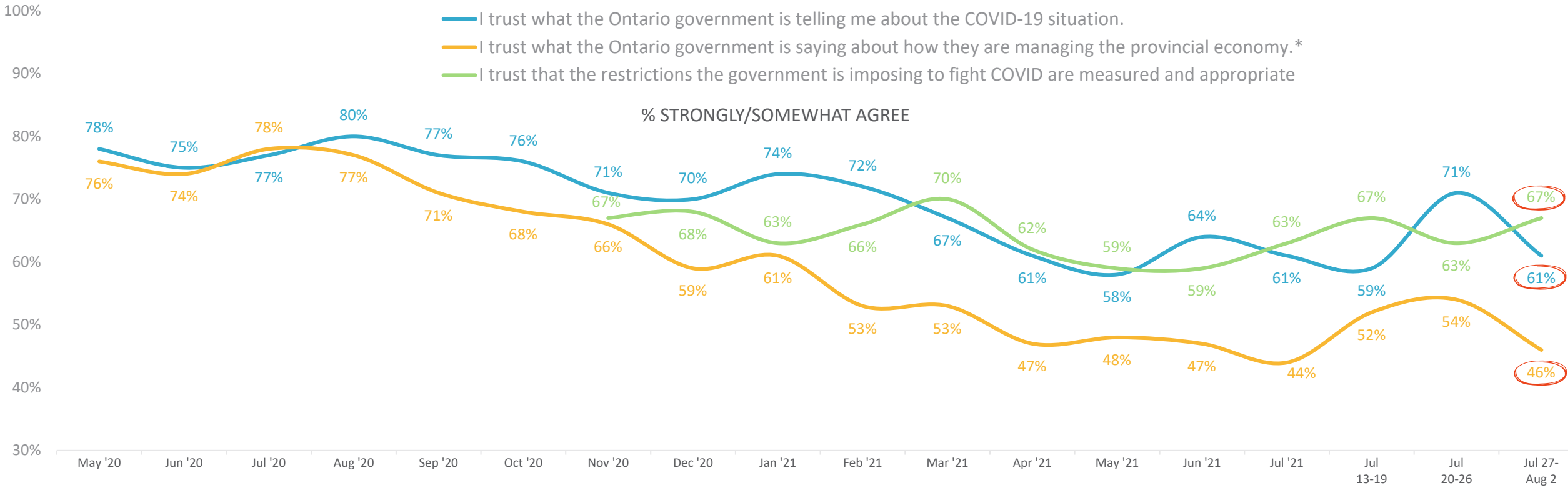
QCV-211. How prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a 'fourth' wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly? Would you say the Ontario government is . .
QCV-127. Considering the increasing rate of infection, how prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario 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

There was an improvement in the trust of government communications about ‘the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured and appropriate’, but there were declines this week for ‘how they are managing the provincial economy’ and ‘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?

The decline last week in the proportion of Ontarians who agree that we are over the worst of COVID-19 was retained this week. Increasing concern about the Delta variant may be fueling this decline.

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	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	varies										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	53	60	70	68	71	75	77	77	74	61	62
Strongly agree	22	25	30	26	32	31	40	42	35	34	29
Somewhat agree	31	35	40	42	39	44	38	35	39	27	33
Neither agree nor disagree	7	8	8	7	8	7	6	6	5	7	7
Somewhat disagree	22	16	12	19	8	10	8	8	11	16	17
Strongly disagree	14	12	8	4	11	7	7	7	8	14	13
TOTAL DISAGREE	36	28	20	22	19	17	15	15	19	29	30

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

Base: Total sample

COVID-19 VACCINE



However, there was a slight increase in the number of Ontarians that are confident that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered, with two-thirds (66%) in agreement this week.

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

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

Jan '21	Feb '21	Mar '21	Apr '21	May '21	Jun '21	Jul '21	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2
varies									
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
52	49	49	58	56	72	70	73	62	66
16	18	18	22	20	33	33	32	26	24
35	31	31	36	36	39	37	42	36	43
6	7	6	6	7	6	6	3	8	9
19	20	18	16	16	13	11	11	16	11
22	23	24	17	19	7	12	12	13	13
41	43	42	34	35	21	23	23	29	24

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

RECEIVED COVID-19 VACCINE OUTSIDE OF ONTARIO

Preliminary results indicate that almost one-in-ten (8%) Ontarians have received a COVID-19 vaccine outside of Ontario.

	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	300
	%
Yes	8
No	92
Don't know/not sure	1

QCV-213 (120) Has any member of your immediate household, including yourself, received a COVID-19 vaccine outside of Ontario – in another province or outside Canada?

Base: Total sample

FACE COVERINGS ADHERENCE



FREQUENCY OF FACE MASK WEARING

Wearing of masks or face coverings ‘all/most of the time’ continues to be strong, although there has been a decline among those reporting wearing a mask ‘all of the time’ compared to earlier in the year.

	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2
n=	1752	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	921	300
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	60	77	83	87	88	90	92	91	82
All of the time	29	49	55	63	67	71	73	72	52
Most of the time	30	28	28	24	21	19	19	19	30
Some of the time	23	16	12	9	9	6	6	7	10
Rarely	14	7	4	3	3	3	2	2	5
Never	3	1	1	1	1	1	<1	<1	2
RARELY/NEVER	17	8	5	4	3	4	2	2	7

REGIONS	City of Toronto					Toronto Suburbs					Hamilton					Central Ontario					South Western Ontario					Northern Ontario					Eastern Ontario					Ottawa				
	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	91%	94%	95%	95%	85%	89%	90%	94%	91%	85%	86%	90%	93%	87%	83%	83%	90%	90%	85%	67%	86%	87%	90%	91%	86%	89%	91%	87%	90%	81%	92%	88%	89%	95%	92%	87%	86%	88%	91%	75%

	RIGHT TRACK					WRONG TRACK				
	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Jul 27-Aug 2
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	90%	92%	94%	94%	88%	82%	83%	86%	85%	72%

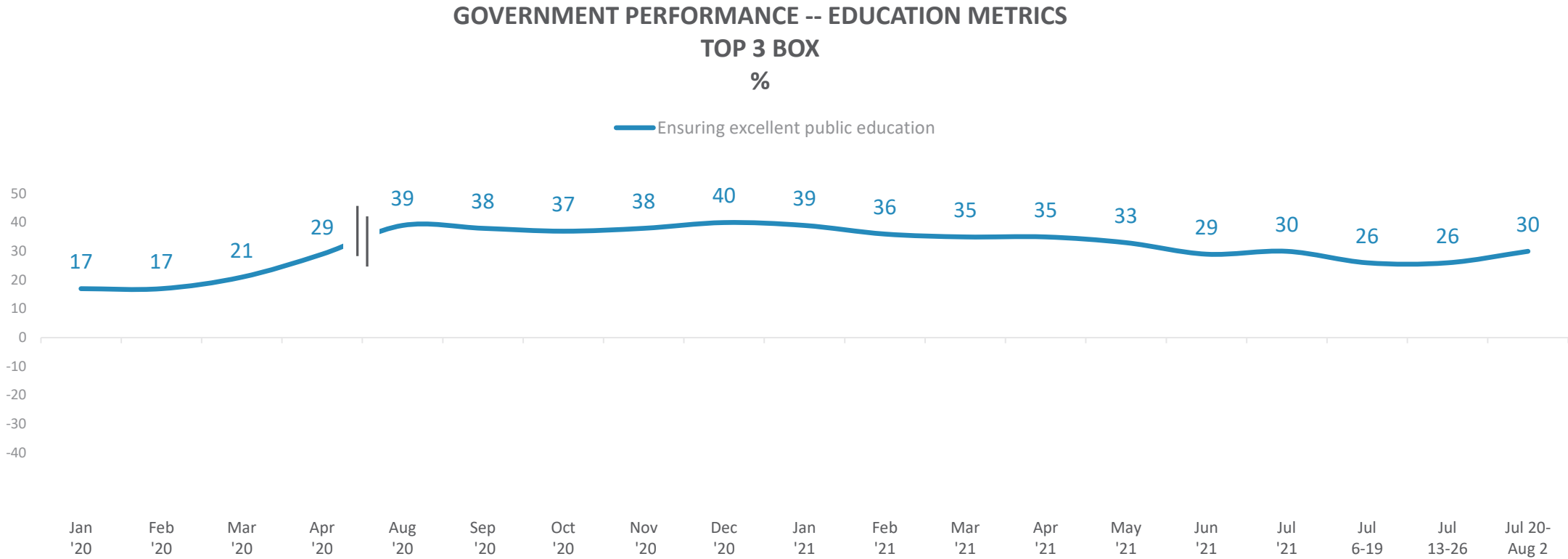
QD1B. As a result of COVID-19 and thinking about your daily activities when you are away from home, how often do you wear a face mask or covering?

Base: Total sample

APPENDIX – PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

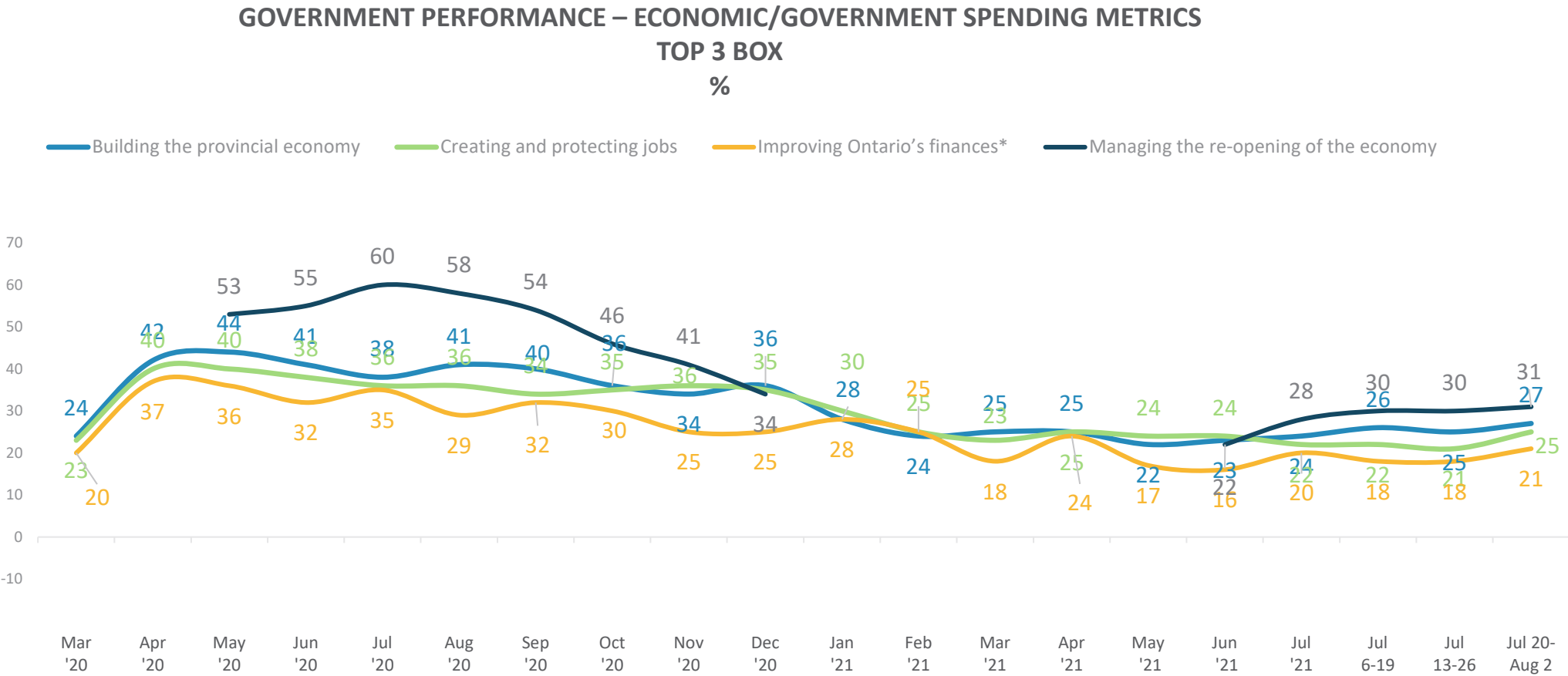


Positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ increased and is back to 30% this week.



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

Positive perceptions toward the government’s performance for ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ and ‘creating and protecting jobs’ showed slight improvements this week. The other economic and government spending metrics remained stable.

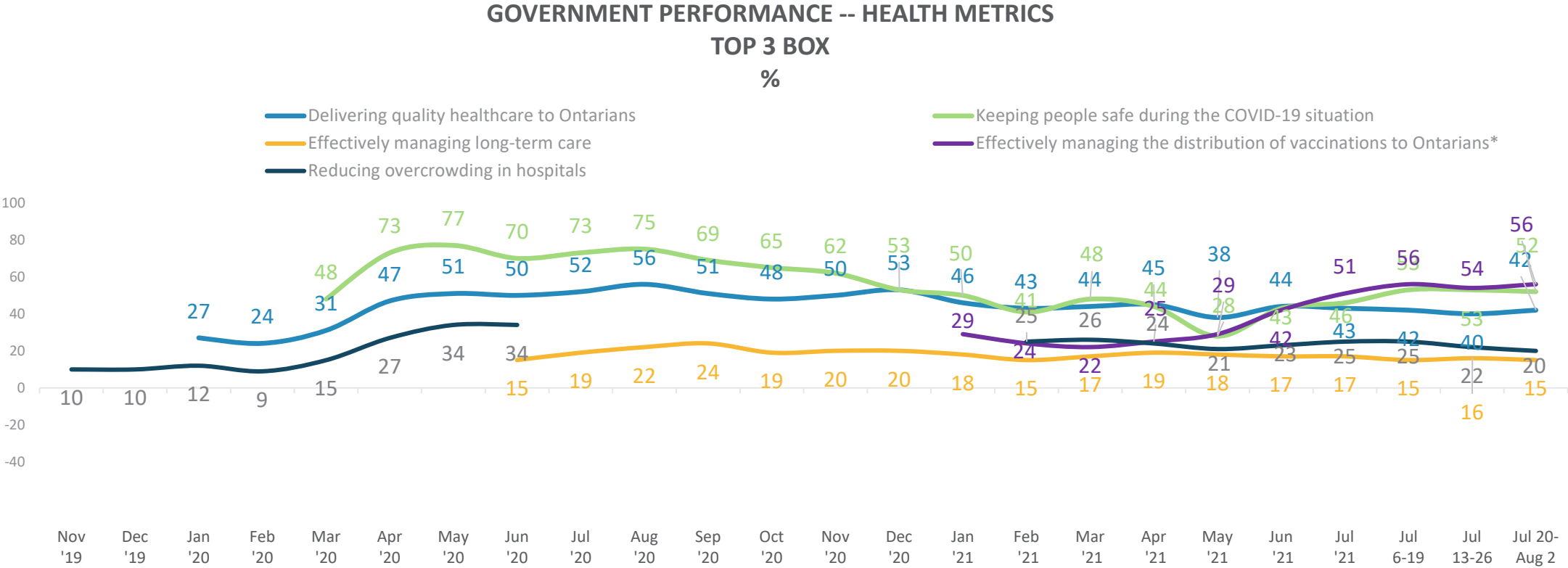


Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

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

Bases vary

This week, rating of the government’s performance for the health metrics remained relatively 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: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary