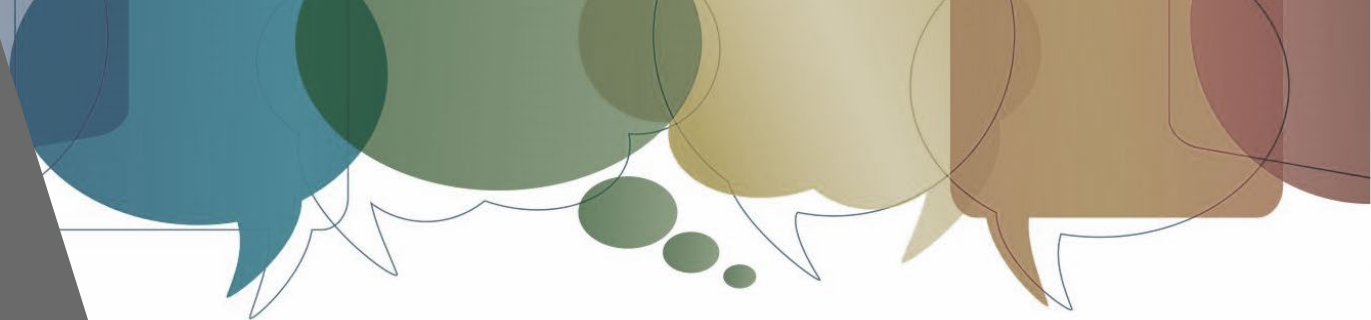




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PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #100

CABINET OFFICE

September 28th 2021



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 'Right track' scores remained steady for the third straight week at 61% this week. The 'right track' scores have increased by 9-points since the announcement of the vaccine certificates.

3 After a decline last week, support for the introduction of a vaccine certificate as it will provide another level of safety and persuade more people to get vaccinated increased to 74% this week.

Awareness is also high (and increasing) that the government of Ontario is introducing a vaccine certificate that provides proof that a person is fully vaccinated for COVID-19. This week, nine-in-ten (89%) Ontarians report they have heard 'a lot' or 'something' about the introduction of the vaccine certificate. And, intensity is high with 70% saying they have heard 'a lot'.

2 While a decline was measured last week, there was an increase again to seven-in-ten (72%) Ontarians expressing concern about a fourth wave of the pandemic. This compares to 57% in mid-July.

Perhaps reflecting the stability of COVID-19 cases, there was an increase to six-in-ten (59%) Ontarians that agree that we are over the worst of COVID-19. And, there was an increase to just over half (55%) indicating they are confident that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered – probably tied to the vaccine certificate implementation.

Ontarians increasingly believe COVID-19 is now the pandemic of the unvaccinated, with over four-in-ten (44%) believing unvaccinated individuals are the most responsible.

4 Seven-in-ten (72%) Ontarians continue to feel that the government is prepared to handle a fourth wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly.

This week, there was an increase to just over half (55%) who believe the government is 'doing what is required' to reduce the spread of the virus. And, after a decrease last week, the proportion of Ontarians who think the government is 'not doing as much as they should' remained unchanged at 28%.

There was also an increase again this week regarding trust in the government's communications about 'the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured/appropriate'.

Key Findings

5 About four-in-ten (39%) Ontarians continue to believe that COVID-19 should remain the government's top priority, while one-in-ten (11%) cite the economy.

And, there has been no change again this week with 46% of Ontarians who think the government's focus in the coming months should be on economic issues while 40% think it should be on health-related issues.

The government's performance rating for 'managing the re-opening of the economy', along with the other economic and government spending metrics, were steady this week. However, trust in the government's communications about 'how they are managing the provincial economy' experienced an 8-point increase this week.

Rating of the government's performance for 'making life more affordable' declined slightly this week. This is a metric that bears watching.

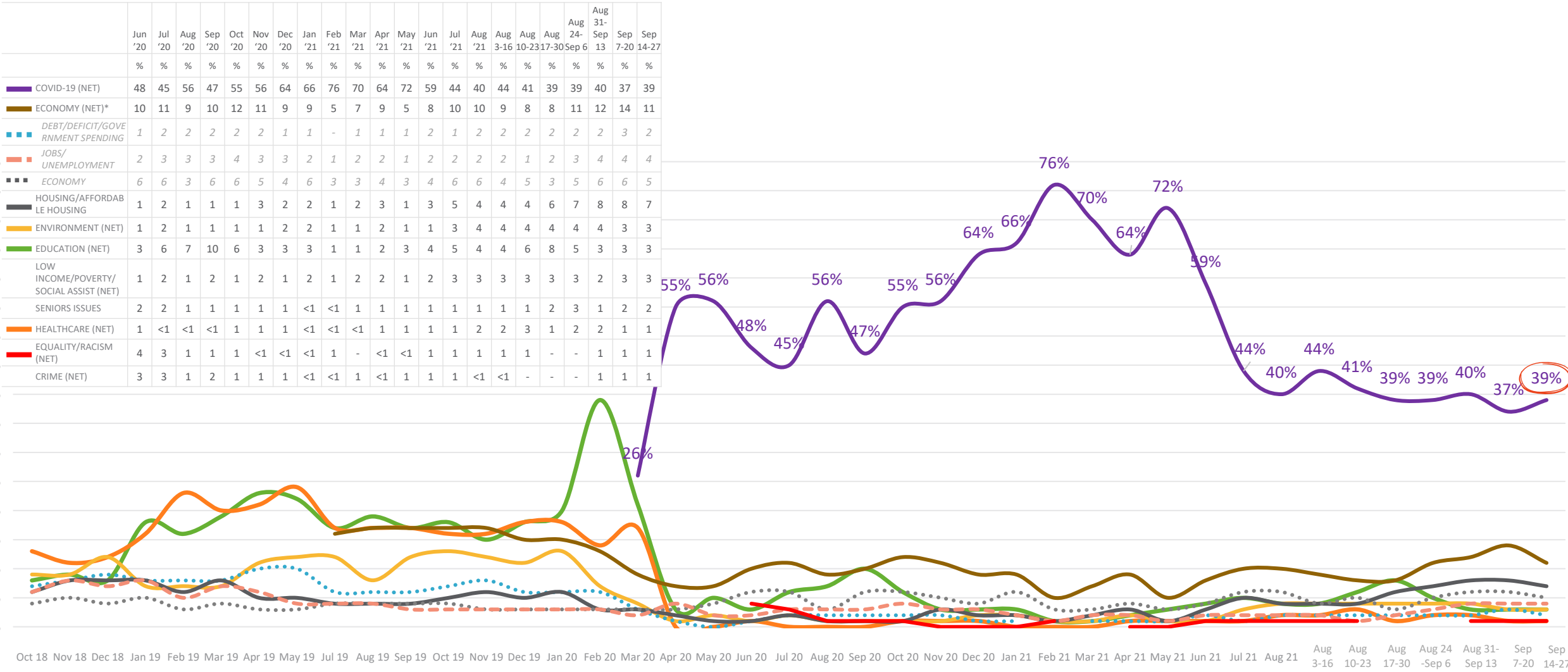
6 With students back in school for several weeks, the rating of the government's performance for 'ensuring excellent public education' remained stable again this week.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



ONTARIANS' TOP PRIORITIES REQUIRING ATTENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT

About four-in-ten (39%) Ontarians continue to believe that COVID-19 should remain the government’s top priority, while one-in-ten (11%) cite the economy.



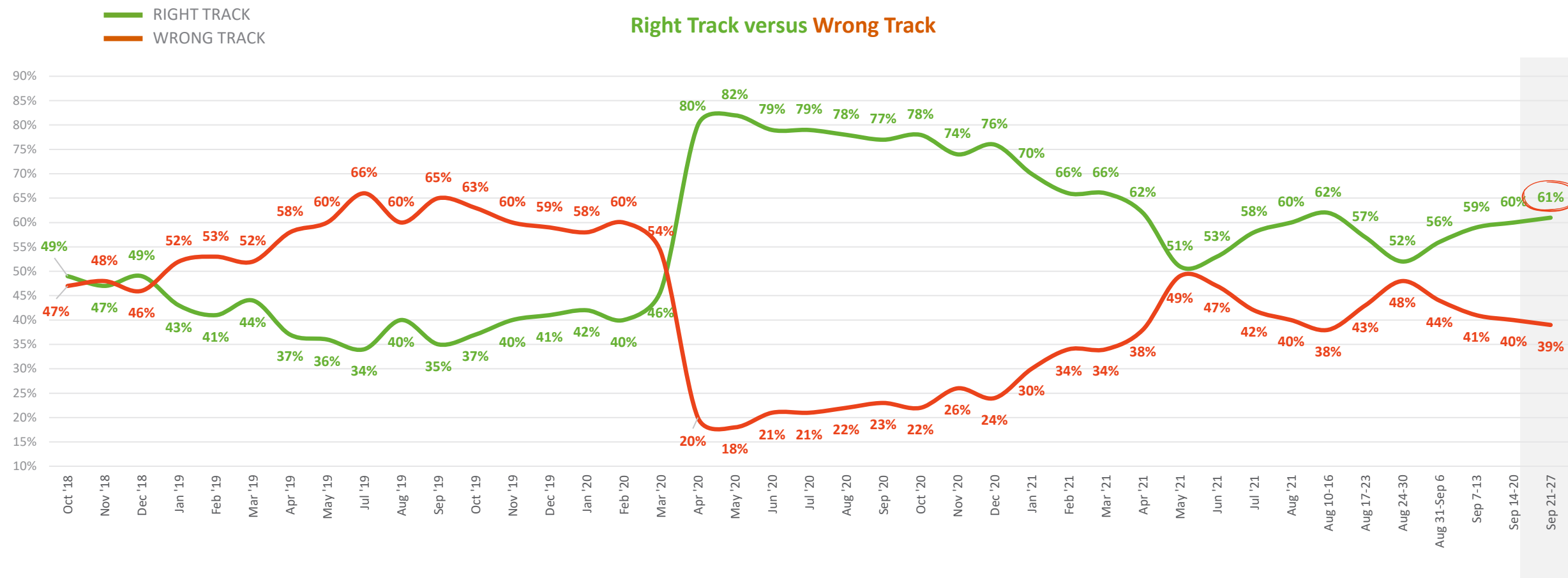
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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

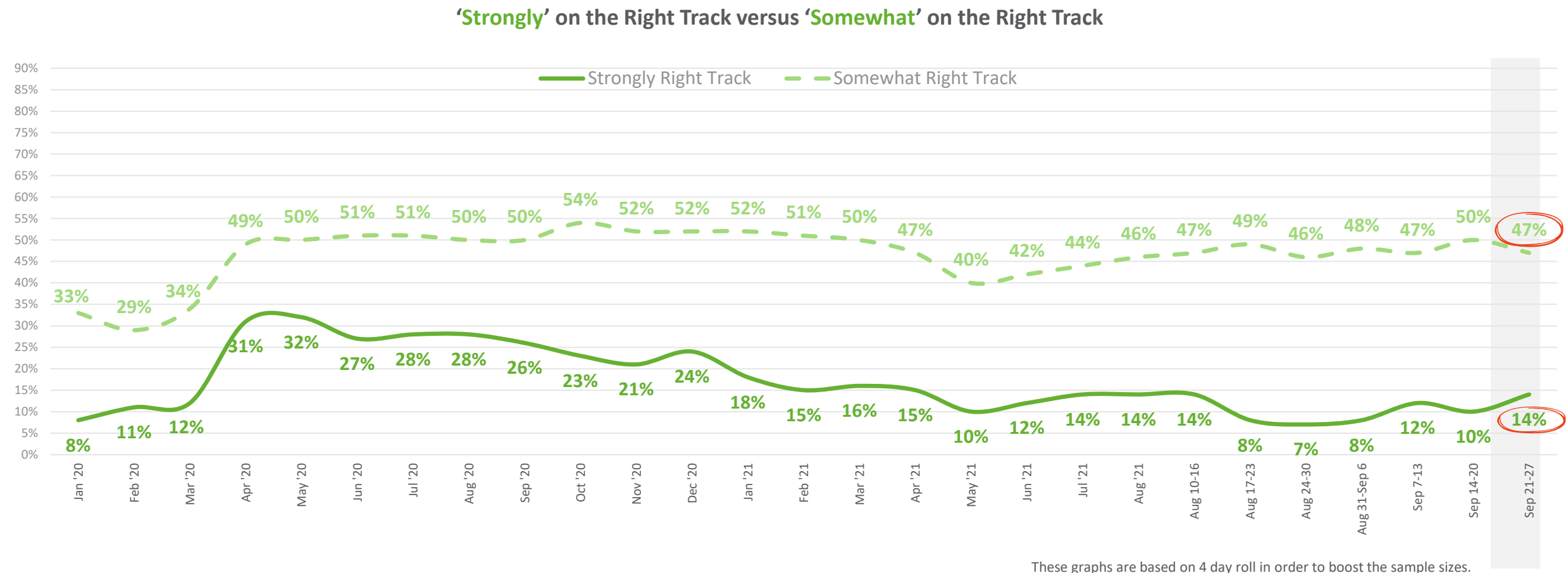


‘Right track’ scores remained steady for the third straight week at 61%.



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

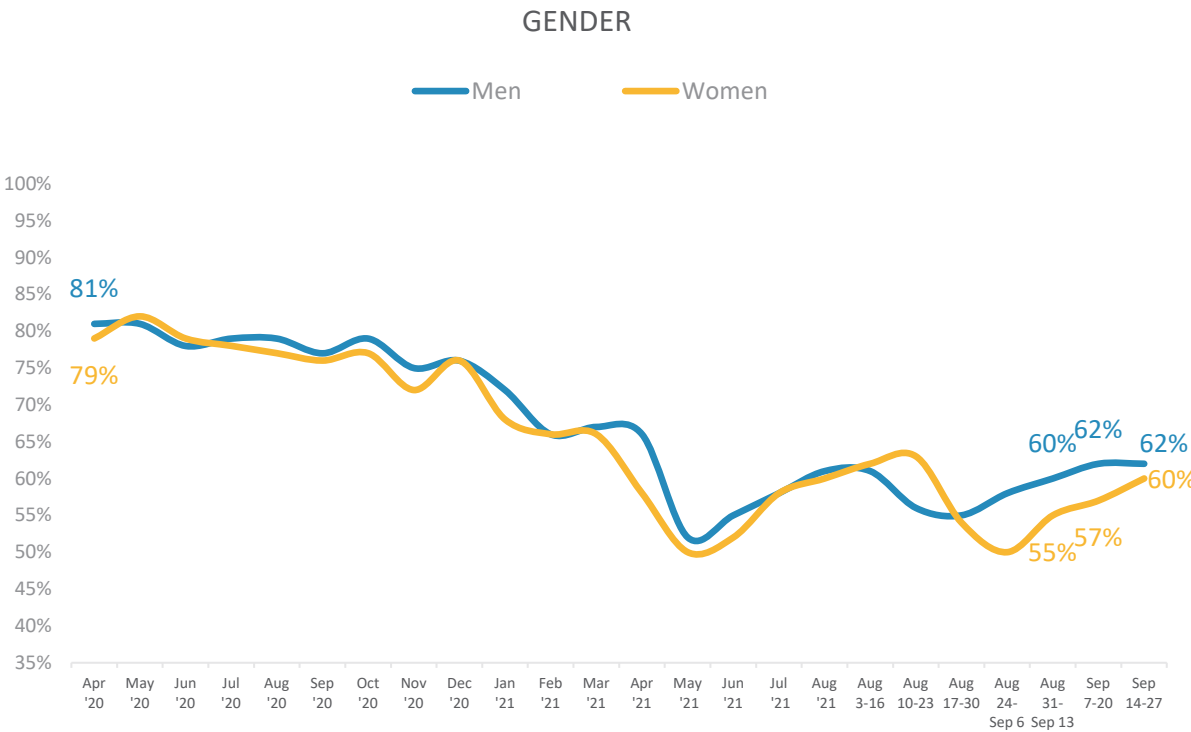
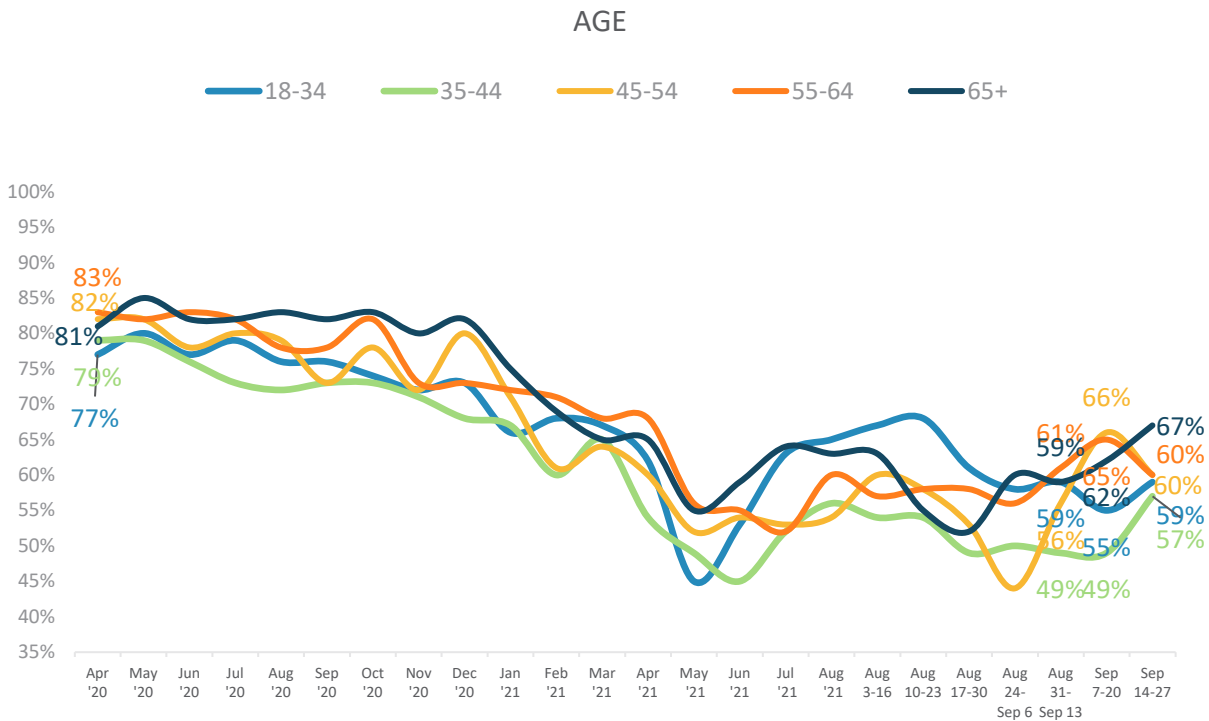
There was a slight uptick in ‘strongly on the right track’ scores, while ‘somewhat on the right track’ scores returned to 47% this week.



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+ and lowest among those aged 35-44 (with a gap of 10-points this week between the two segments) while the other age groups are at parity this week. With an increase measured again this week among women, ‘right track’ scores are also almost at parity by gender.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

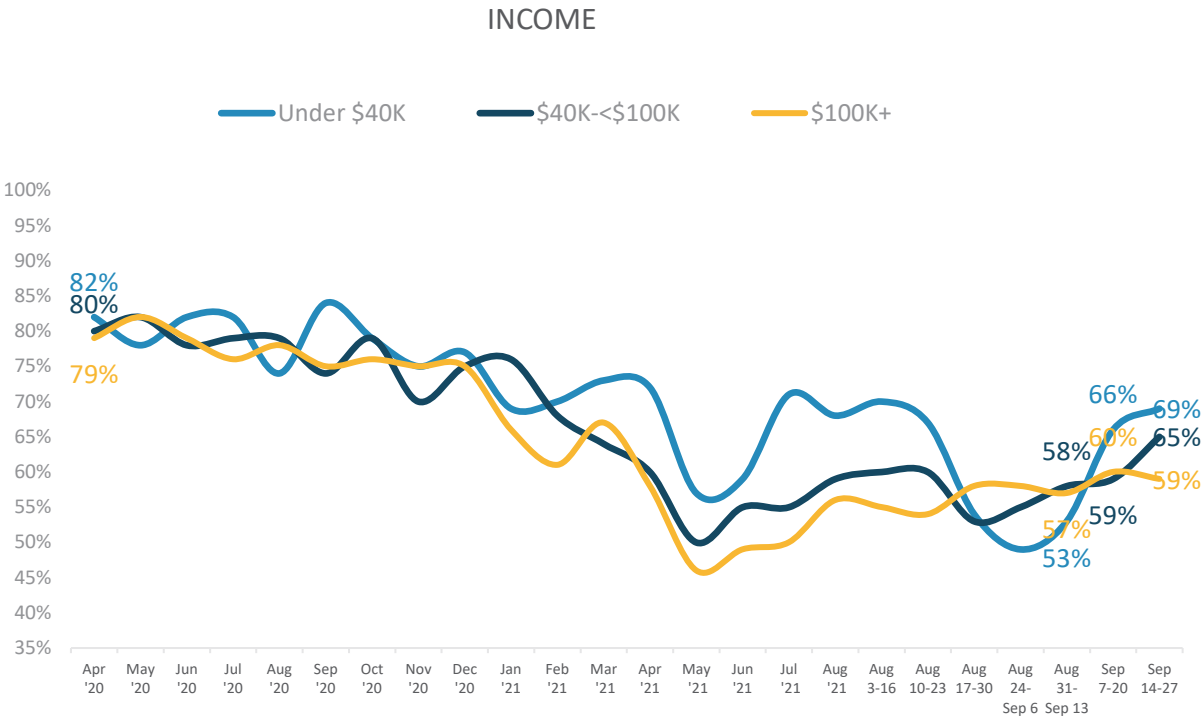
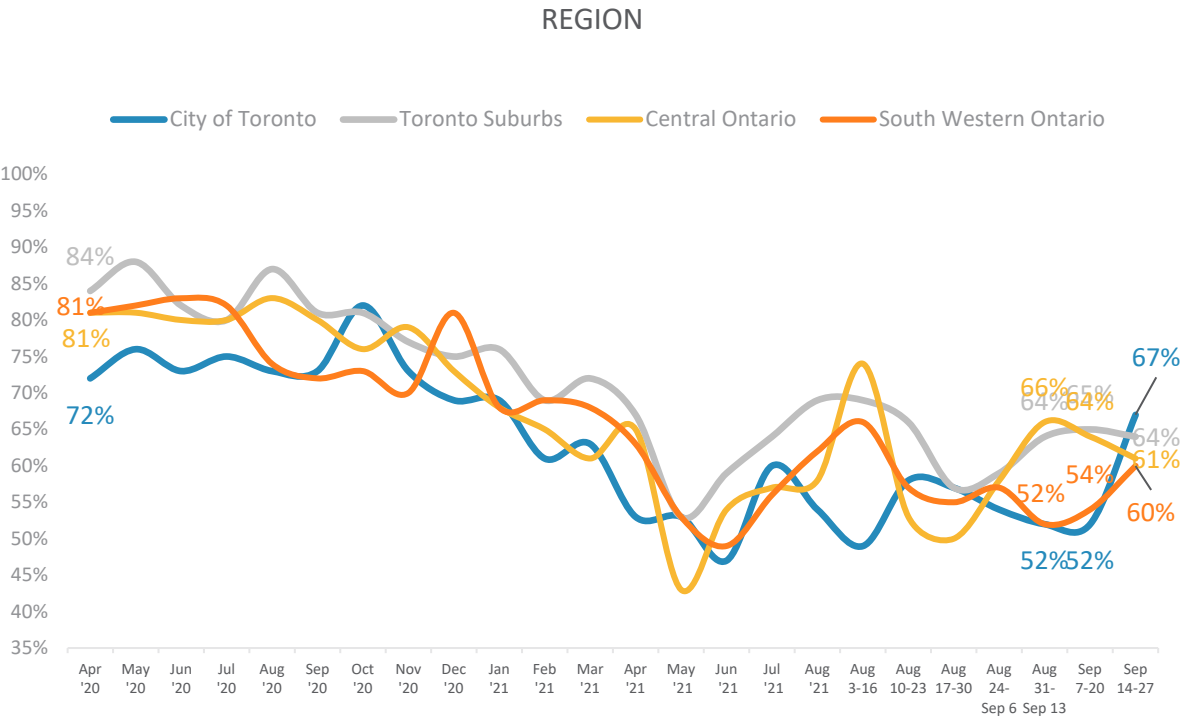


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

With an increase this week, ‘right track’ scores are highest in the city of Toronto. The Toronto suburbs, Central Toronto and SW Ontario are all close to parity this week. By income, Ontarians making under \$40k have the highest ‘right track’ scores, 10-points higher than those making \$100k+.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



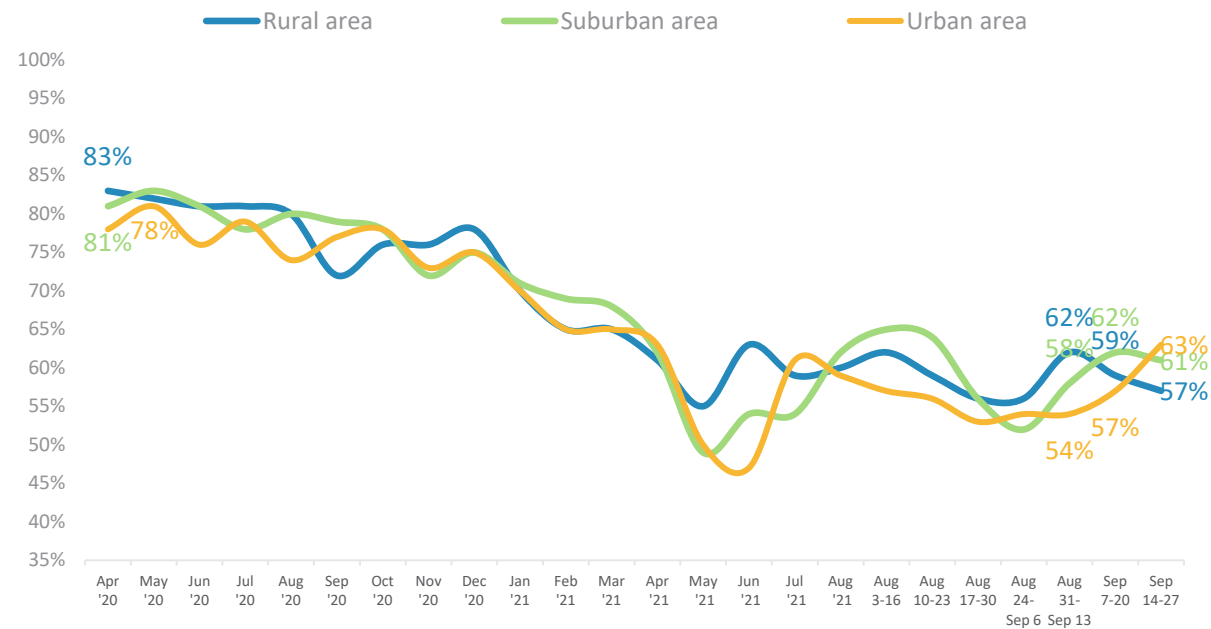
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

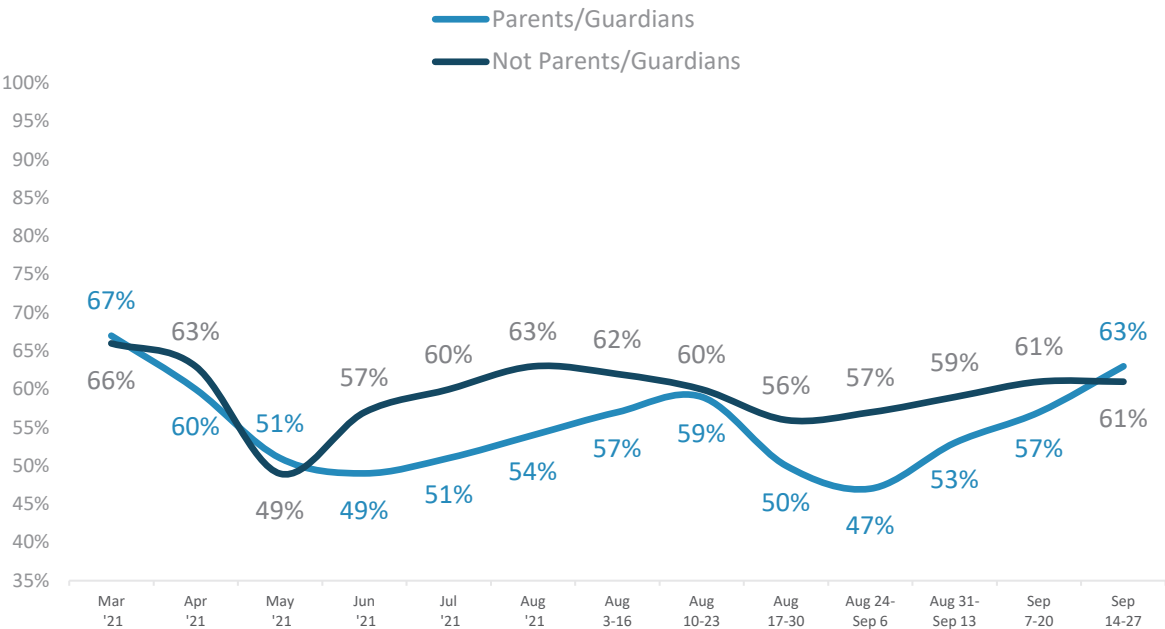
‘Right track’ scores in urban areas increased again this week, while declines were again measured in rural areas. Suburban ‘right track’ scores remained steady.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS



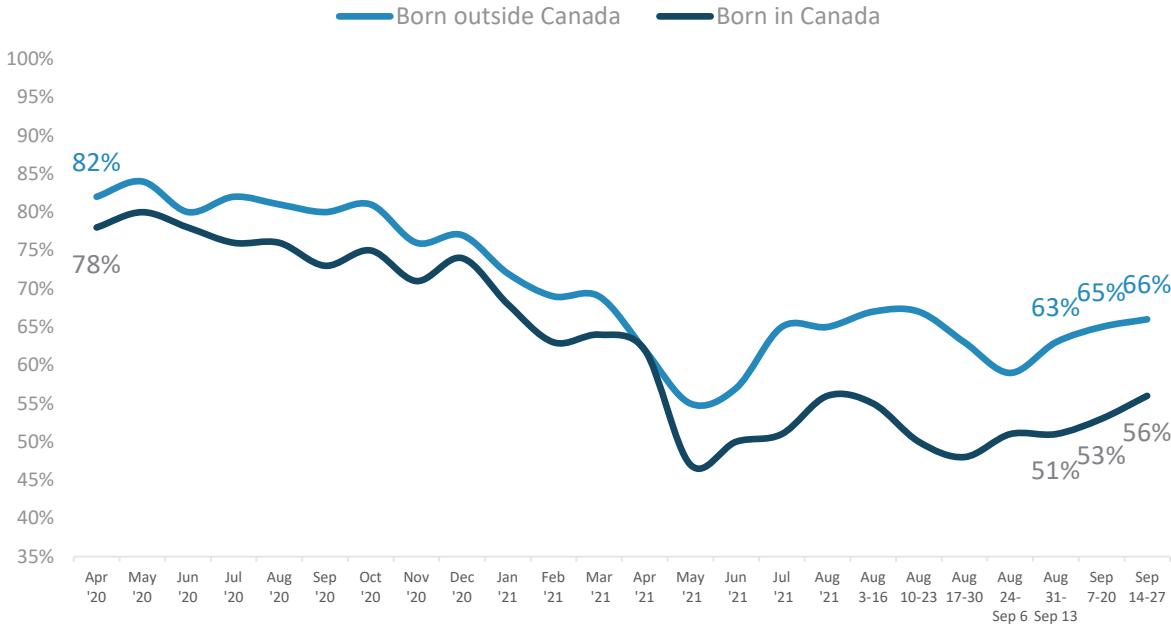
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

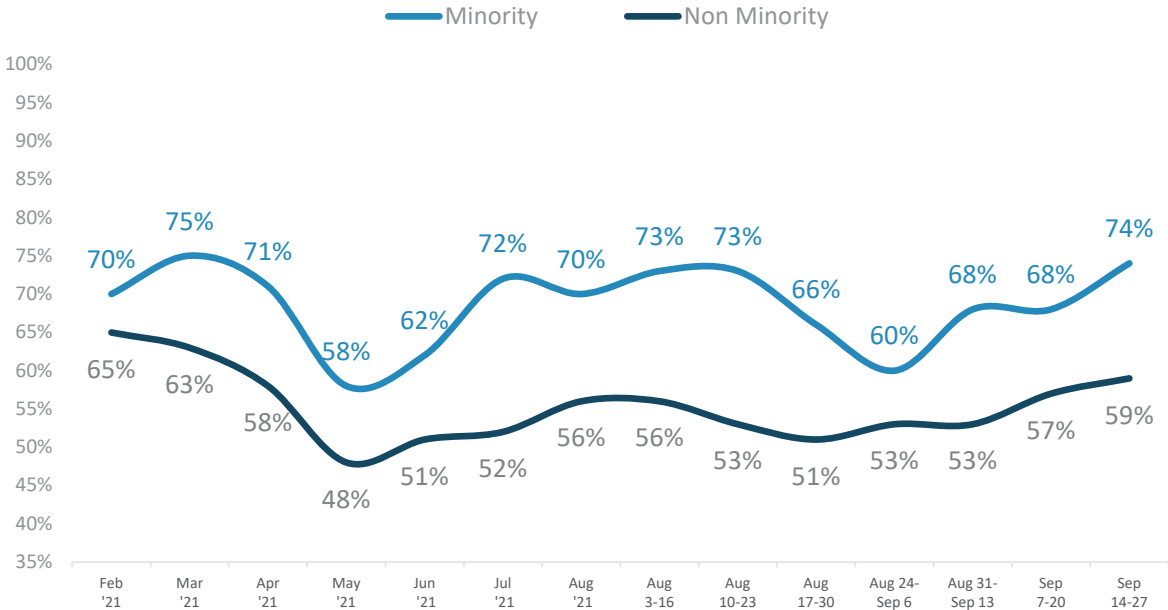
‘Right track’ scores increased among Ontarians born in Canada while remaining steady among those born outside of Canada. And, there were increases measured among both minorities and non-minorities (with a gap of 15-points).

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY

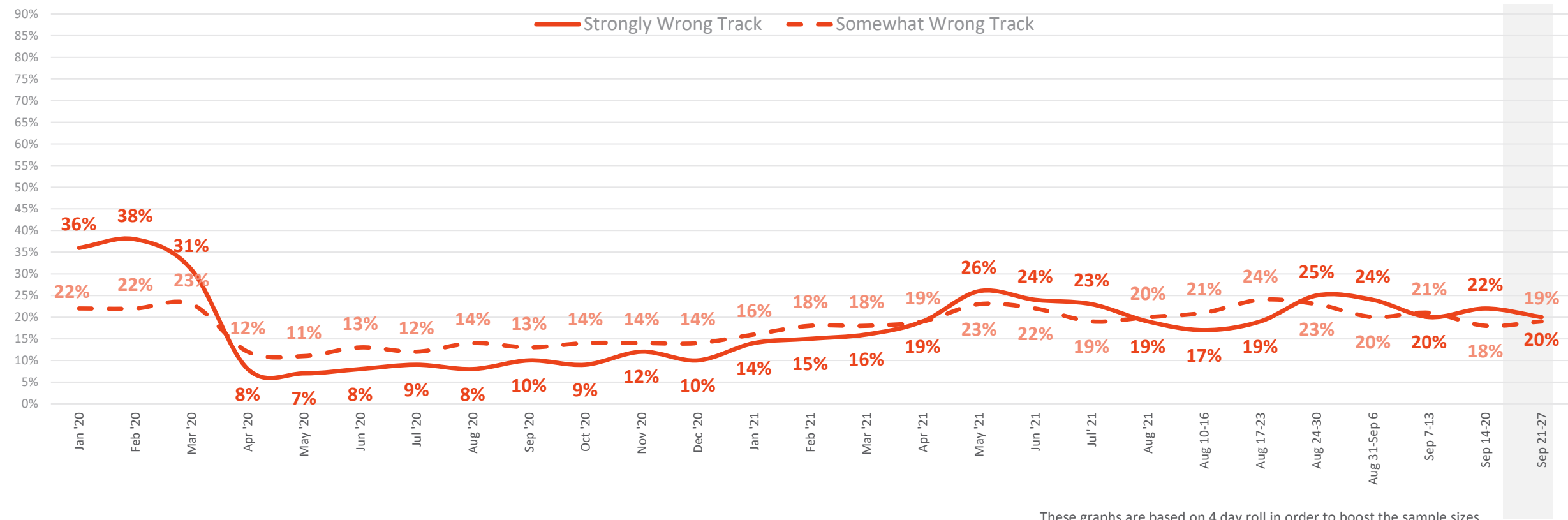


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

‘Strongly on the wrong track’ (20%) and ‘somewhat on the wrong track’ (19%) are at parity this week.

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

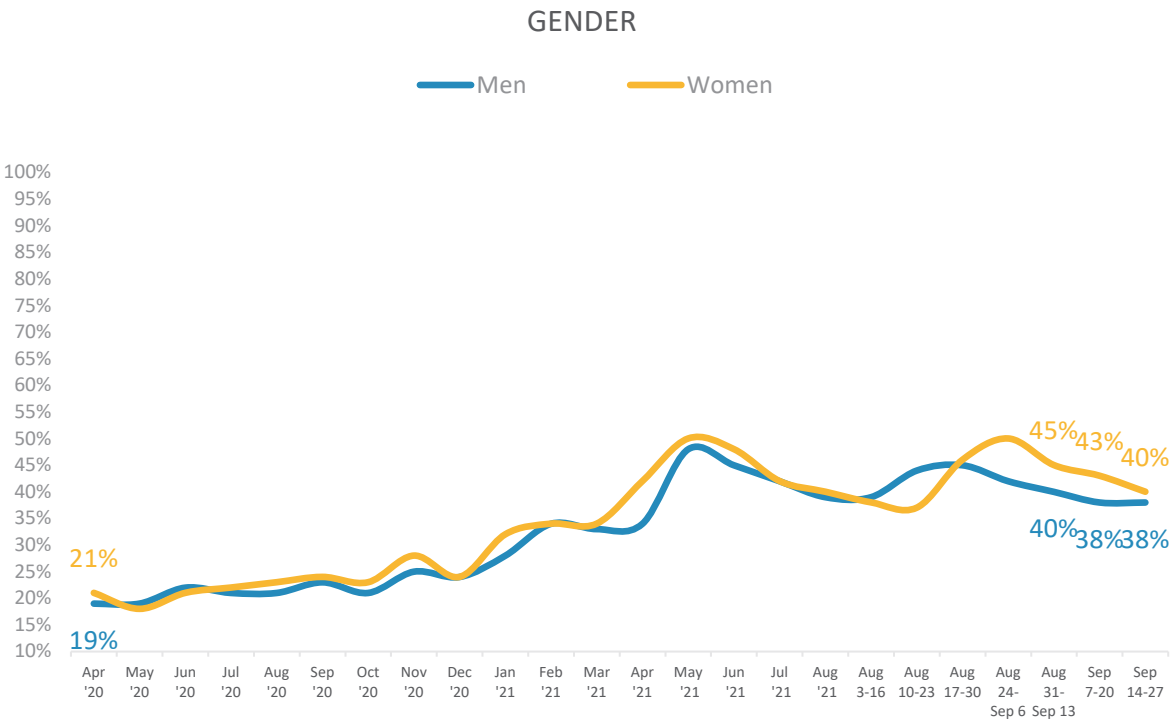
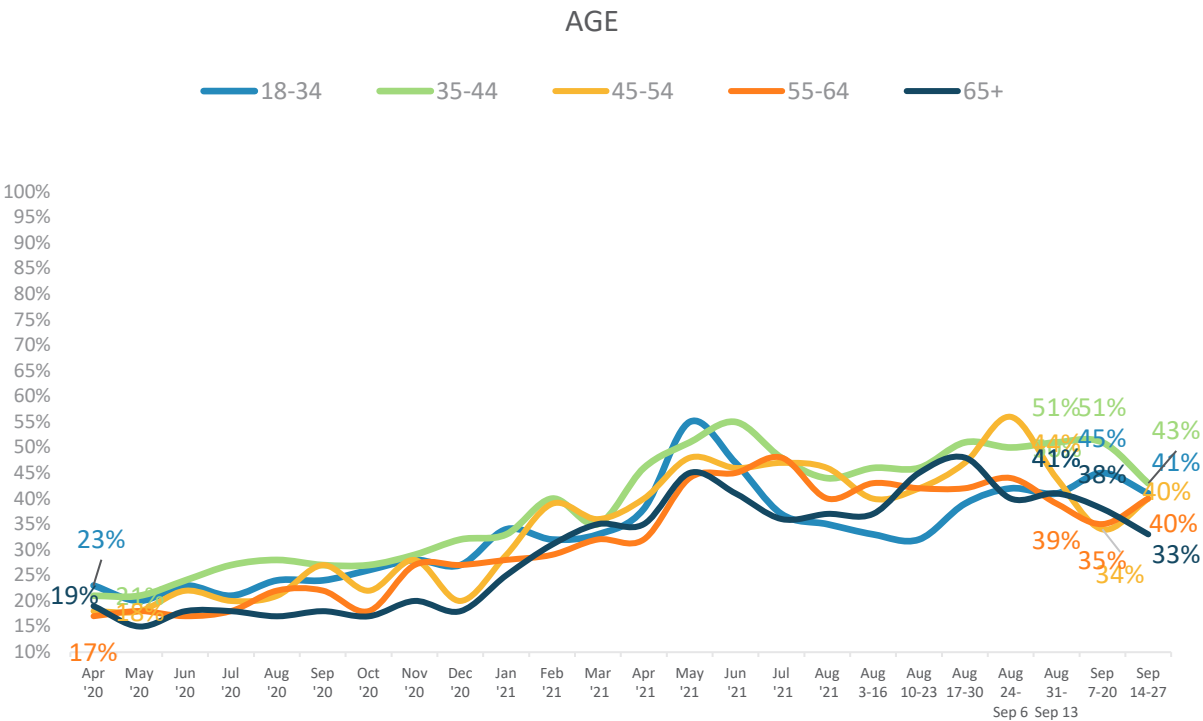


These graphs are based on 4 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

‘Wrong track’ scores are lowest among Ontarians aged 65+ and highest among those aged 35-44 (with a 10-point gap this week). The other age segments are at parity. And, with a decline again this week among women, there is almost parity in ‘wrong track’ scores by gender.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

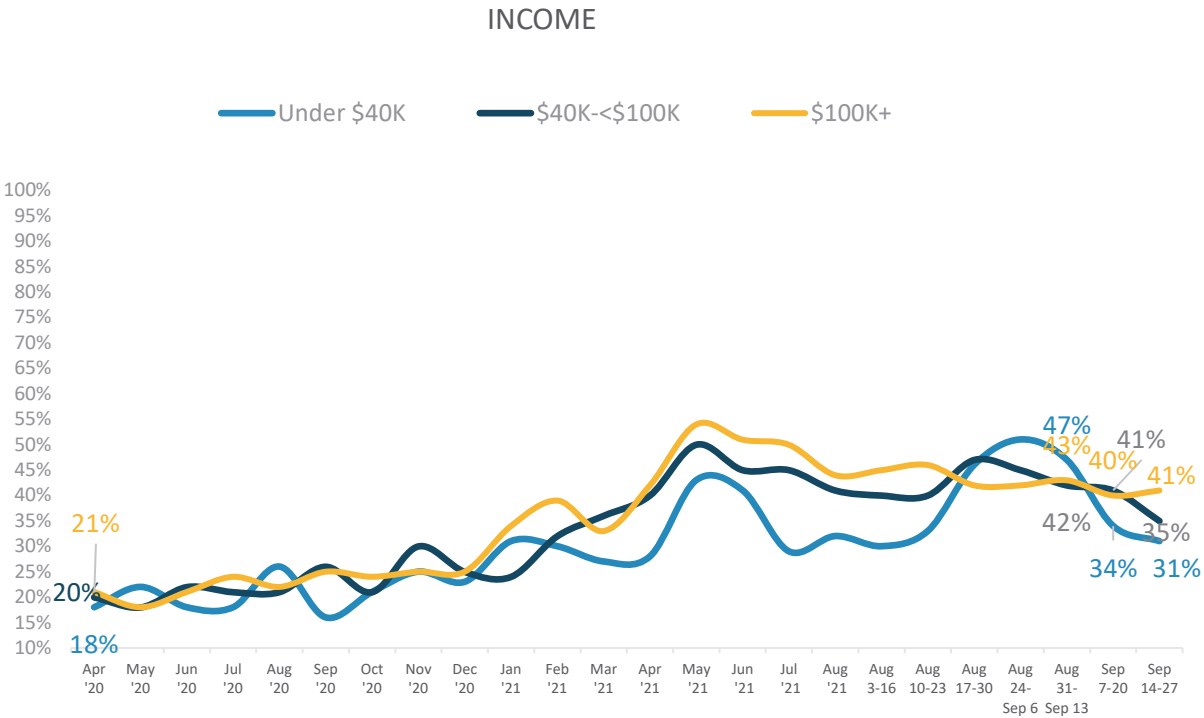
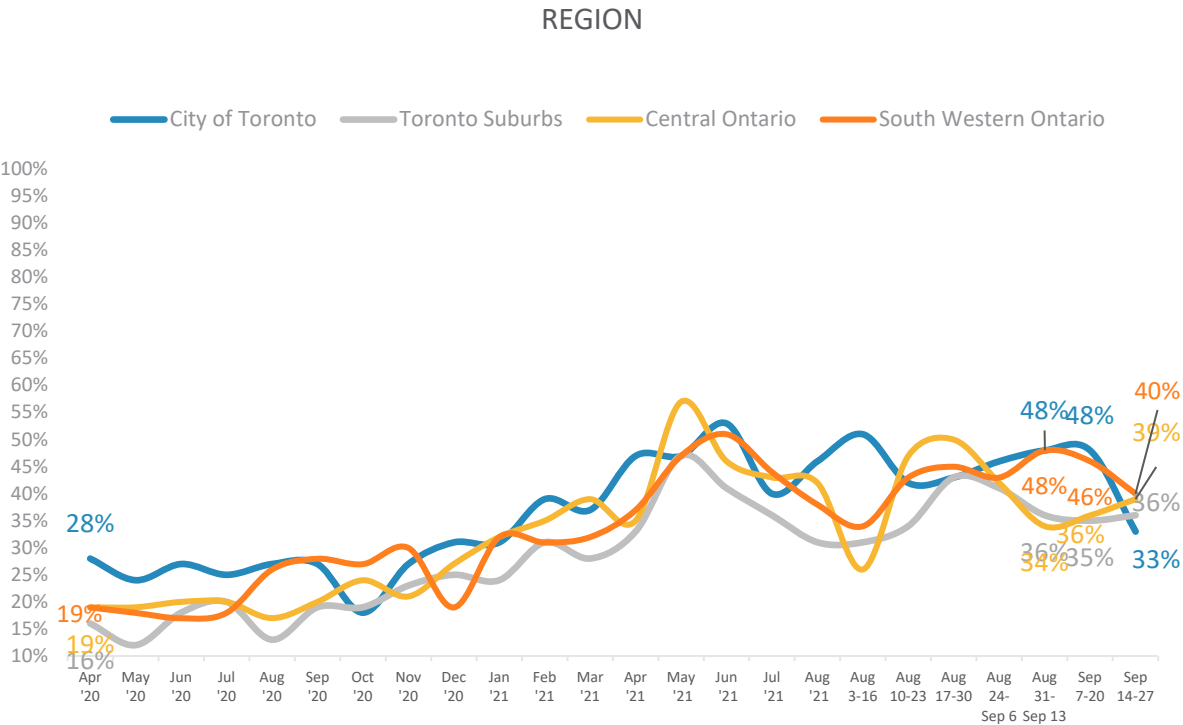


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

With a decline this week, ‘wrong track’ scores are now lowest in the city of Toronto. And, ‘wrong track’ scores remain lowest among Ontarians making under \$40k, 10-points lower than those making \$100k+.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

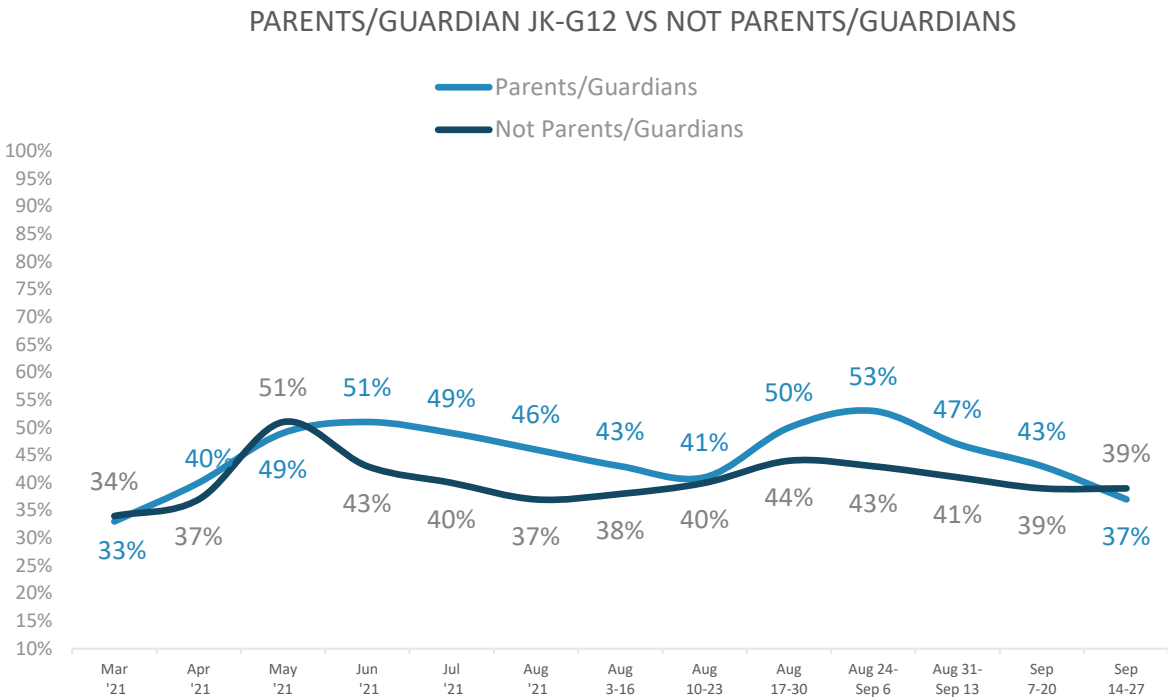
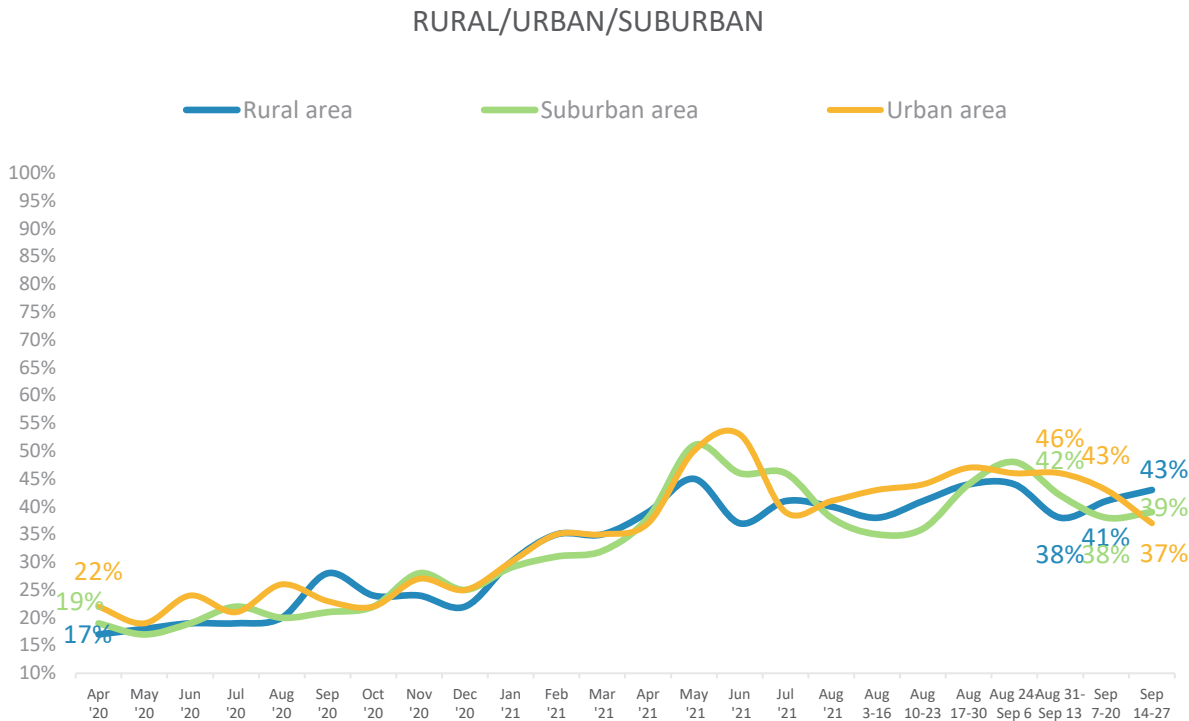


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

This week, ‘wrong track’ scores are lowest in urban areas and highest in rural areas. ‘Wrong track’ scores remained steady in the suburban areas.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

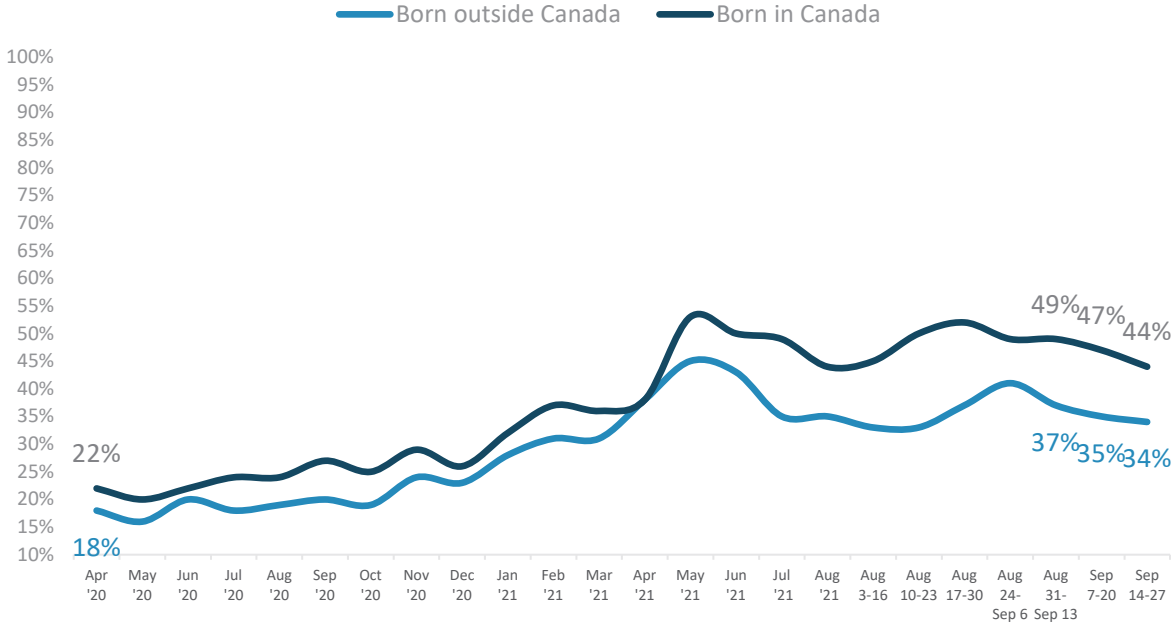


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

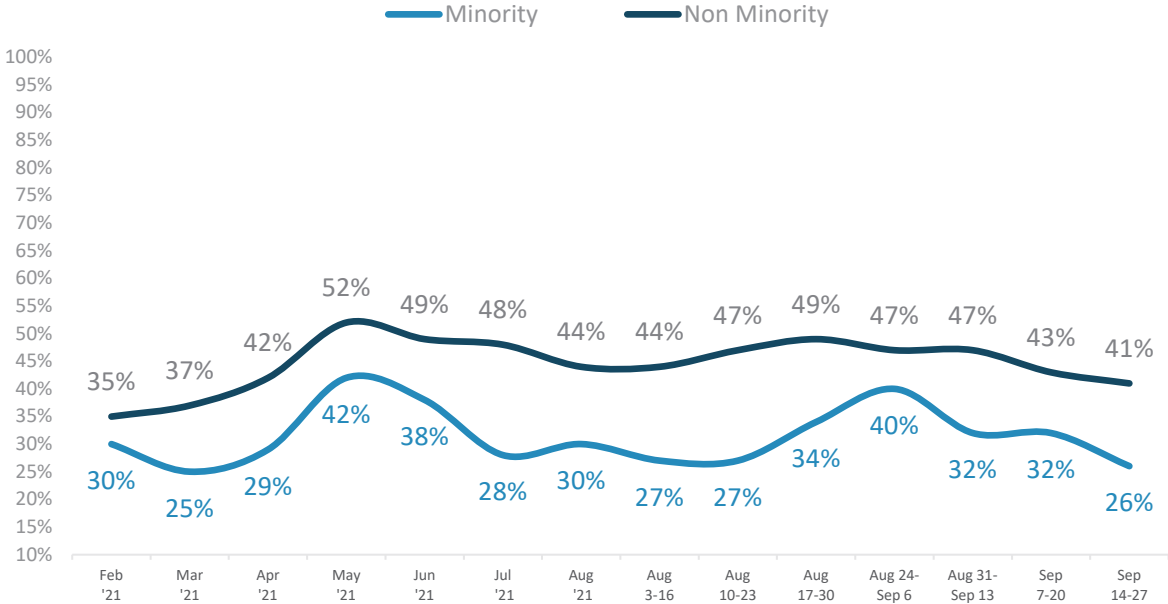
‘Wrong track’ scores declined among Ontarians born in Canada while remaining steady among those born outside of Canada. And, there were declines in ‘wrong track’ scores this week among both minorities and non-minorities.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



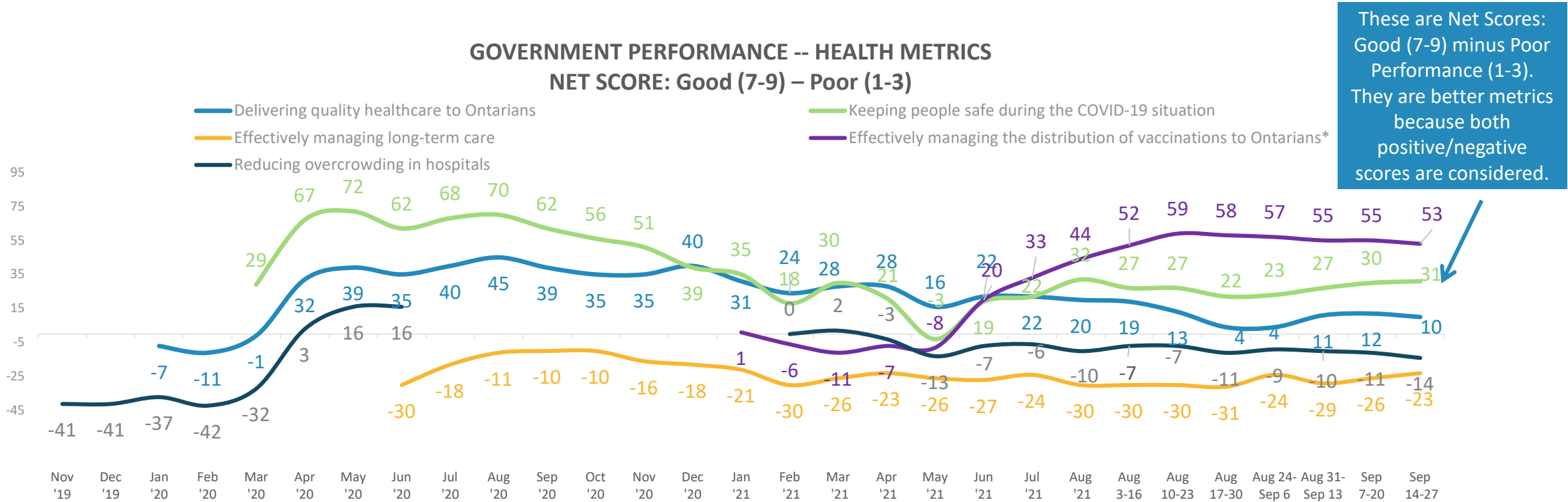
Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



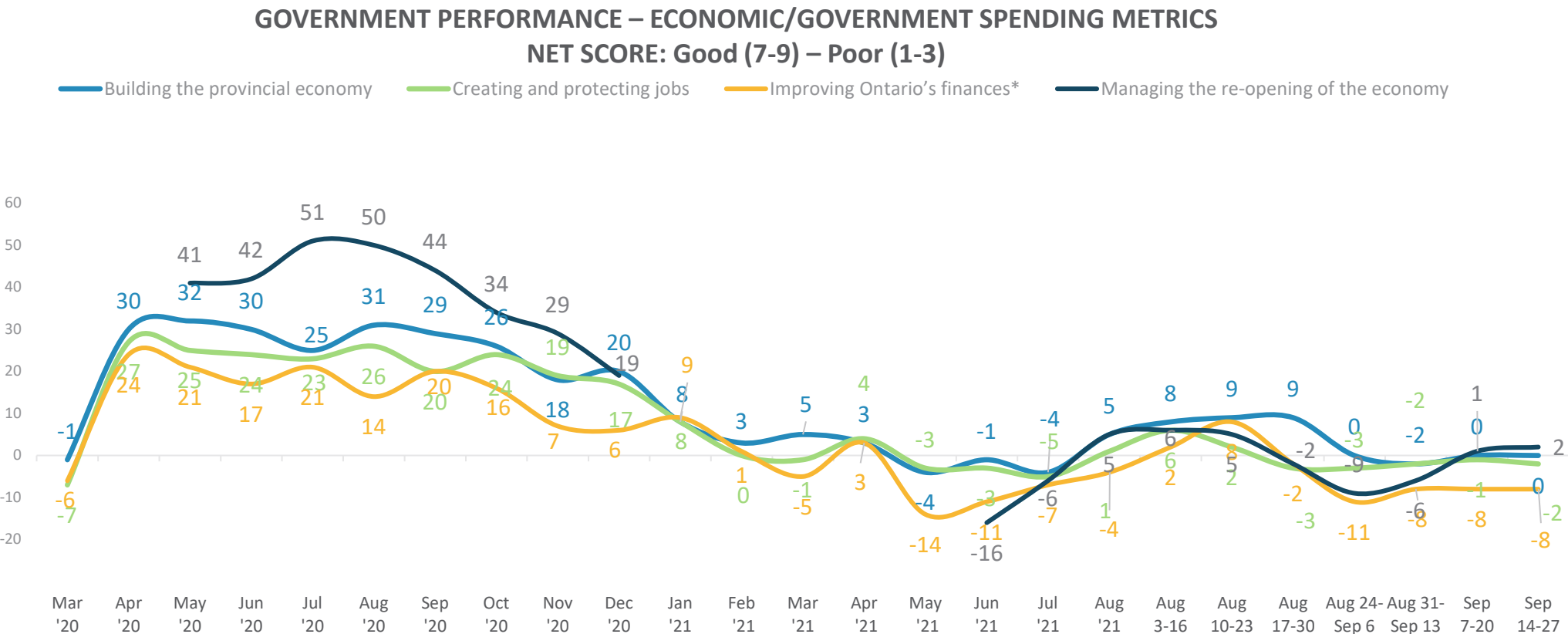
‘Effectively managing vaccinations’ remained steady this week and continues to be the highest rated health metric. Positive ratings of the government’s performance for ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ also remained steady this week maintaining increases measured over the past three weeks.

- The other health metrics also remained relatively unchanged this week.



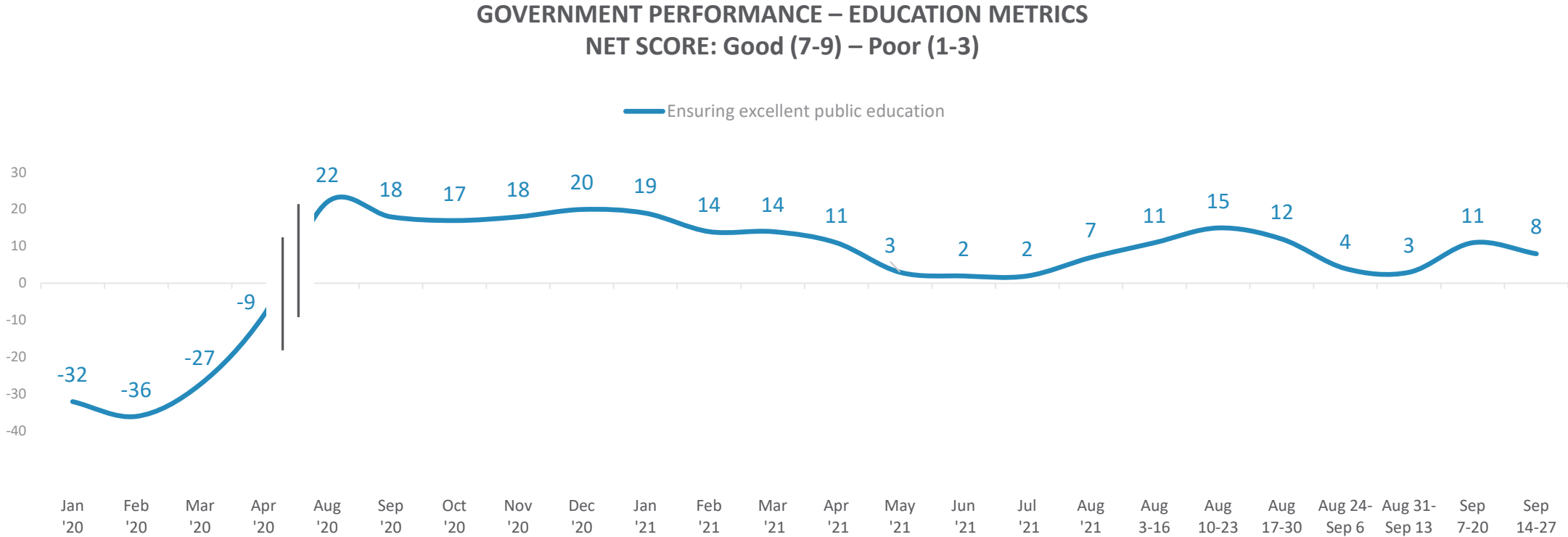
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

The government’s performance rating for ‘managing the re-opening of the economy’, along with the other economic and government spending metrics, were steady this week.



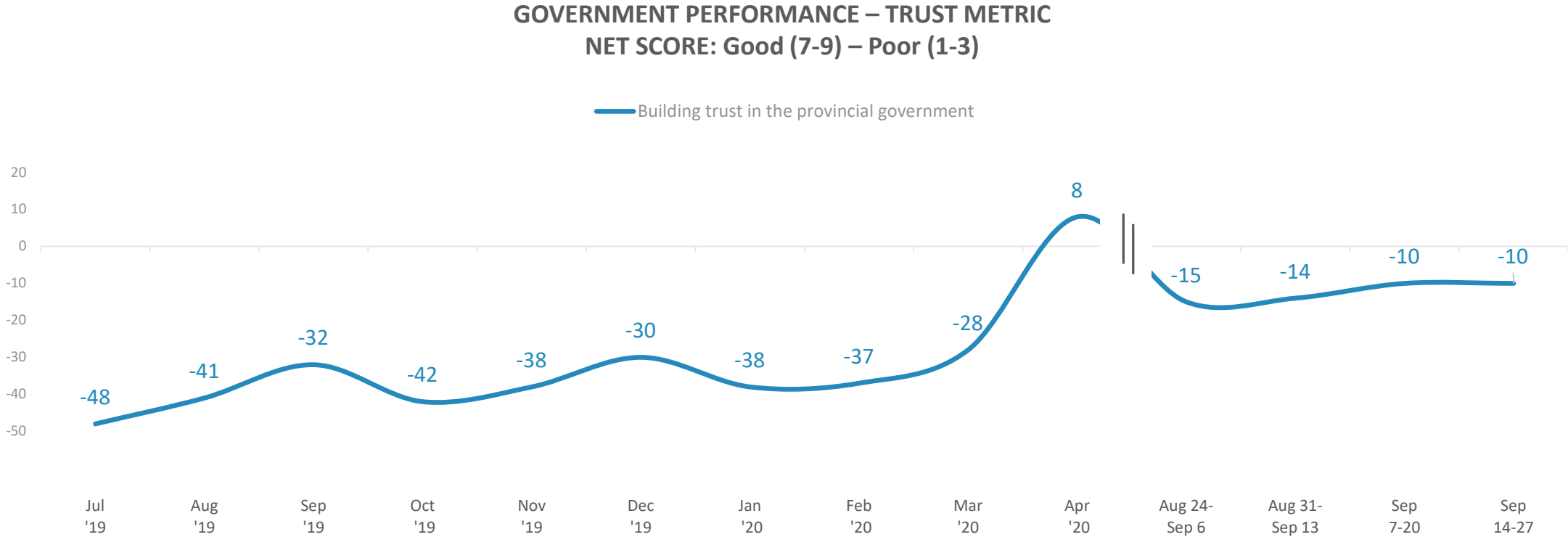
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
Bases vary

With students back in school, the rating of the government’s performance for ‘ensuring excellent public education’ remained stable this week.



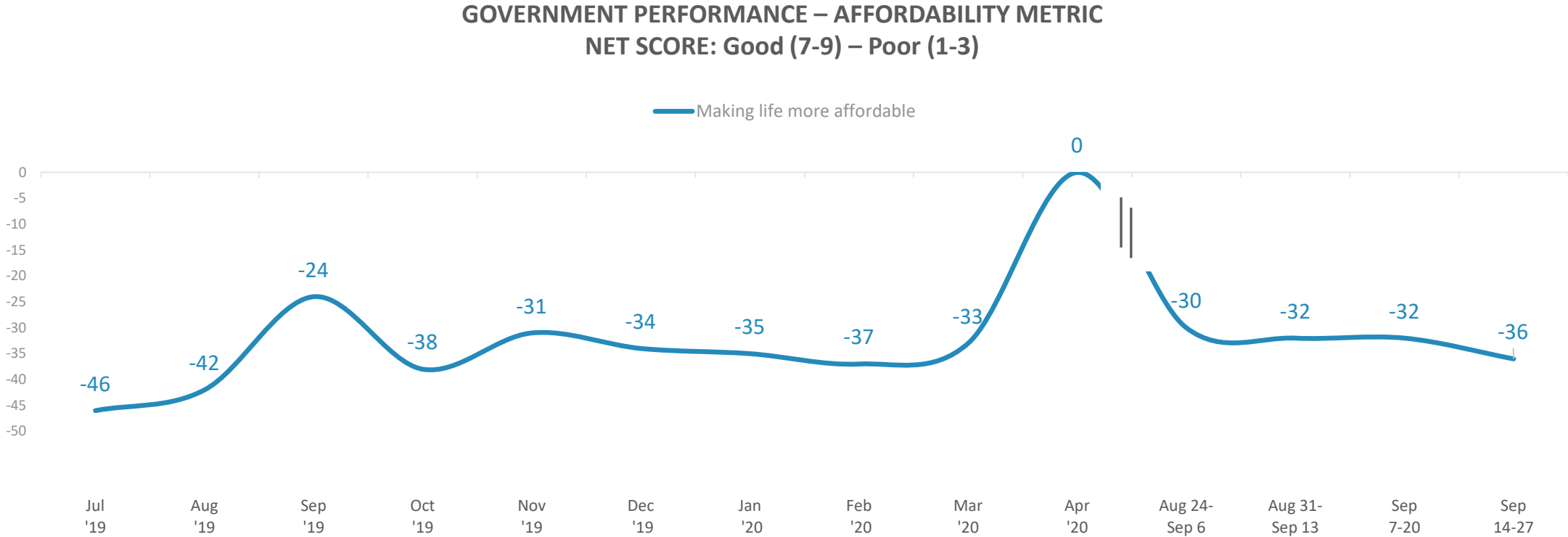
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’ remained unchanged 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

Ratings of the government’s performance for ‘making life more affordable’ declined slightly this week and remains at levels found prior to/at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.



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

FOCUS ON HEALTH VERSUS ECONOMY



Results remained unchanged this week and there continues to be a 6-point gap between Ontarians who think the government’s focus in the coming months should be on economic issues (46%) and those that think it should be on health-related issues (40%).

	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	Jul 27- Aug 9	Aug 10-16	Aug 10-23	Aug 17-30	Aug 24- Sep 6	Aug 31- Sep 13	Sep 7-20	Sep 14-27
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	41	33	37	39	36	41	40	40
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	50	51	46	43	47	47	46	46
Both a health and an economic focus are equally important.	9	10	9	7	6	8	10	8	7	6	6	7	13	14	17	16	10	12	12

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



LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT 4TH WAVE OF THE PANDEMIC

This week, there was an increase again to seven-in-ten (72%) Ontarians expressing concern about a fourth wave of the pandemic. This compares to 57% in mid-July.

	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29- Jul 5	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27- Aug 2	Aug 3-9	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31- Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
n=	Varies														
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	60	68	58	57	64	70	72	75	78	84	73	76	72	66	72
Very concerned	17	26	16	21	19	26	29	37	37	51	40	43	40	38	33
Somewhat concerned	43	43	42	36	45	44	43	37	41	33	33	33	32	28	39
Not too concerned	25	19	21	22	22	16	15	15	11	6	14	12	15	19	12
Not at all concerned	14	12	19	21	13	13	12	10	8	9	11	12	13	13	16
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	39	31	41	43	35	30	27	24	18	15	24	24	28	32	28

Seven-in-ten (72%) Ontarians continue to feel that the government is prepared to handle a fourth wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly.

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	Aug 3-9	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
varies														
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
66	75	71	71	67	69	74	67	60	67	71	69	70	69	72
19	17	17	18	14	17	15	16	14	16	21	12	18	12	19
48	58	54	54	53	52	59	51	46	51	50	57	52	56	53
20	16	16	18	19	17	14	25	22	17	13	20	15	17	14
11	9	12	9	10	10	12	6	12	11	13	7	11	9	11
32	25	27	27	28	27	26	31	33	28	25	27	26	26	25
		2	2	4	4	-	2	7	5	4	4	4	5	4

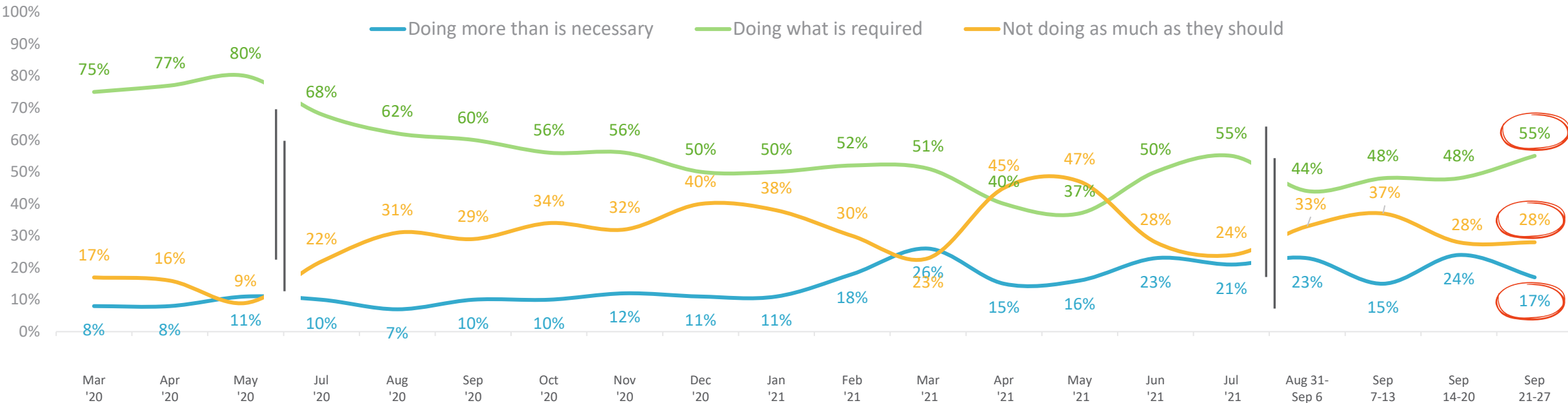
TAKING ACTION TO DEAL WITH THE 4TH WAVE



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MEASURES

This week, there was an increase to just over half (55%) who believe the government is ‘doing what is required’ to reduce the spread of the virus. And, the proportion of Ontarians who think the government is ‘not doing as much as they should’ remained unchanged at 28%.

	Doing what is required																						Not doing as much as they should																					
	Mar '20	Apr '20	May '20	June '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Mar '21	Apr '21	May '21	Jun '21	Jul '21	Aug '21	Aug 31- Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27	Mar '20	Apr '20	May '20	June '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Mar '21	Apr '21	May '21	Jun '21	Jul '21	Aug '21	Aug 31- Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
Right Track	76%	79%	82%	n/a	75%	70%	68%	66%	66%	60%	61%	65%	59%	56%	57%	65%	72%	n/a	56%	59%	61%	71%	15%	13%	8%	n/a	15%	23%	21%	25%	22%	31%	29%	22%	15%	35%	28%	20%	15%	n/a	23%	29%	20%	20%
Wrong Track	73%	66%	66%	n/a	42%	33%	35%	25%	26%	19%	26%	29%	37%	18%	17%	30%	33%	n/a	27%	34%	29%	28%	21%	26%	19%	n/a	48%	57%	56%	61%	60%	66%	60%	45%	37%	59%	65%	37%	36%	n/a	48%	48%	41%	41%



QCV-6. In light of the Delta variant and thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus at this time, would you say they are ... (previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus at this time would you say they are ... (previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including declaring a second state of emergency and imposing a stay at home order until the middle of February, at this time would you say they are ... (previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including declaring a second state of emergency and a stronger stay at home order until the middle of February, at this time would you say they are ... (previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including advising the public and businesses about prevention measures, shutting down the province for several weeks, and keeping kids out of school, at this time would you say they are ... (previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including advising the public and businesses about prevention measures, gradually reopening the province, and planning for the return to school in the fall, at this time would you say they are ... (previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including issuing a Declaration of Emergency, ordering non-essential businesses to close, advising the public and businesses about prevention measures and closing publicly funded schools, at this time would you say they are ... (READ LIST. RANDOMIZE ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE ONLY.) (previous phrasing) Thinking about the measures that the Government of Ontario has already taken to limit the spread of the virus, including advising the public and businesses about prevention measures and closing publicly funded schools, at this time would you say they are ...

ADDITIONAL ACTION NECESSARY TO REDUCE TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19

Making vaccines mandatory (39%) - followed by restricting international travel into Canada (13%), restricting access to non-essential indoor settings like restaurants and movie theatres (13%), and additional public health measures (12%) - receive the most support as additional actions necessary to reduce transmission of COVID-19.

	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
n=	Varies			
	%	%	%	%
Making vaccines mandatory	29	34	33	39
Restricting international travel into Canada	23	21	19	13
Restricting access to non-essential indoor settings like restaurants and movie theatres only to people who are fully vaccinated.	18	21	15	13
Additional public health measures like reducing capacity at stores or limiting the size of social gatherings to limit contact with others	10	10	11	12
Lockdowns / closing businesses	2	1	2	3
All of the above	5	7	6	5
No additional action is needed	6	3	9	9
Don't know/unsure	7	4	6	5

QCV-214. What if any additional action is necessary to reduce transmission of COVID-19:

Base: Total sample

CONFIDENTIAL

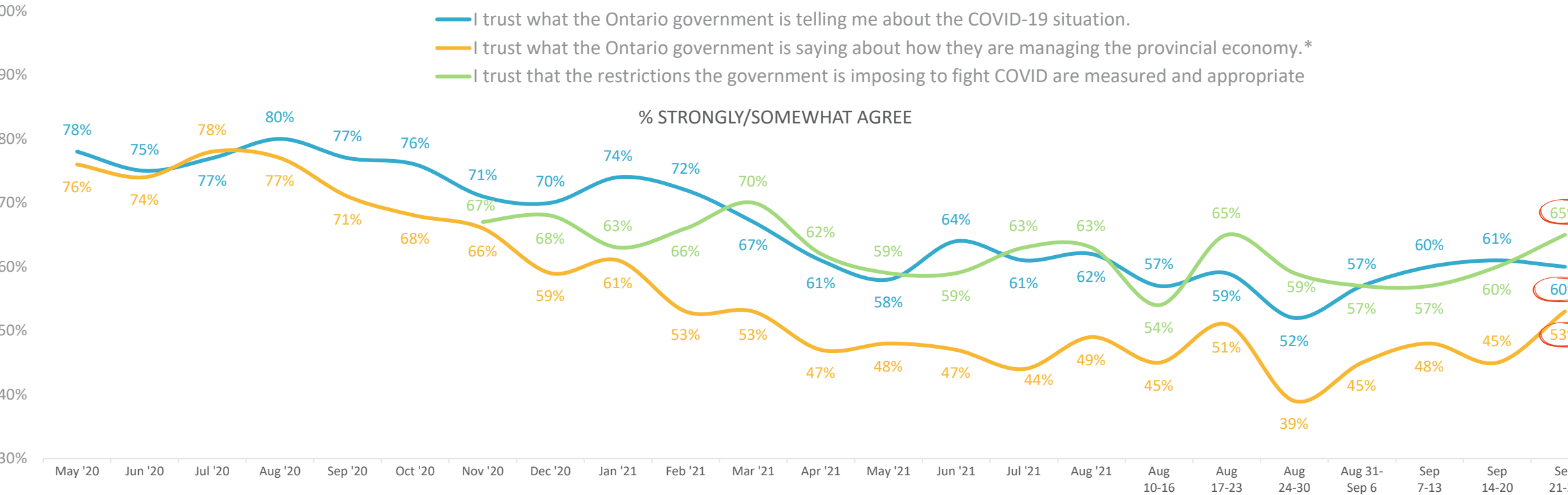
CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



TRUST IN THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COVID-19

There was an increase again this week regarding trust in the government’s communications about ‘the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured/appropriate’ while results remained steady for ‘what the government is telling me about the COVID-19 situation’.

- ‘How they are managing the provincial economy’ experienced an 8-point increase 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



MOST RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCREASE IN INFECTION CASES

Ontarians increasingly believe COVID-19 is now the pandemic of the unvaccinated. With some officials believing the fourth wave of COVID-19 is now in Ontario, over four-in-ten (44%) Ontarians believe unvaccinated individuals are the most responsible.

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=	varies					
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unvaccinated individuals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Allowing air travel from possible COVID variants hotspots	29	36	28	28	32	35
Infections introduced into Ontario by international travellers by land	13	15	14	14	15	11
Government acted too slowly to restrict social interactions and gatherings	-	-	-	-	-	-
The emergence of a variety of COVID variants	16	11	20	18	18	15
Infections introduced into Ontario by interprovincial travelers	6	6	6	4	4	7
Not restricting social contact quickly enough/(previous phrasing) The timing of restrictions limiting social contact	23	21	19	20	18	19
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	Jun 29-Jul 5	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2	Aug 3-9
varies							
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	37	39	36	33	30	32	29
10	11	16	15	12	19	17	10
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	35	20	26	26	23	20	30
3	1	4	4	5	2	4	5
13	8	10	9	11	6	14	12
4	3	6	4	6	9	6	6
6	5	5	7	6	11	7	8

As you may know several health officials now believe that Ontario has entered a 4th wave of the pandemic. Given this, which one of the following do you believe is most responsible for the increase in infections?

Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
%	%	%	%
-	38	40	44
29	19	16	16
16	8	6	9
-	9	9	8
16	9	5	8
7	2	3	2
13	-	-	-
8	7	9	4
11	7	12	9

QCV-200. As you may know several health officials now believe that Ontario has entered a 4th wave of the pandemic. Given this, which one of the following do you believe is most responsible for the increase in infections? (previous phrasing) (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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36

IS THE WORST OF THE PANDEMIC OVER IN ONTARIO?

Perhaps reflecting the stability of COVID-19 infection cases, there was an increase to six-in-ten (59%) Ontarians that agree that we are over the worst of COVID-19. While an improvement, the proportion has declined 18-points since the beginning of July.

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	Aug 3-9	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31- Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
n=	varies																		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	53	60	70	68	71	75	77	77	74	61	62	52	50	51	47	49	49	50	59
Strongly agree	22	25	30	26	32	31	40	42	35	34	29	19	21	17	18	23	16	21	22
Somewhat agree	31	35	40	42	39	44	38	35	39	27	33	34	30	34	29	25	34	29	37
Neither agree nor disagree	7	8	8	7	8	7	6	6	5	7	7	6	8	8	7	7	10	7	7
Somewhat disagree	22	16	12	19	8	10	8	8	11	16	17	18	18	16	18	18	19	19	11
Strongly disagree	14	12	8	4	11	7	7	7	8	14	13	20	19	23	25	21	18	20	21
TOTAL DISAGREE	36	28	20	22	19	17	15	15	19	29	30	38	37	39	43	39	37	39	31

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

Base: Total sample

COVID-19 VACCINE



Just over half (55%) of Ontarians now agree they are confident that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered – probably tied to the vaccine certificate implementation.

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	Aug '21	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
varies														
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
52	49	49	58	56	72	70	63	52	47	49	45	48	42	55
16	18	18	22	20	33	33	24	16	10	14	17	14	19	20
35	31	31	36	36	39	37	39	36	37	35	28	34	22	35
6	7	6	6	7	6	6	5	6	7	2	6	6	8	5
19	20	18	16	16	13	11	15	17	15	19	20	22	20	16
22	23	24	17	19	7	12	15	20	29	28	24	21	27	23
41	43	42	34	35	21	23	30	37	44	47	44	44	48	38

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

About two-thirds (67%) of Ontarians agree that businesses should require all of their employees to be vaccinated.

Businesses should not require all of their employees to be vaccinated

	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
n=	varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	27	31	33	36	28	38	24
Strongly agree	17	19	21	22	17	29	15
Somewhat agree	10	12	12	14	11	9	8
Neither agree nor disagree	6	4	6	5	4	4	6
Somewhat disagree	16	14	11	11	13	10	14
Strongly disagree	47	50	48	46	54	46	52
TOTAL DISAGREE	63	65	59	58	67	57	67
Not applicable/Don't know	4	1	3	1	1	2	3

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

Base: Total sample

COVID-19
VACCINE
CERTIFICATE



AWARENESS OF INTRODUCTION OF A VACCINE CERTIFICATE

Awareness is high that the government of Ontario is introducing a vaccine certificate that provides proof that a person is fully vaccinated for COVID-19. This week, nine-in-ten (89%) Ontarians report they have heard ‘a lot’ or ‘something’ about the introduction of the vaccine certificate.

- And, intensity is high with 70% saying they have heard ‘a lot’.

	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL A LOT/SOMETHING	82	87	89
A lot	51	53	70
Something	32	33	19
Not too much	13	7	8
Nothing at all	4	6	2
TOTAL NOT TOO MUCH/NOTHING AT ALL	17	13	10

QCV-115. Have you heard a lot, something, not too much or nothing at all about the Government of Ontario introducing a vaccine certificate, that provides proof that a person is fully vaccinated for COVID-19?

Base: Total sample

ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD REQUIRE PROOF OF A COVID-19 VACCINATION

A increased majority of Ontarians believe they would need to provide proof of a COVID-19 vaccination to attend gyms (84%), indoor concerts (83%), indoor sporting events (82%), indoor restaurants (82%), movie theatres (81%), church services (62%), and weddings (61%).

- Of note, there have been decreases in the proportion who believe they would need to provide proof of a COVID-19 vaccination for smaller retail outlets, big box stores and supermarkets.

% YES	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
Gyms	83	75	84
Indoor concerts	85	78	83
Indoor sporting events	84	75	82
Indoor restaurants	79	74	82
Movie theatres	81	72	81
Church services	64	58	62
Weddings	61	62	61
Smaller retails outlets	46	51	43
Big Box stores	51	48	43
Supermarkets	40	40	35
Outdoor patios	36	31	33

QCV-116. To the best of your knowledge, which of the following activities would require proof of a COVID-19 vaccination?
Base: Total sample

Support for the introduction of a vaccine certificate as it will provide another level of safety and persuade more people to get vaccinated is at 74% this week.

- About one-in-five (22%) oppose the introduction of a vaccine certificate because it limits personal freedom and is an example of government over-reach.

	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
Some people say they support the introduction of a vaccine certificate as it will provide another level of safety and persuade more people to get vaccinated.	76	66	74
Other people say they oppose the introduction of a vaccine certificate because it limits personal freedom, and is an example of government over-reach.	21	28	22
Don't know/not sure	3	6	4

	Support for the Vaccine Certificate to provide an another level of safety and persuade others to get vaccinated.
	September 14 th -27 th
	%
Right Track	81
Wrong Track	54

QCV-117. Thinking of these two points of view, which best reflects your own?

Base: Total sample

About 85% of Ontarians over 18 years old have been fully vaccinated, with a further 4% having had the first dose only.

	Sep 21-27
n=	300
	%
Yes, the first dose only	4
Yes, both doses	85
No	8
Prefer not to answer	3

ENCOURAGED TO GET VACCINATED BY INTRODUCTION OF VACCINE CERTIFICATE

Early data indicates that one-in-ten (12%) Ontarians were encouraged to get their second dose of vaccine as a result of the introduction of the vaccine certificate. PLEASE NOTE SMALL SAMPLE SIZE.

	Sep 21-27
n=	37
	%
NET - YES	12
Yes, I am now planning to get a second dose	12
NET - NO	83
No it has had no impact on my decision to get a second dose	21
No it has had no impact on my decision not to get vaccinated	61
Don't know/not sure	5

QCV-219 Has the introduction of the vaccine certificate in Ontario encouraged you to get a second dose, if you have already had a first or to get a first dose if you are unvaccinated for COVID-19? (Please check the response that best describes your situation)

Base: Total sample

FACE COVERINGS ADHERENCE



FREQUENCY OF FACE MASK WEARING

Eight-in-ten (80%) Ontarians continue to say they are wearing a mask or face covering ‘all/most of the time’, with half (51%) reporting they are wearing a mask ‘all of the time’.

	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Aug '21	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
n=	1752	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	921	732	Varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	60	77	83	87	88	90	92	91	81	81	83	79	81	82	84	80
All of the time	29	49	55	63	67	71	73	72	57	56	48	51	58	49	53	51
Most of the time	30	28	28	24	21	19	19	19	25	24	36	29	23	33	31	29
Some of the time	23	16	12	9	9	6	6	7	13	14	11	14	13	15	9	13
Rarely	14	7	4	3	3	3	2	2	4	3	5	6	6	3	7	6
Never	3	1	1	1	1	1	<1	<1	2	2	1	1	<1	-	1	1
RARELY/NEVER	17	8	5	4	3	4	2	2	6	5	6	7	6	3	7	7

	RIGHT TRACK												WRONG TRACK											
	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Aug '21	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Aug '21	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	90%	92%	94%	94%	84%	82%	85%	86%	85%	85%	89%	83%	82%	83%	86%	85%	76%	79%	81%	73%	76%	77%	77%	76%

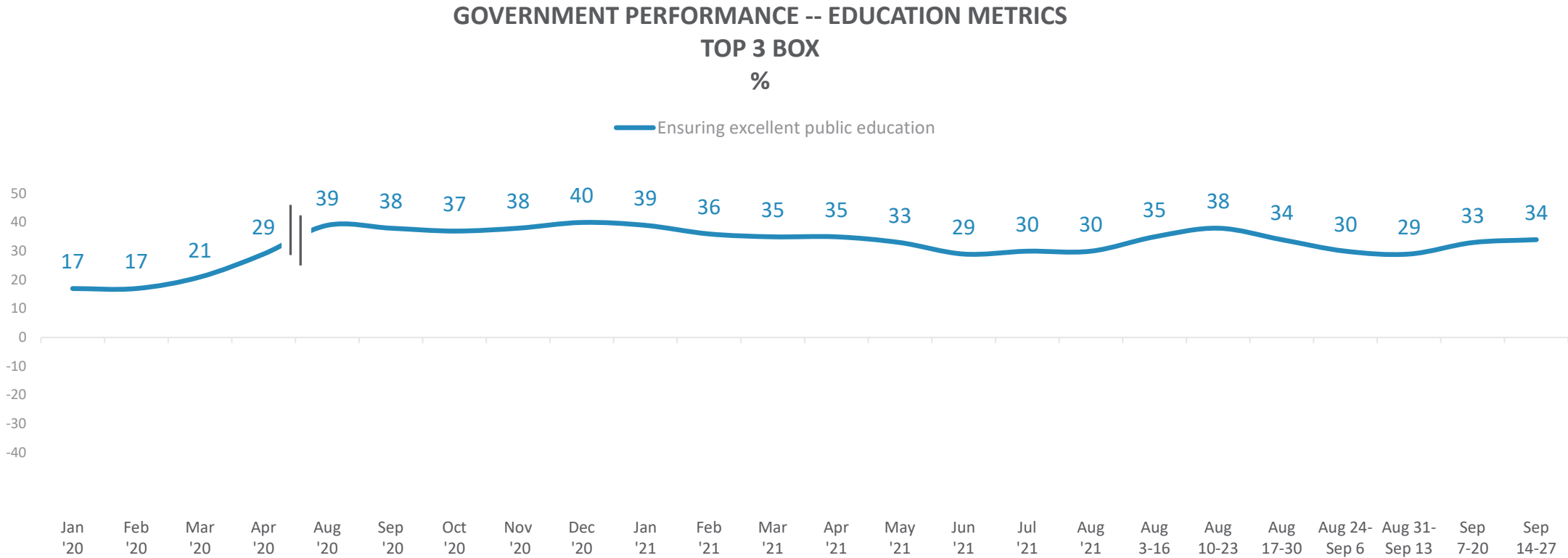
QD1B. As a result of COVID-19 and thinking about your daily activities when you are away from home, how often do you wear a face mask or covering?

Base: Total sample

APPENDIX – PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

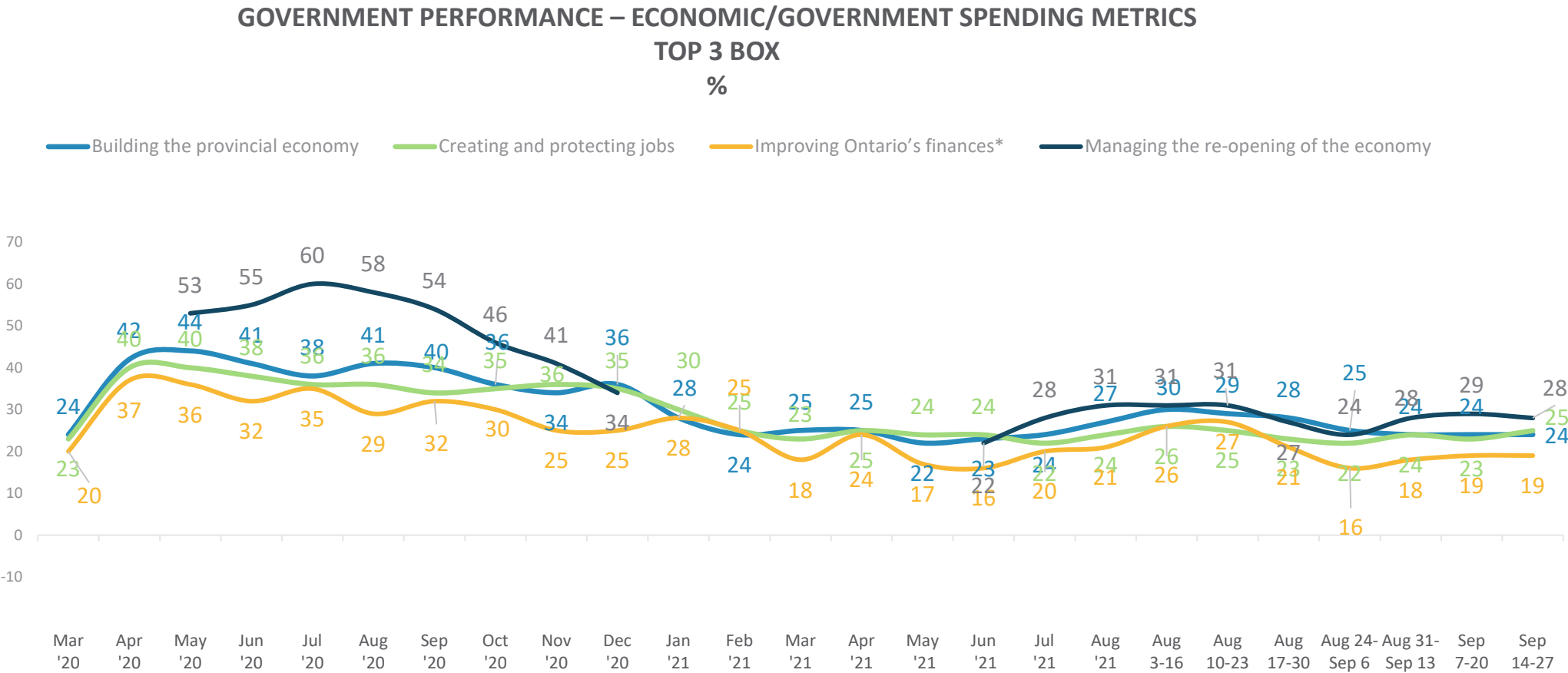


Positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ remained steady this week.



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

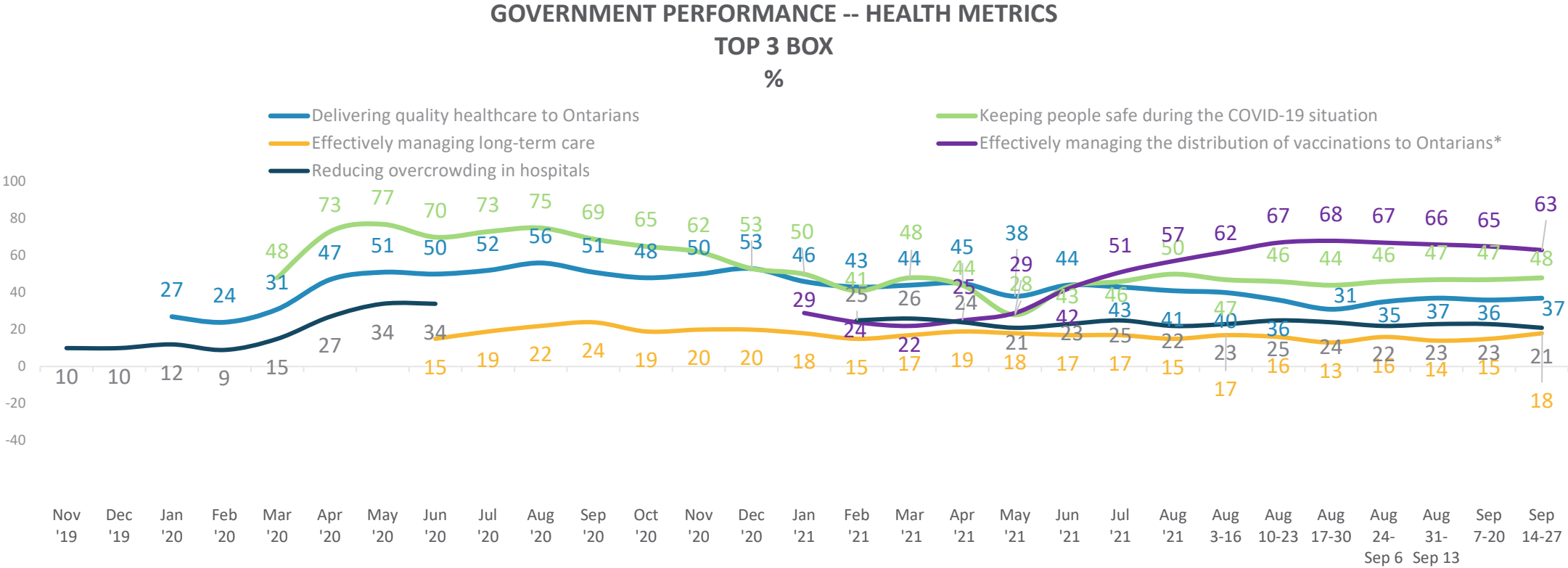
Positive perceptions toward the government’s performance for the economic and government spending metrics remained steady again this week.



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?

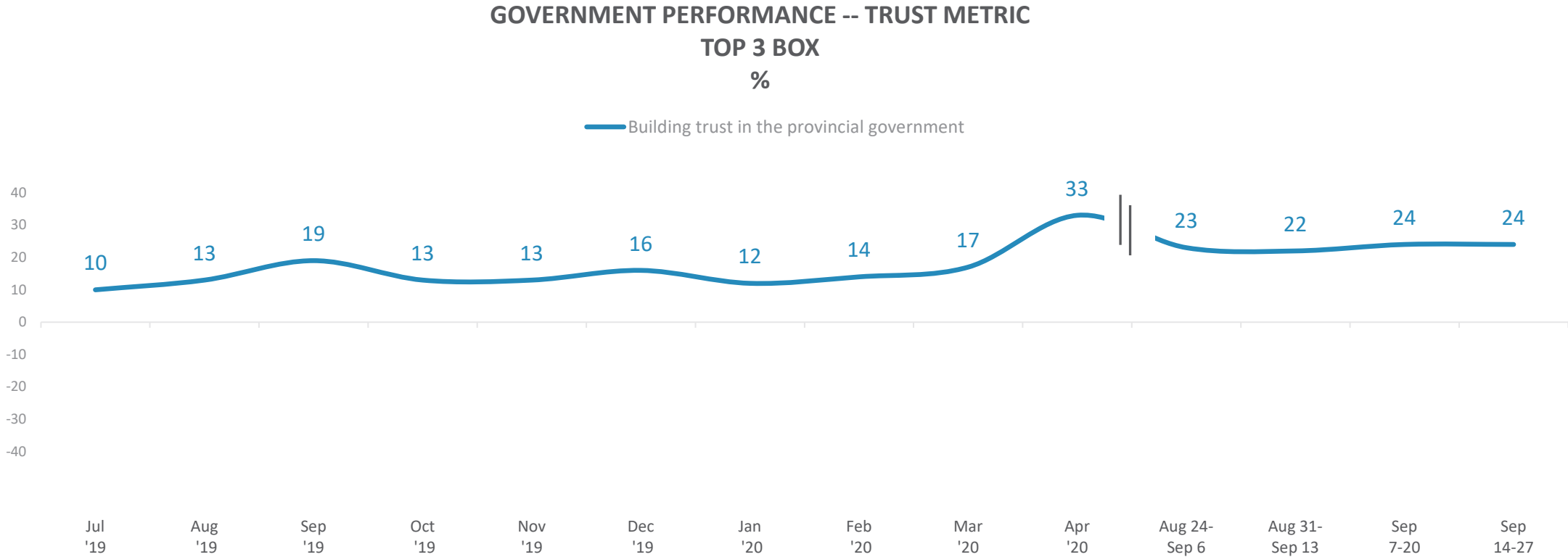
*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
**Former phrasing: “Sufficient business support during the COVID-19 situation”
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for the health metrics also remained steady this week.



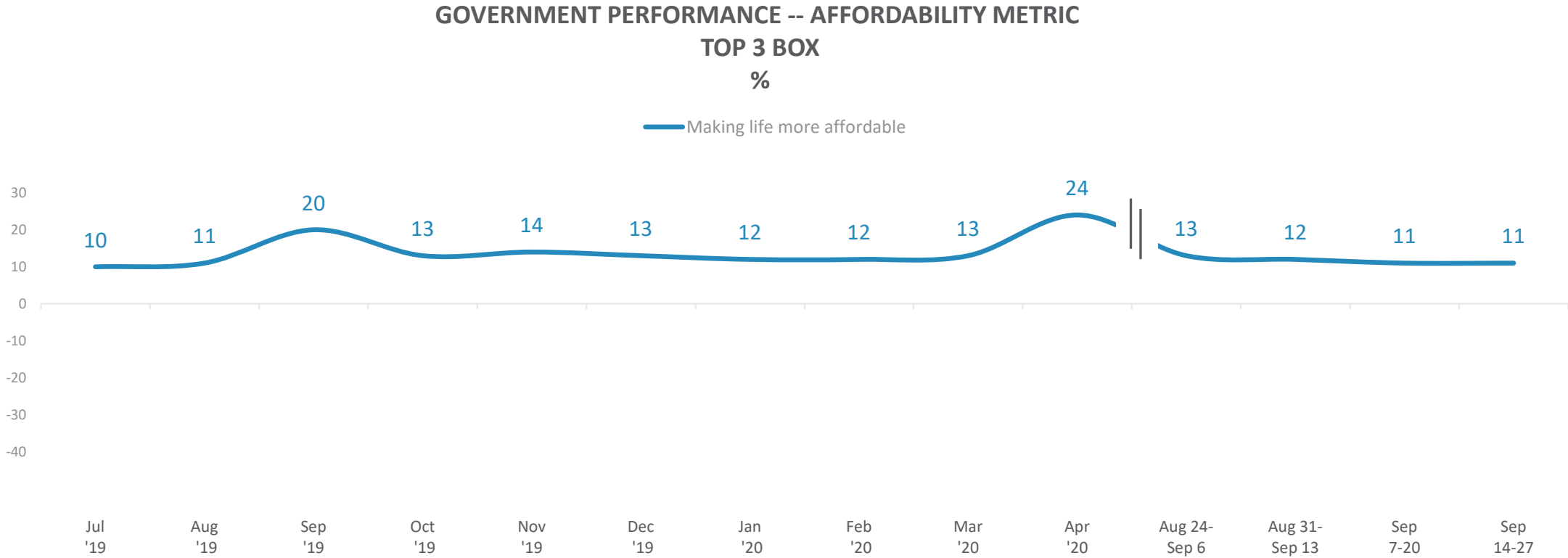
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

About one-quarter (24%) of Ontarians continue to provide a positive rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’. This is well above levels registered prior to the pandemic.



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

Only 11% provide a positive rating of the Ontario government’s performance for ‘making life more affordable’.



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