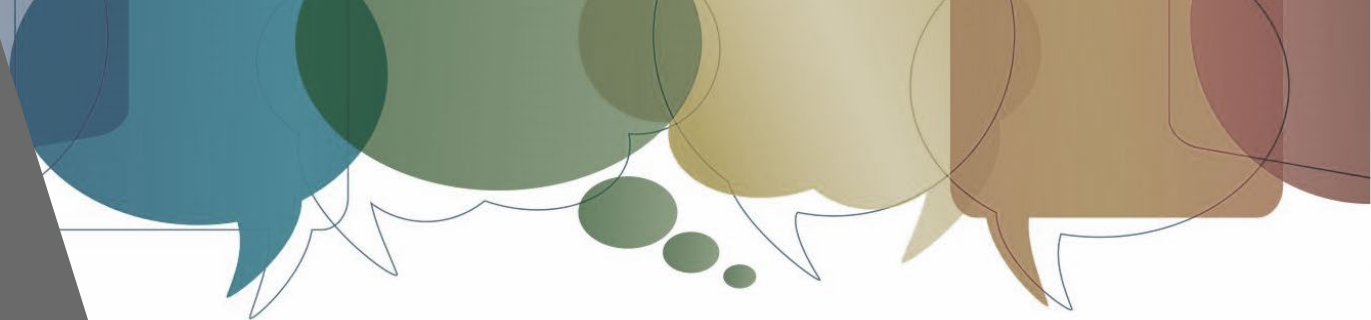




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PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #105

CABINET OFFICE

November 2nd 2021



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 After trending down for three weeks, there was an uptick in 'right track' this week to 60%.

2 Ontarians tend to be feeling more confident that the end of the pandemic is getting closer. Presently, three-quarters (75%) believe we are over the worst of the pandemic, up 28-points since the end of August. And, while Ontarians remain concerned about a fourth wave of the pandemic (60%), results are lower than measured in mid-August (84%).

However, just over half (55%) of Ontarians report they are concerned about the possibility of fully vaccinated people contracting COVID-19. And, preliminary results indicate that nine-in-ten Ontarians hold the view that there is still the need for public health measures.

3 Ontarians are starting to see the end of the pandemic.

As the number of COVID-19 cases decreases, and confidence increases, there appears to be an upward shift toward focusing on economic issues (62%) compared to health-related issues (35%). This is the highest point for focussing on economic issues since this tracking started in the spring.

Only three-in-ten (30%) Ontarians now believe that COVID-19 should be the government's top priority - the lowest results since Mar'20 – while 9% cite either the economy or affordable housing and 7% the environment.

4 The government's performance for all four economic and government spending metrics improved this week.

The largest increases were measured for 'managing the re-opening of the economy' (up 8-points) and 'building the provincial economy' (up 6-points).

However, while the rating of the government's performance for 'making life more affordable' was stable, it remains in negative territory at NET -36.

Key Findings

5 Ontarians are highly aware of the inflation and cost of living issues facing residents.

Preliminary results indicate there is a high level of awareness and concern in Ontario regarding affordability in terms of inflation increasing the basic cost of living expenses.

Nine-in-ten (89%) report they have seen, read or heard about increasing inflation or cost of living expenses in the last few weeks. And, intensity is high with 69% reporting they have seen/read/heard 'a lot'.

Initial results also indicate there is a high level of concern about inflation increasing the cost of basic living expenses, with 91% concerned and 67% 'very' concerned.

And, half (49%) of Ontarians expect to be impacted as they say they will definitely need additional income to make ends meet this coming year.

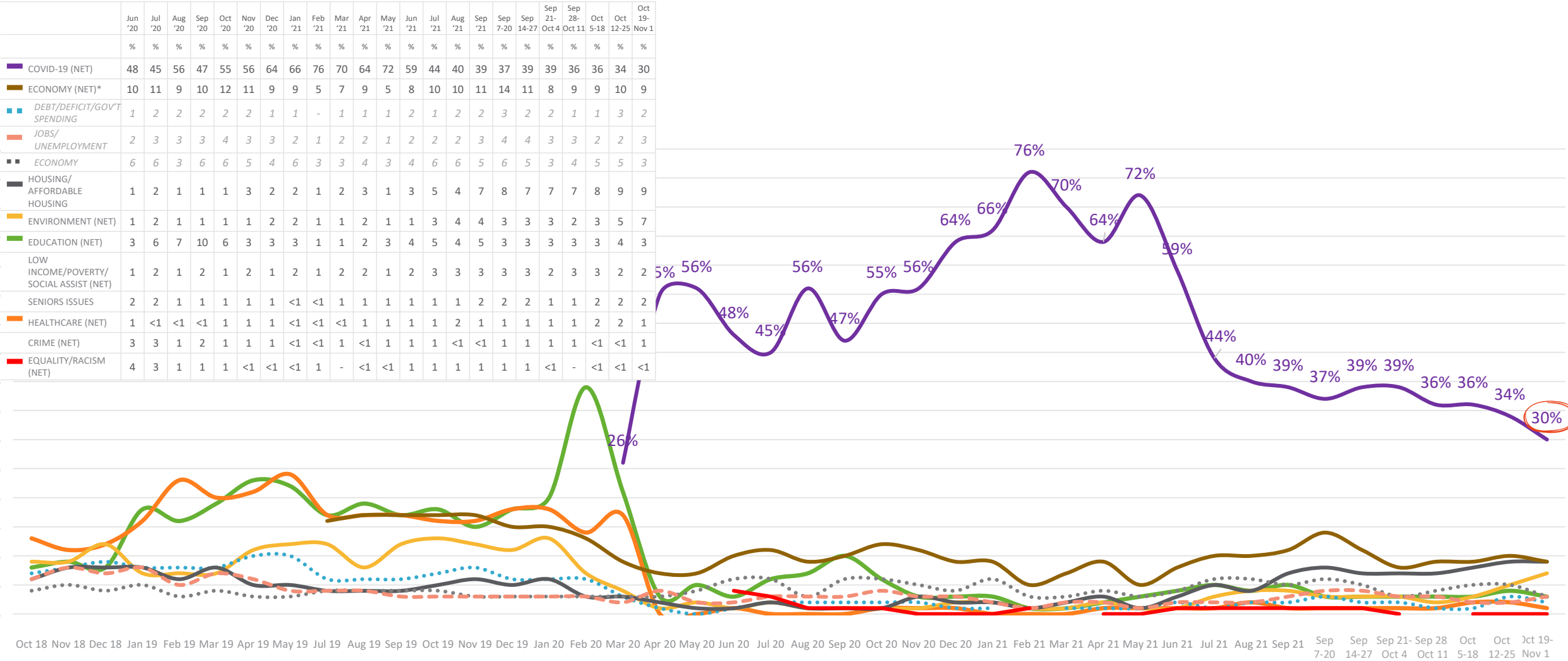
6 After a decline of 8-points in the rating of the government's performance for 'ensuring excellent public education' since the beginning of the school year, there have been improvements measured both this week and the previous week.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



ONTARIANS' TOP PRIORITIES REQUIRING ATTENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT

Only three-in-ten (30%) Ontarians now believe that COVID-19 should be the government’s top priority - the lowest results since Mar’20 – while 9% cite either the economy or affordable housing and 7% the environment.



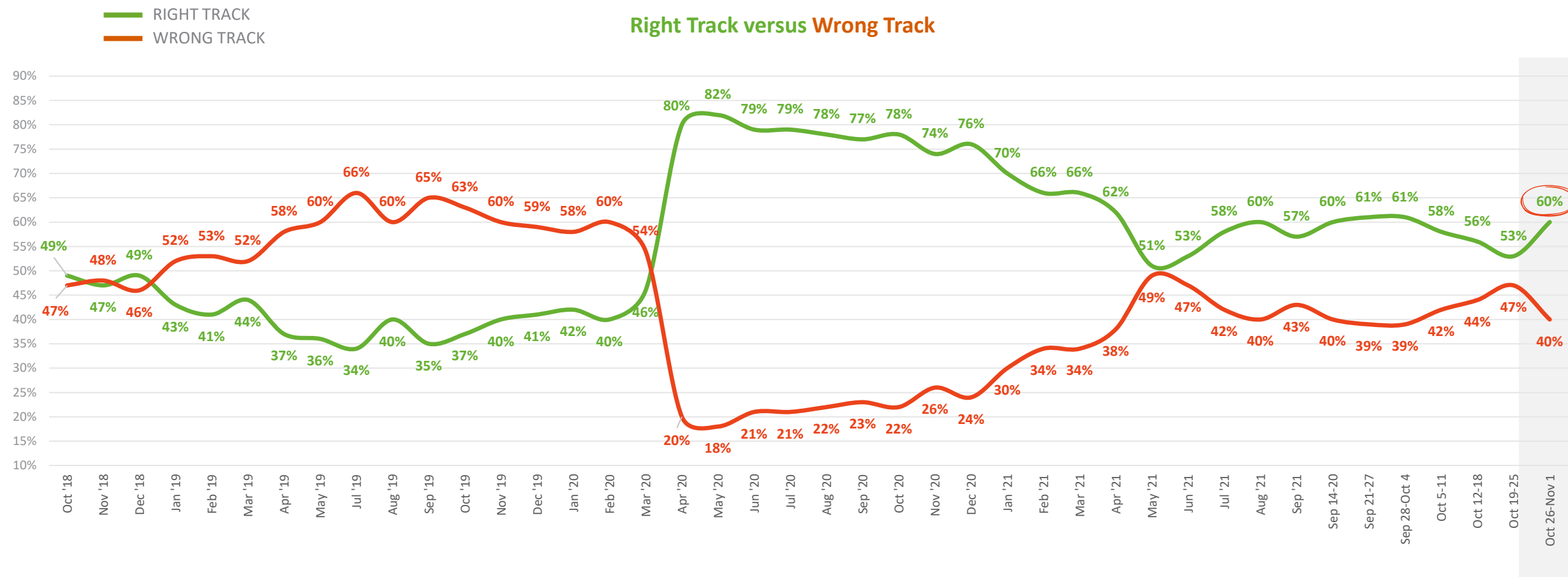
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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

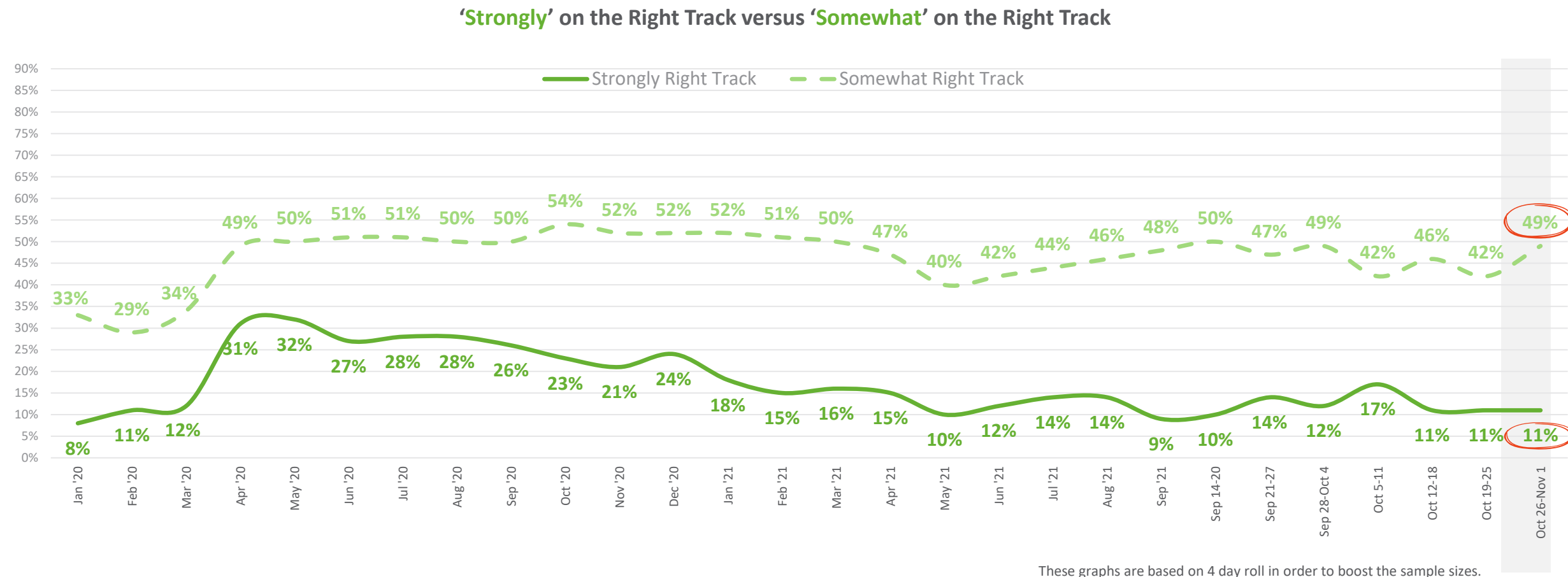


After trending down for three weeks, there was an uptick in ‘right track’ this week to 60%.



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

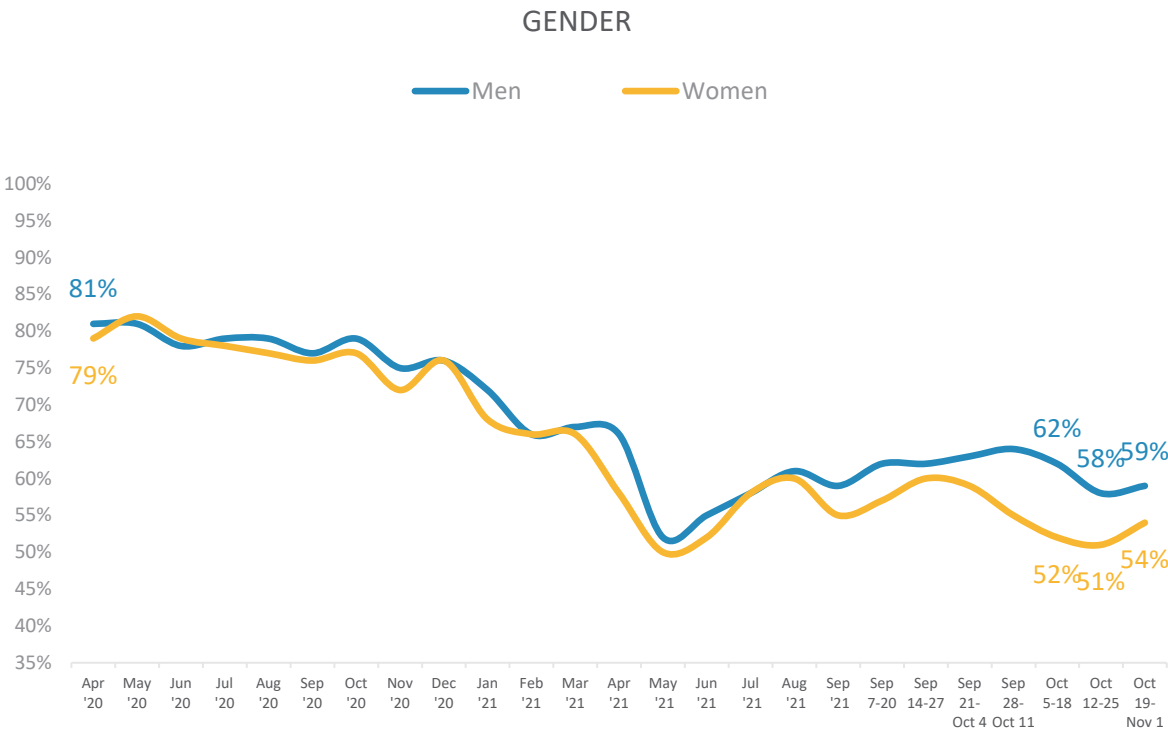
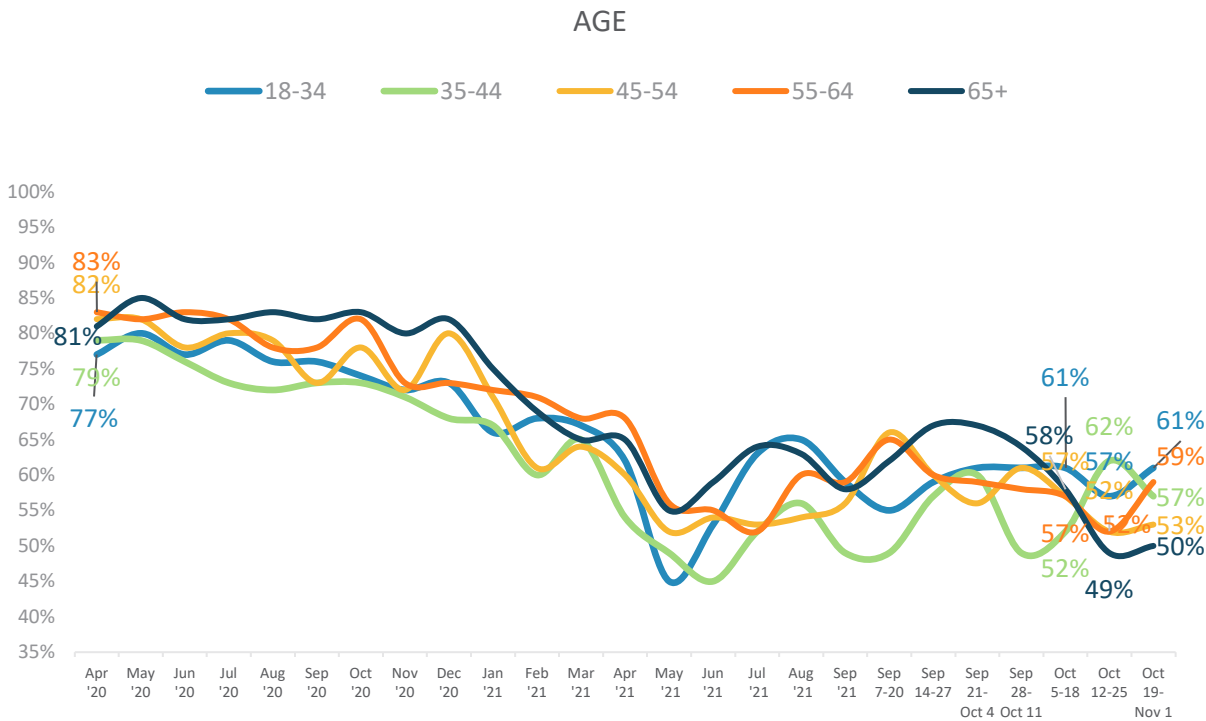
The uptick in ‘right track’ scores was a result of increases among those who believe the government is ‘somewhat on the right track’. Results for ‘strongly on the right track’ remained unchanged again this week.



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’ was stable among men this week while there was a slight uptick among women. And, ‘right track’ continues to be variable by age, with increases measured this week among Ontarians aged 18-34 and 55-64 and a decline among those aged 35-44. Of note, ‘right track’ among Ontarians aged 65+ continues to lag the other age groups.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

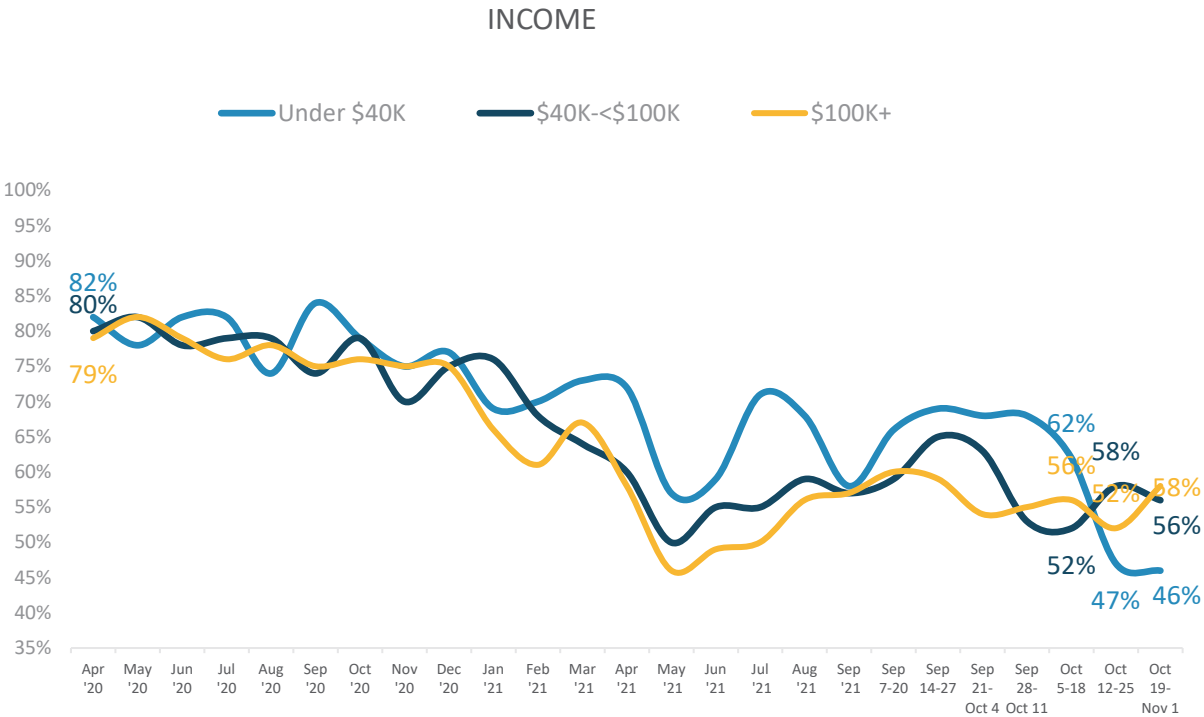
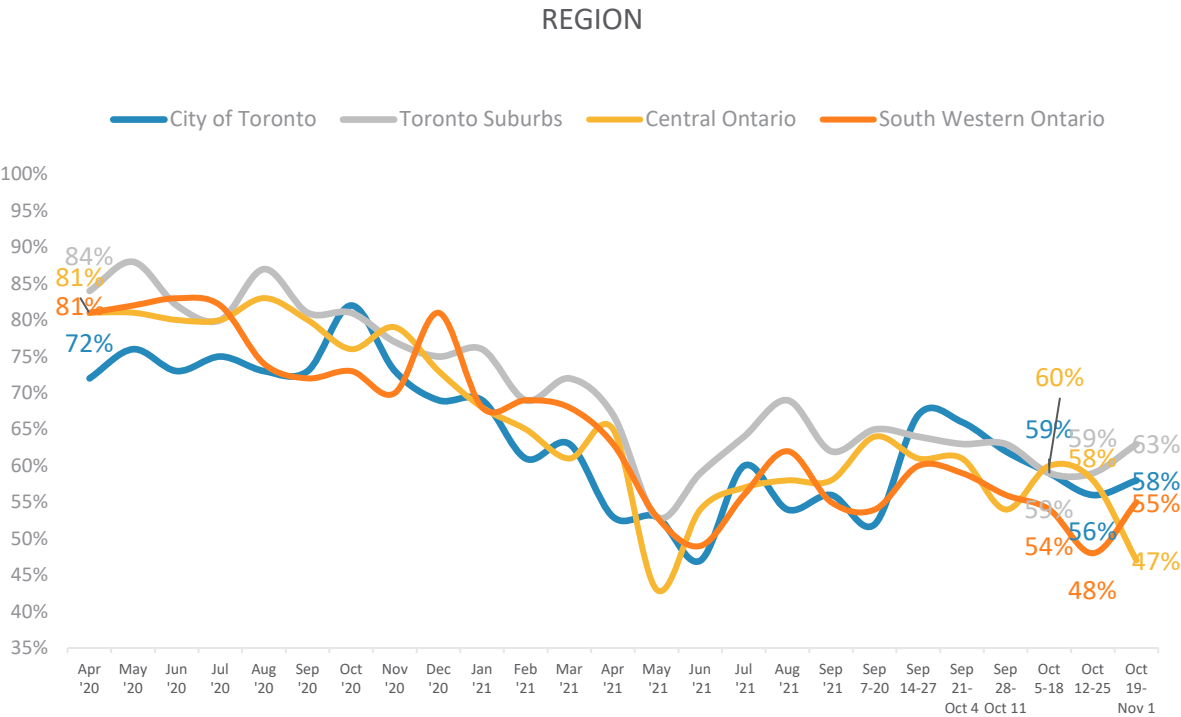


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

While there were increases in ‘right track’ this week in both the Toronto suburbs and SW Ontario, there was a drop in Central Ontario. By income, ‘right track’ among Ontarians earning <\$40k continues to lag those making \$40k+ by 10-12 points.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



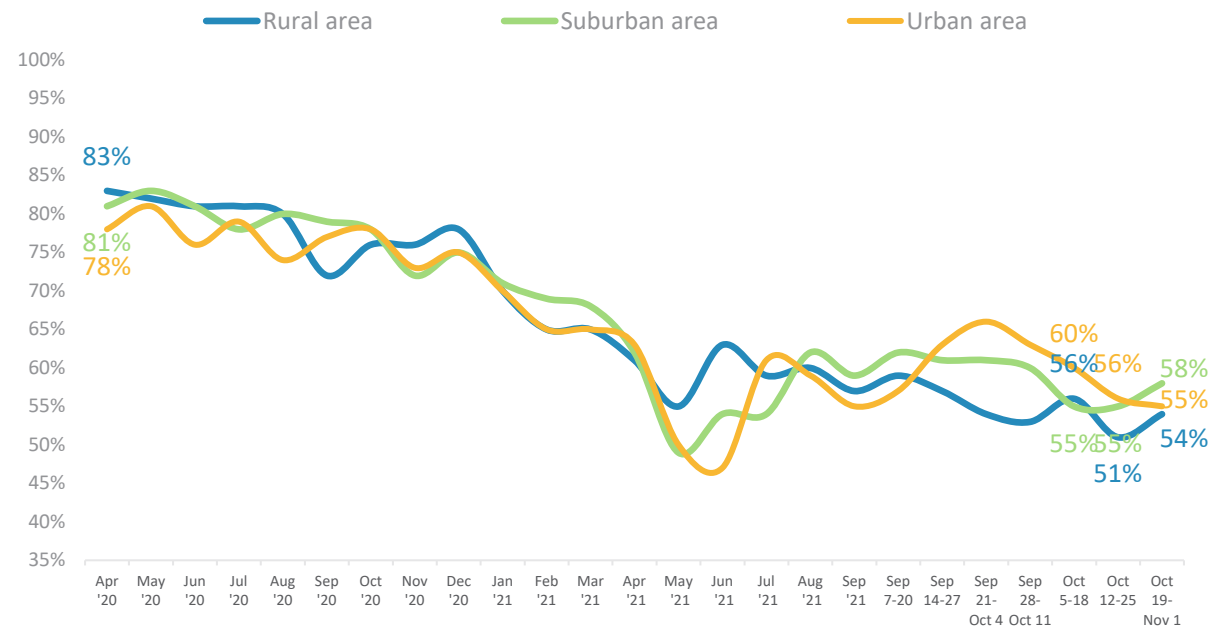
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

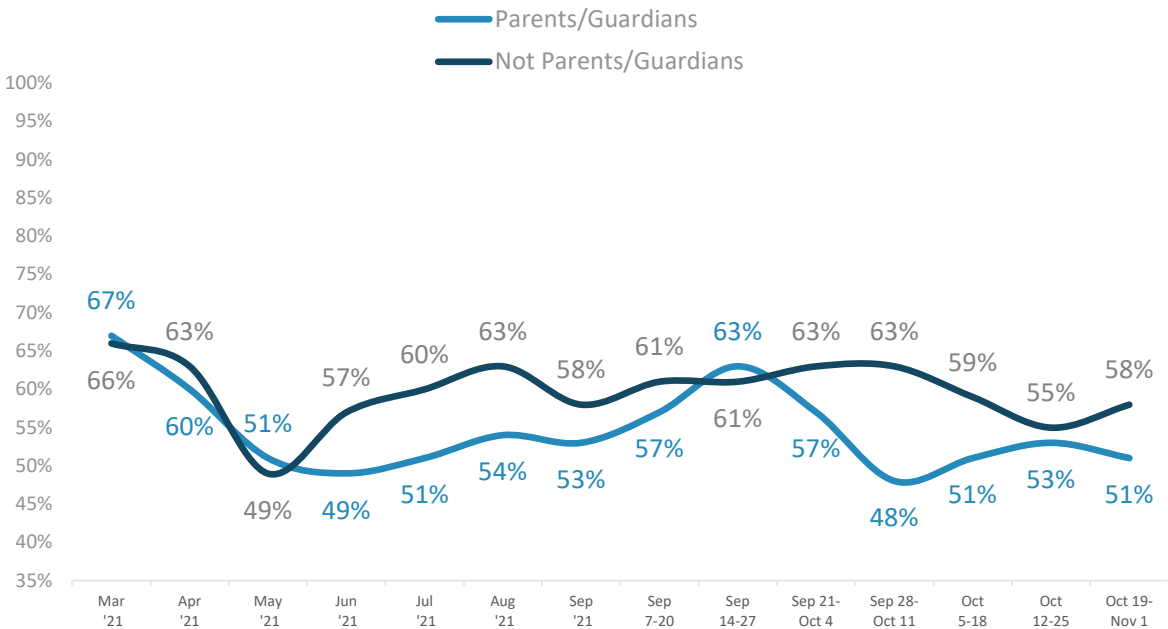
‘Right track’ scores increased slightly in both suburban and rural areas this week while remaining stable in urban areas.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS



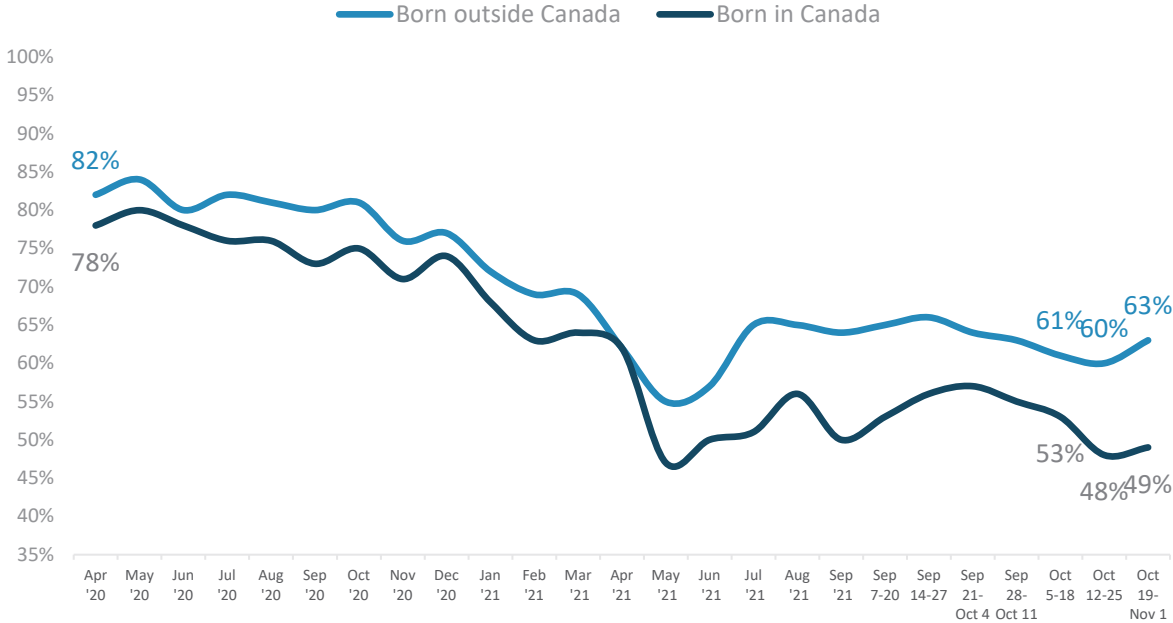
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

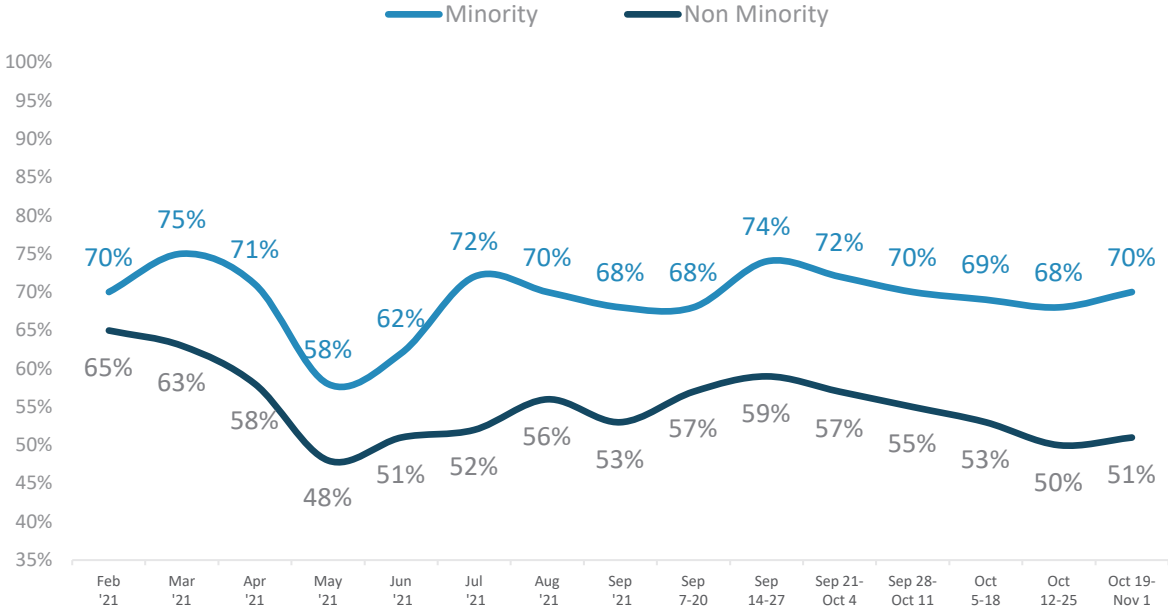
After trending down for several weeks, there was a slight increase in ‘right track’ this week among Ontarians born outside of Canada and among minorities. Results were stable among those born in Canada and among non-minorities.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY

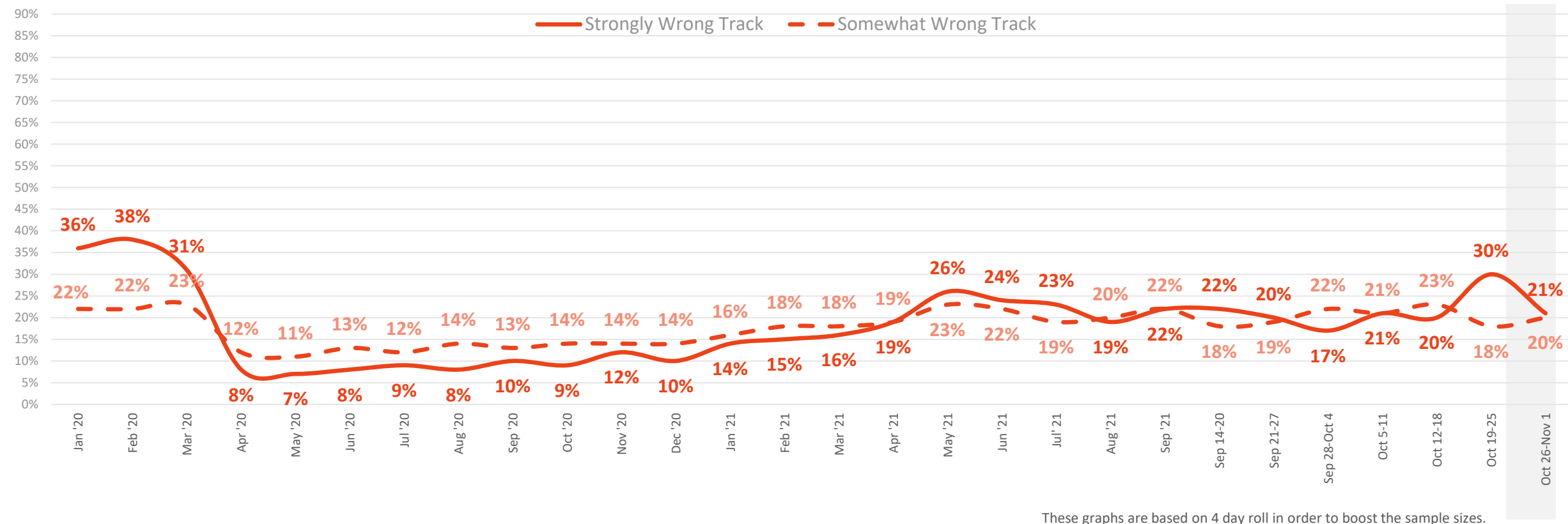


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

Increases measured last week for ‘strongly on the wrong track’ were reversed this week, with ‘strongly on the wrong track’ and ‘somewhat on the wrong track’ now at parity.

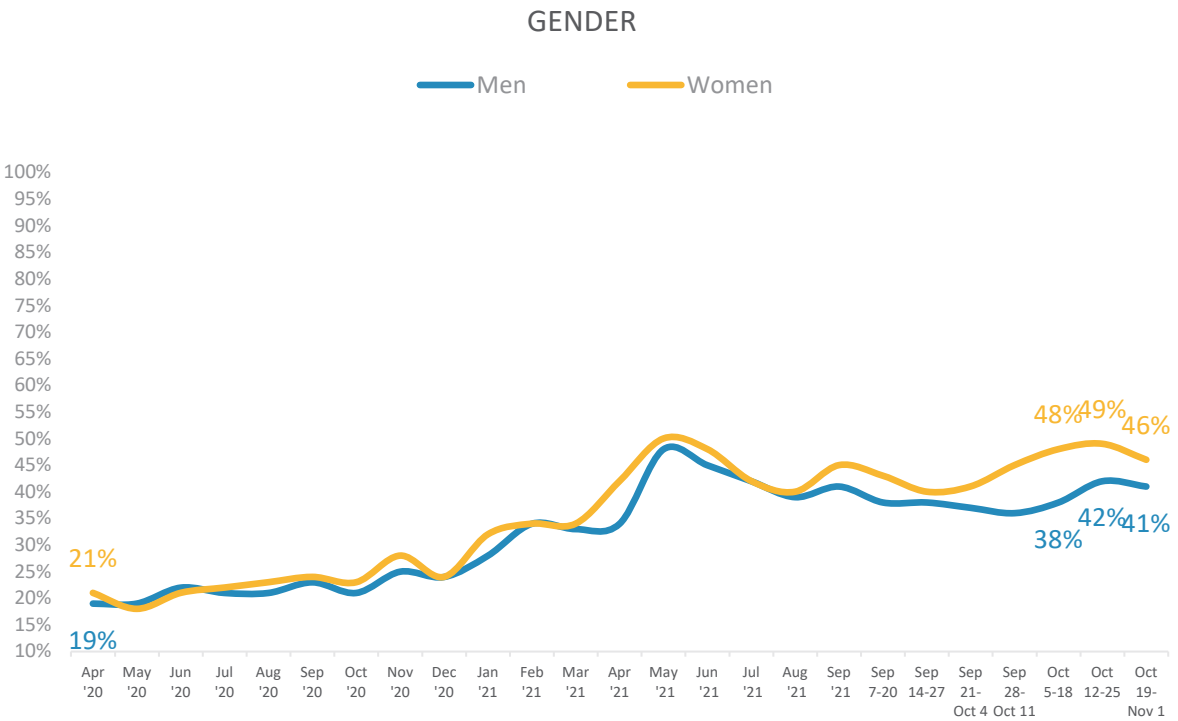
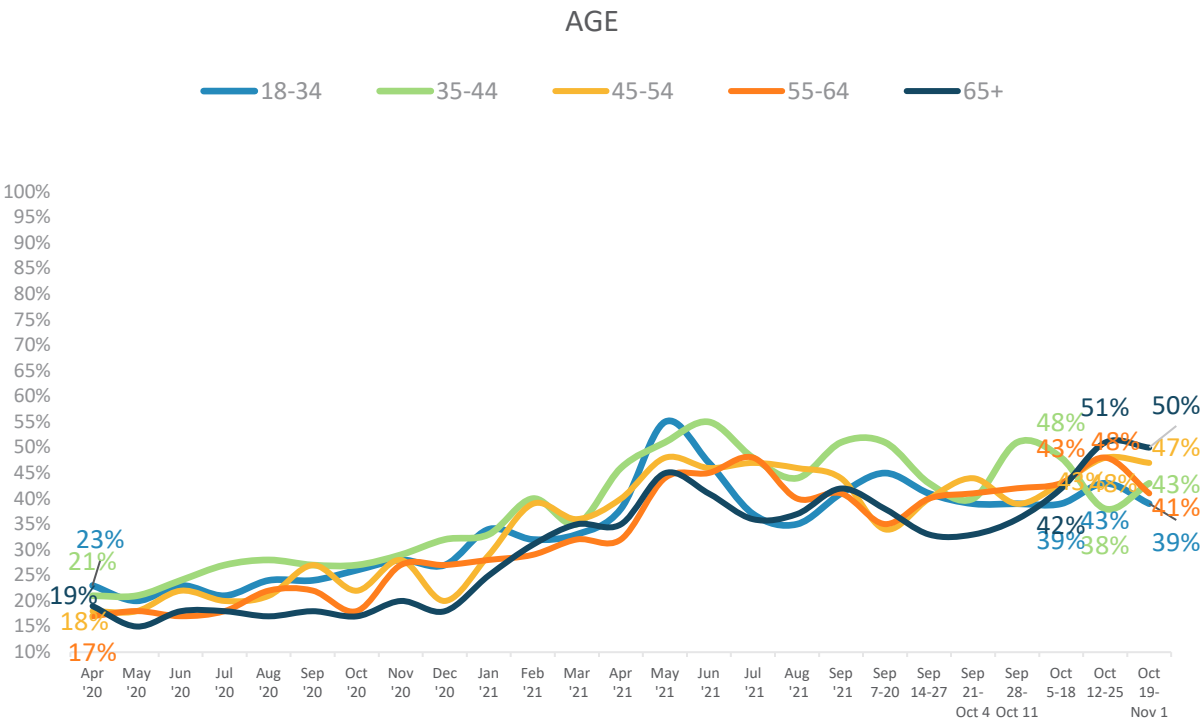
‘Strongly’ on the Wrong Track versus ‘Somewhat’ on the Wrong Track



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

‘Wrong track’ declined this week among Ontarians aged 18-34 and 55-64, while increasing among those aged 35-44. Of note, ‘wrong track’ remains highest among those aged 65+. While stable among men, ‘wrong track’ declined slightly among women this week.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



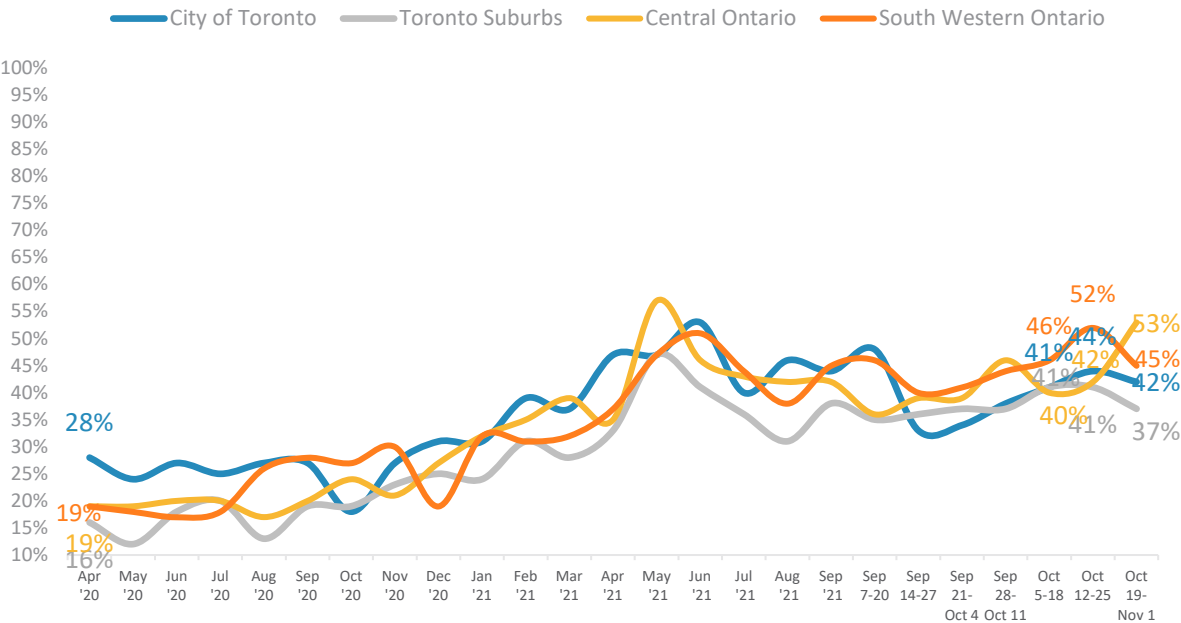
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

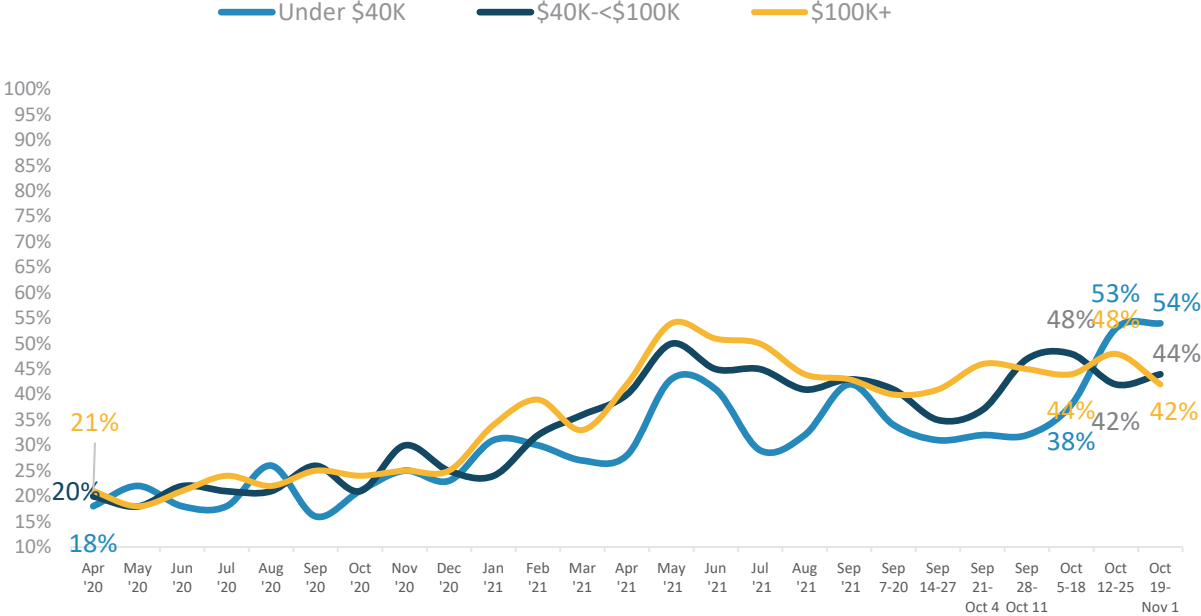
While declining in the Toronto suburbs and SW Ontario, there was an increase this week in ‘wrong track’ in Central Ontario. By income, ‘wrong track’ remains highest among Ontarians making <\$40k.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

REGION



INCOME



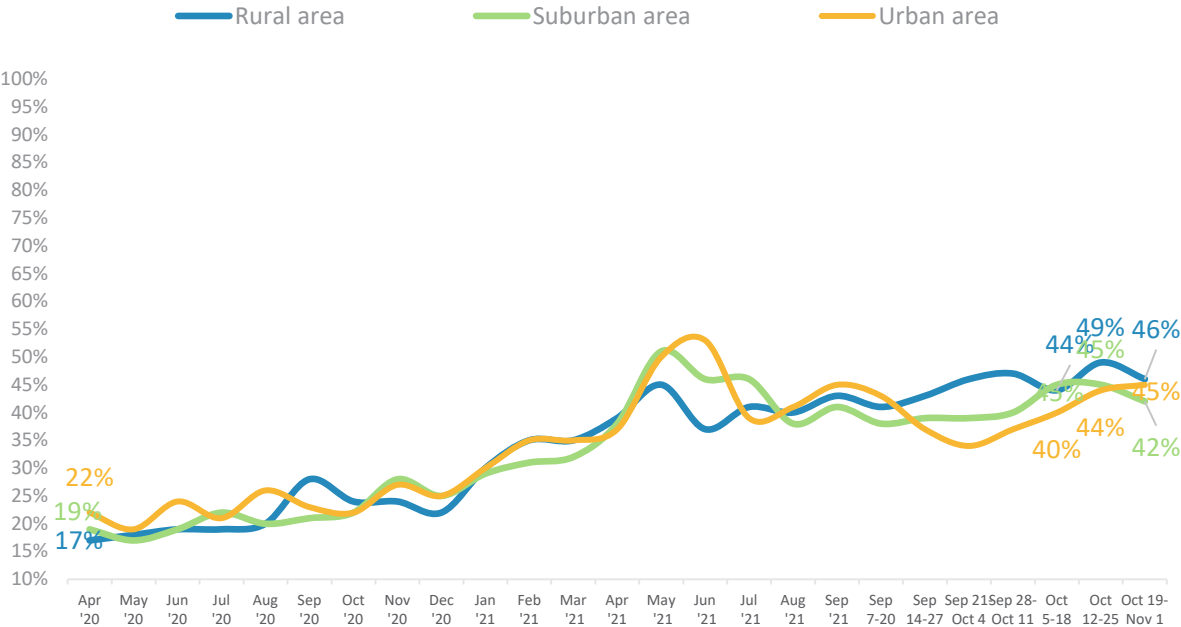
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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’ declined slightly in suburban and rural areas while remaining stable in urban areas.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

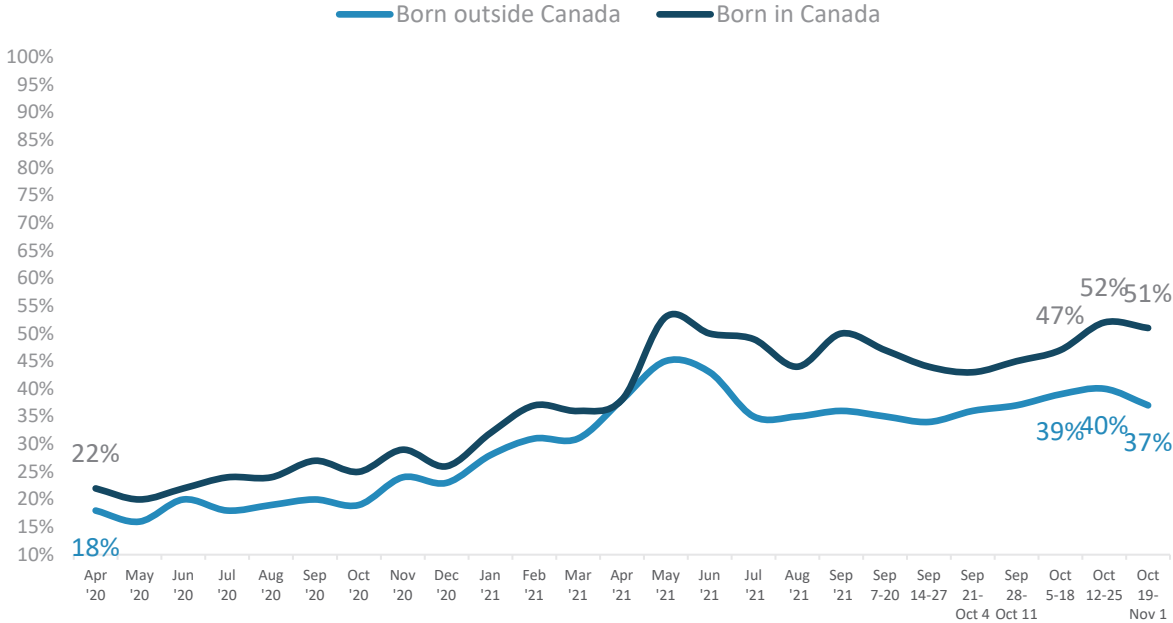
RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



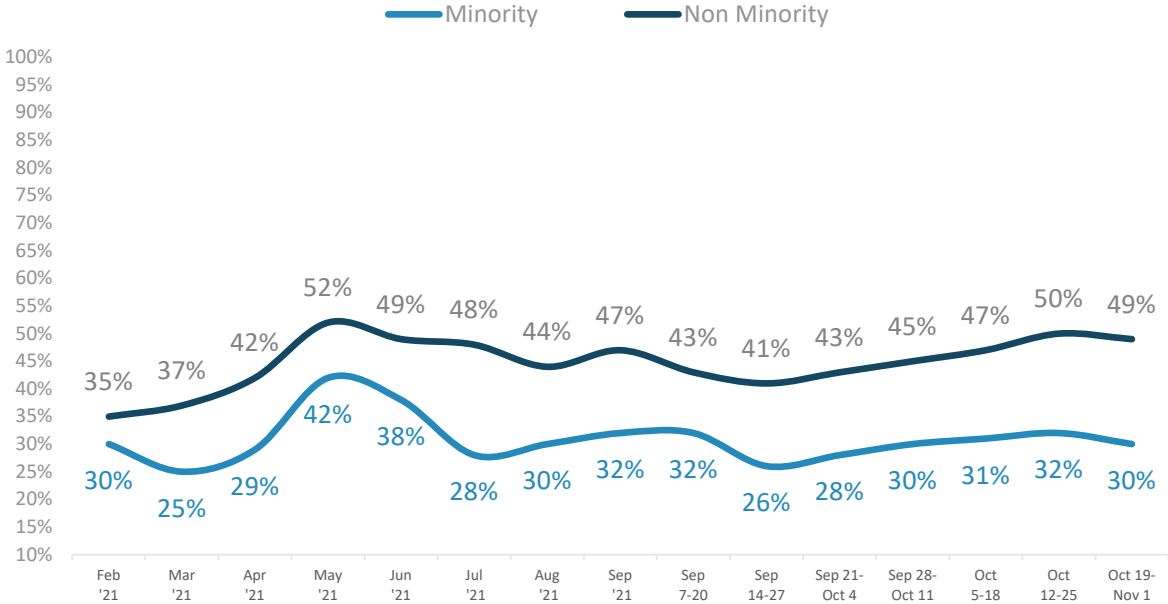
After trending up for several weeks, ‘wrong track’ declined slightly this week among Ontarians born outside of Canada and among minorities. Results were stable among those born in Canada and among non-minorities.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



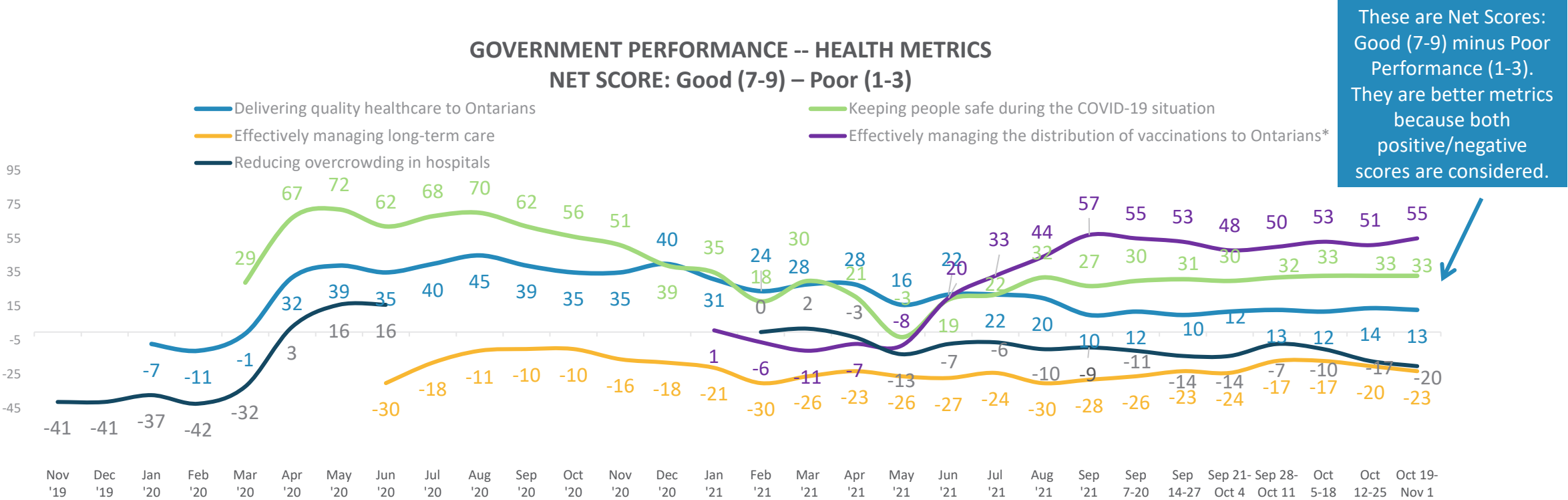
Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



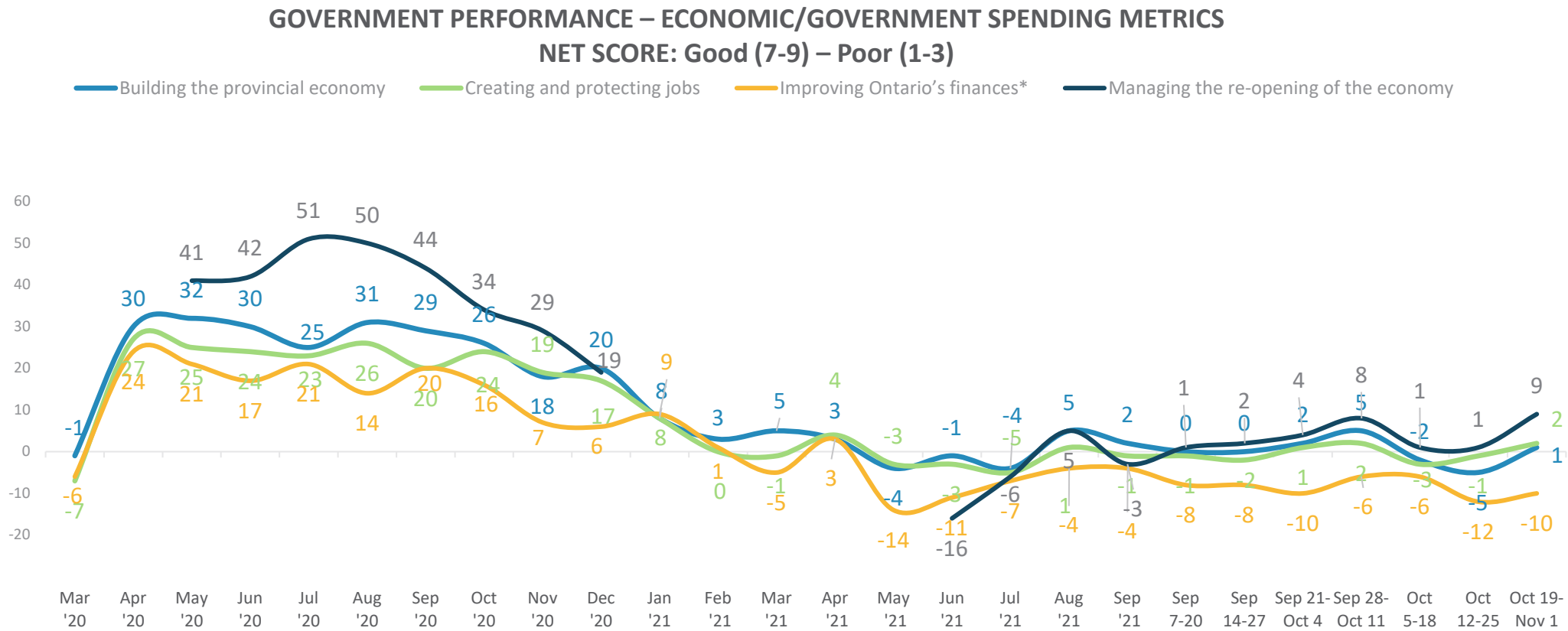
There was an uptick in the rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing vaccinations’ while ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ remained unchanged again this week.

- Both ‘reducing overcrowding in hospitals’ and ‘effectively managing long-term care’ have declined - down 10-points and 6-points, respectively, over the past two weeks.



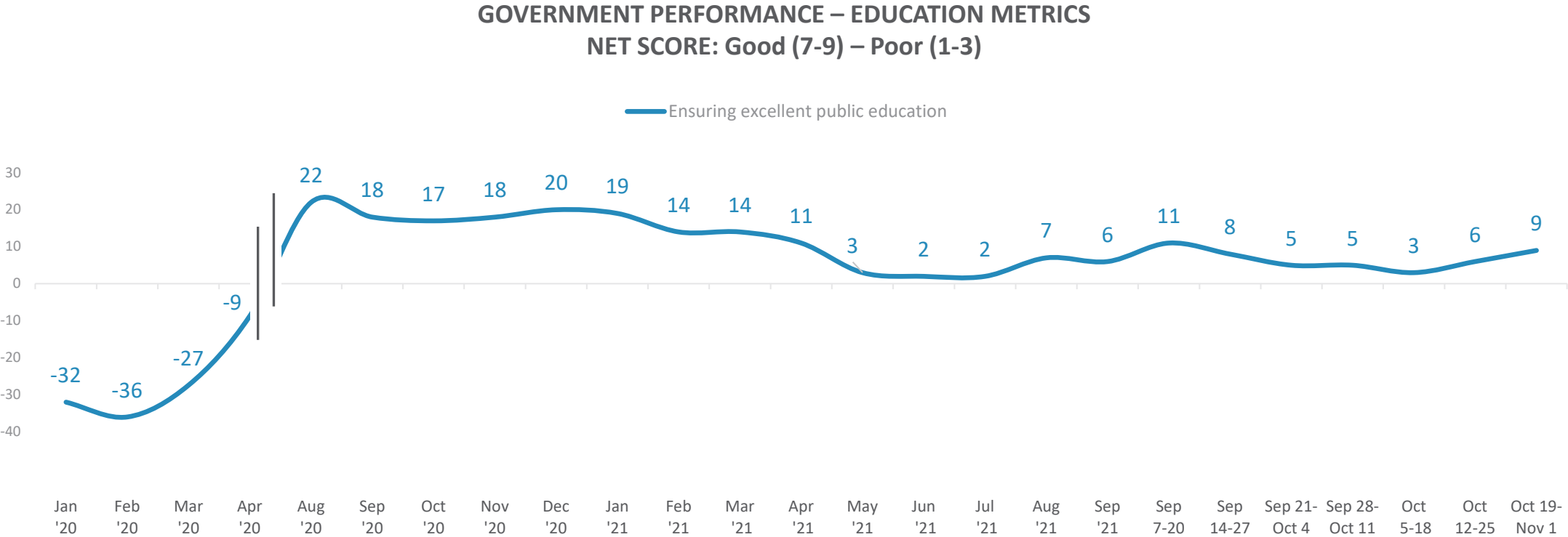
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

The government’s performance for all four economic and government spending metrics improved this week. The largest increases were measured for ‘managing the re-opening of the economy’ (up 8-points) and ‘building the provincial economy’ (up 6-points).



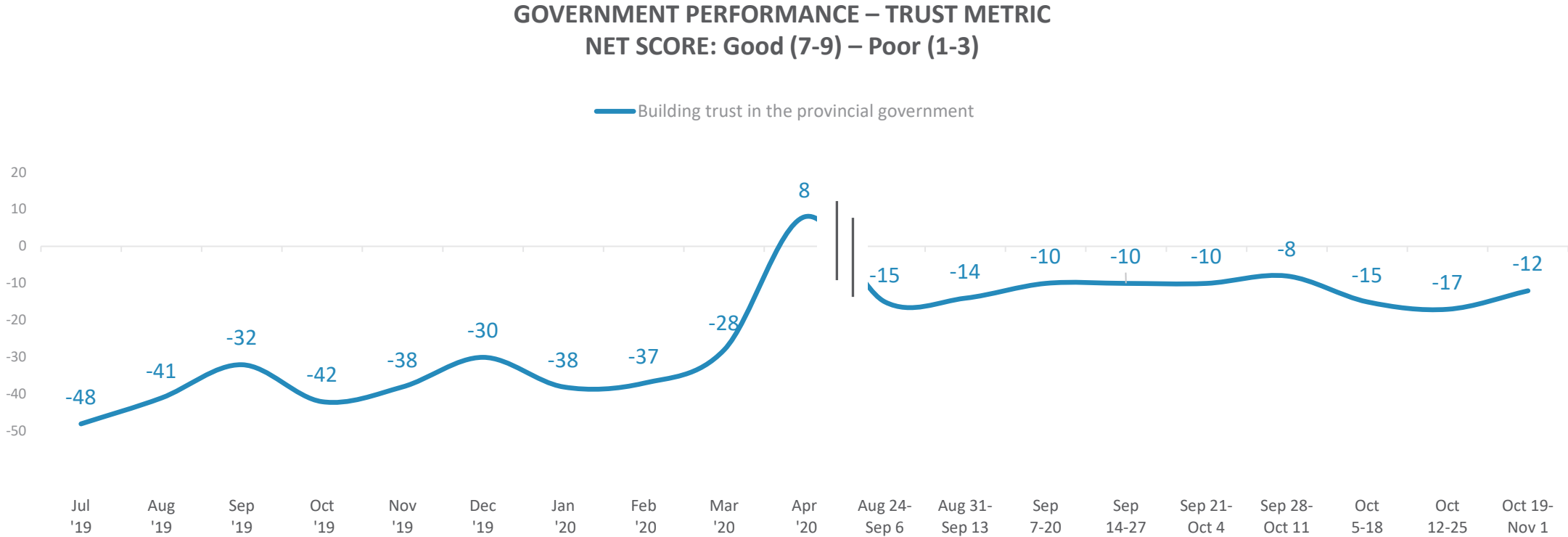
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
Bases vary

There was an uptick again this week in the rating of the government’s performance for ‘ensuring excellent public education’.



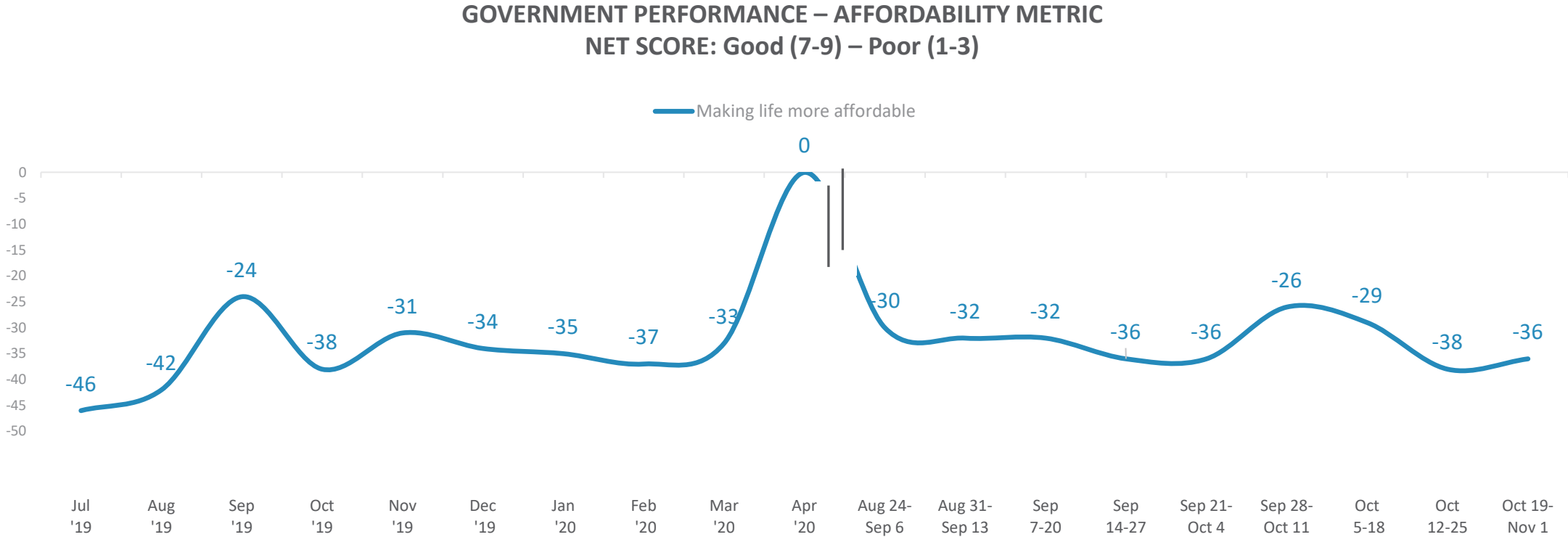
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’ increased this week after declines in the previous two 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?
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘making life more affordable’ was 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?
Bases vary

FOCUS ON HEALTH VERSUS ECONOMY



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT'S FOCUS IN THE COMING MONTHS

As infection cases ebb downward, there appears to be an upward shift toward focusing on economic issues (62%) compared to health-related issues (35%). Very few now believe that both a health and an economic focus are equally important.

	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	Sep 21- Oct 4	Sep 28- Oct 11	Oct 5-18	Oct 12-25	Oct 19- Nov 1
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	41	39	36	31	35
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	47	44	48	61	62
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	11	14	12	6	2

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



LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT 4TH WAVE OF THE PANDEMIC

While Ontarians remain concerned about a fourth wave of the pandemic (60%), results are lower than measured in mid-August (84%).

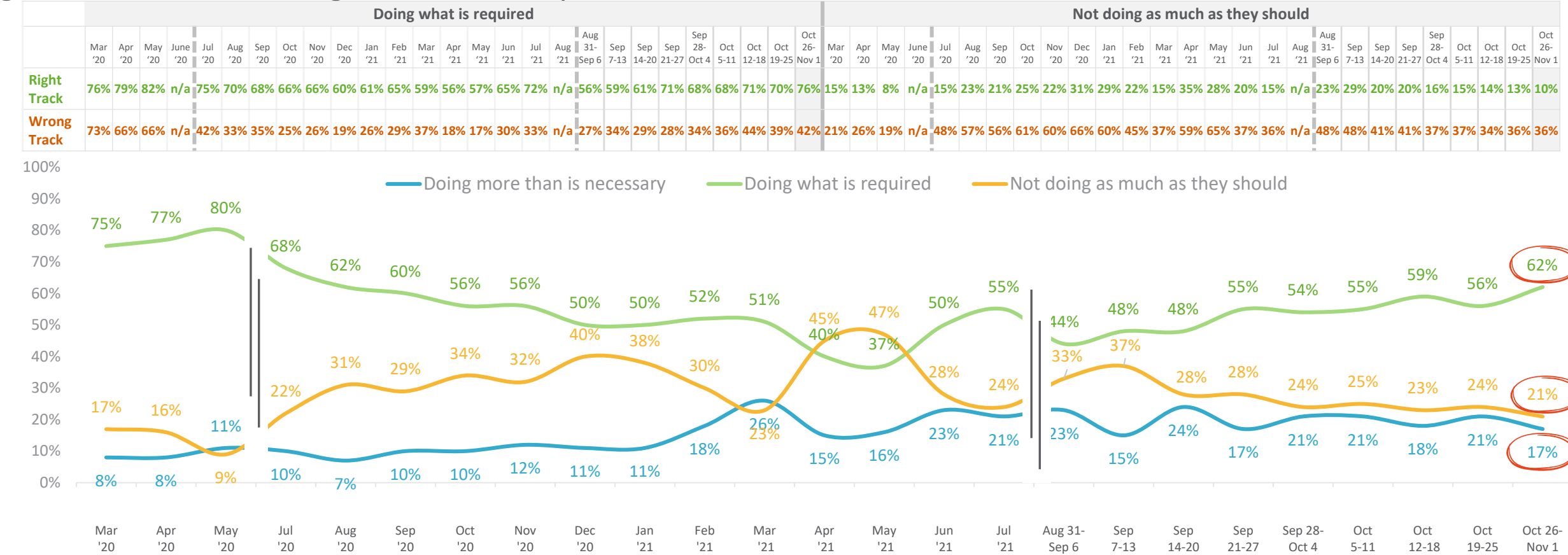
	Jun 15-21	Jun 22-28	Jun 29-Jul 5	Jul 6-12	Jul 13-19	Jul 20-26	Jul 27-Aug 2	Aug 3-9	Aug 10-16	Aug 17-23	Aug 24-30	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27	Sep 28-Oct 4	Oct 5-11	Oct 12-18	Oct 19-25	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	Varies																			
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	60	68	58	57	64	70	72	75	78	84	73	76	72	66	72	68	63	66	68	60
Very concerned	17	26	16	21	19	26	29	37	37	51	40	43	40	38	33	39	25	27	22	15
Somewhat concerned	43	43	42	36	45	44	43	37	41	33	33	33	32	28	39	29	38	39	46	45
Not too concerned	25	19	21	22	22	16	15	15	11	6	14	12	15	19	12	19	26	17	22	19
Not at all concerned	14	12	19	21	13	13	12	10	8	9	11	12	13	13	16	13	10	17	10	21
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	39	31	41	43	35	30	27	24	18	15	24	24	28	32	28	31	36	34	31	40

TAKING ACTION TO DEAL WITH THE 4TH WAVE



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MEASURES

This week, there was an increase to 62% that believe the government is ‘doing what is required’ to reduce the spread of the virus (up 18-points since the beginning of September), while the proportion who think the government is ‘not doing as much as they should’ declined to 21%.



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, 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 ...

Making vaccines mandatory (27%) receives the most support as an additional action necessary to reduce transmission of COVID-19.

	Aug 31-Sep 6	Sep 7-13	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27	Sep 28-Oct 4	Oct 5-11	Oct 19-25	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	Varies							
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Making vaccines mandatory	29	34	33	39	33	39	35	27
Restricting international travel into Canada	23	21	19	13	19	19	23	17
Restricting access to non-essential indoor settings like restaurants and movie theatres only to people who are fully vaccinated.	18	21	15	13	15	10	15	16
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	7	13	10	14
Lockdowns / closing businesses	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	2
All of the above	5	7	6	5	10	8	5	5
No additional action is needed	6	3	9	9	11	5	5	13
Don't know/unsure	7	4	6	5	4	5	4	5

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

Base: Total sample

CONFIDENTIAL

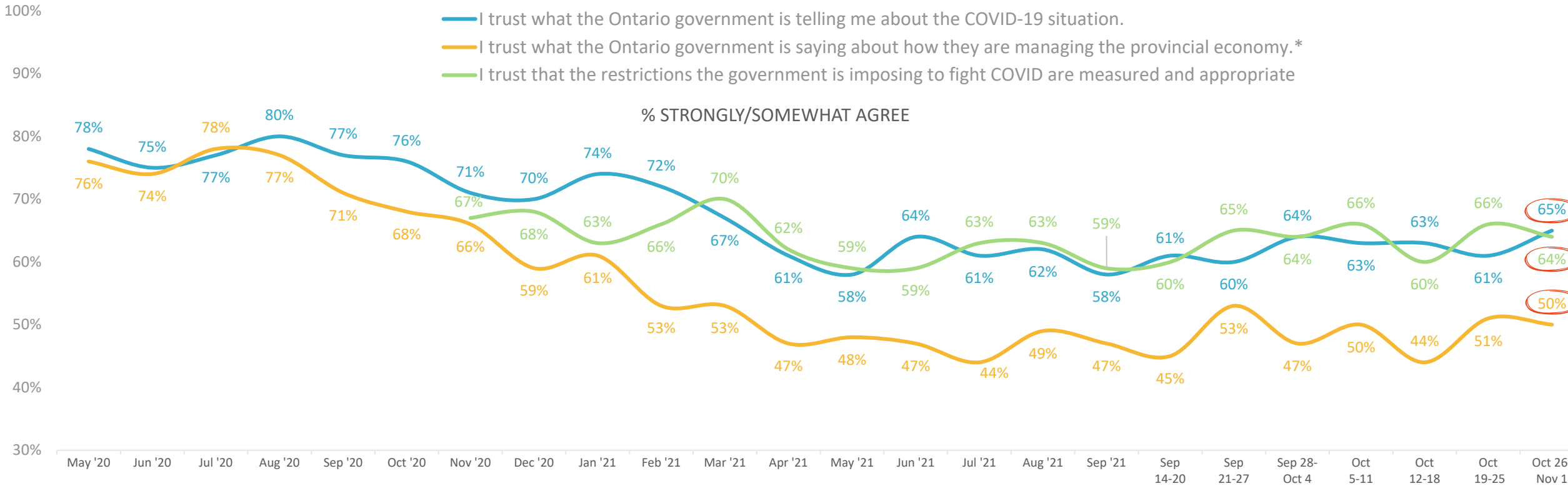
CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



TRUST IN THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COVID-19

Trust in the government’s communications about ‘what the government is telling me about the COVID-19 situation’ increased, while results were steady for ‘the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured/appropriate’.

- Results for ‘how they are managing the provincial economy’ also remained steady 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



IS THE WORST OF THE PANDEMIC OVER IN ONTARIO?

Ontarians continue to feel more optimistic that the we are over the worst of the pandemic with three-quarters (75%) now believing this, up 28-points since the end of August.

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	Sep 28- Oct 4	Oct 5-11	Oct 12-18	Oct 19-25	Oct 26- Nov 1
n=	varies																							
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	53	60	70	68	71	75	77	77	74	61	62	52	50	51	47	49	49	50	59	52	64	59	68	75
Strongly agree	22	25	30	26	32	31	40	42	35	34	29	19	21	17	18	23	16	21	22	25	38	24	31	34
Somewhat agree	31	35	40	42	39	44	38	35	39	27	33	34	30	34	29	25	34	29	37	26	26	35	37	41
Neither agree nor disagree	7	8	8	7	8	7	6	6	5	7	7	6	8	8	7	7	10	7	7	11	6	6	7	5
Somewhat disagree	22	16	12	19	8	10	8	8	11	16	17	18	18	16	18	18	19	19	11	15	11	19	16	8
Strongly disagree	14	12	8	4	11	7	7	7	8	14	13	20	19	23	25	21	18	20	21	21	16	12	8	10
TOTAL DISAGREE	36	28	20	22	19	17	15	15	19	29	30	38	37	39	43	39	37	39	31	36	27	31	24	18

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

Base: Total sample

VIEWS ON PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES



Similar to results at the end of 2020 when this question was last asked, six-in-ten (62%) Ontarians report they see people not following the public health guidelines.

% STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT AGREE	Jun '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	Dec 12-17	Dec 19-23	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	varies											
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
I see people everyday not following public health guidelines, like physical distancing and mask-wearing*	76	79	74	69	71	69	66	64	62	59	60	62

QCV-14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
*Original phrasing: I see people everyday not following the social distancing guidelines
Base: Total sample

LEVEL OF FATIGUE WITH COVID-19 MITIGATION MEASURES

Of note, since the end of June there has been a 10-point increase to half (49%) reporting they are not getting very tired of all the COVID-19 control measures such as face coverings and social distancing.

I am getting very tired of all the COVID-19 control measures, such as mask wearing and social distancing

	Aug 18-20	Aug 22-27	Sep 12-17	Sep 19-24	Sep 26- Oct 1	Oct 3-8	Oct 10-15	Oct 17-22	Oct 24-29	Oct 31- Nov 5	Nov 7-12	Nov 14-19	Nov 21-26	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	Oct 26- Nov 1
n=	varies																										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	37	26	30	25	18	38	24	33	38	36	33	38	38	43	57	53	39	46	42	44	41	41	56	39	55	47	44
Strongly agree	21	16	15	16	6	23	12	14	20	24	23	28	24	24	36	28	17	29	24	29	23	24	31	21	24	30	26
Somewhat agree	16	10	15	9	12	15	11	19	17	12	11	11	15	19	22	24	22	17	18	16	18	17	25	18	31	18	18
Neither agree nor disagree	4	3	5	5	6	4	8	7	8	4	4	2	1	5	7	6	5	7	7	10	10	6	6	7	11	13	7
Somewhat disagree	15	21	21	19	18	14	15	13	14	19	16	12	8	15	14	14	17	16	19	16	22	19	18	22	8	14	17
Strongly disagree	44	49	44	50	58	41	53	46	41	40	46	48	52	36	22	26	38	30	30	29	27	31	18	32	25	25	32
TOTAL DISAGREE	59	70	65	69	76	56	68	59	54	59	62	59	59	50	36	40	55	46	50	45	49	50	37	54	33	39	49

QCV-8B. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the effects of COVID-19. The first is ...

Base: Total sample, base varies

FREQUENCY OF FACE MASK WEARING

Similar to results at the end of September, eight-in-ten (82%) Ontarians continue to say they are wearing a mask or face covering ‘all/most of the time’, with half (52%) 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	Oct 26-Nov 1
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	82
All of the time	29	49	55	63	67	71	73	72	57	56	48	51	58	49	53	51	52
Most of the time	30	28	28	24	21	19	19	19	25	24	36	29	23	33	31	29	30
Some of the time	23	16	12	9	9	6	6	7	13	14	11	14	13	15	9	13	12
Rarely	14	7	4	3	3	3	2	2	4	3	5	6	6	3	7	6	4
Never	3	1	1	1	1	1	<1	<1	2	2	1	1	<1	-	1	1	1
RARELY/NEVER	17	8	5	4	3	4	2	2	6	5	6	7	6	3	7	7	6

	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	Oct 26-Nov 1	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	Oct 26-Nov 1
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	90%	92%	94%	94%	84%	82%	85%	86%	85%	85%	89%	83%	86%	82%	83%	86%	85%	76%	79%	81%	73%	76%	77%	77%	76%	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

Preliminary results indicate that about half (48%) of Ontarians hold the view that while there is still the need for public health measures, there should be a plan to relax them. A further 40% believe that public health measures such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places should continue.

- Very few people think that there is no need for mask wearing and social distancing.

	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	250
	%
Some people say that with decreased risk of catching COVID compared to a few months ago, there’s no longer a need for public health measures such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places like stores and restaurants.	10
Other people say that there is still risk of catching COVID and we’re not past the pandemic, so we should continue having public health measures such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places like stores and restaurants.	40
Still other people say that with the decreased risk of catching COVID compared to a few months ago, there is still some need for public health measures, such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places like stores and restaurants, but there should be a plan to relax these measures.	48

Initial results indicate that around half of Ontarians are paying either more attention or about the same amount of attention to the number of daily new cases and deaths, the number of people in hospitals, as well as the number in intensive care units compared to a few months ago.

- However, one-quarter (24%) report they are paying more attention than a few months ago to the percentage of Ontarians fully vaccinated.

Oct 26-Nov 1			
	Paying more attention	About the same	Paying less attention
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
The number of daily new cases	12	39	48
The number of daily deaths	10	36	53
The number of people in hospitals	12	37	51
The number of people in intensive care units	14	36	49
Percentage of Ontarians fully vaccinated	24	40	34

COVID-19 VACCINE



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

There was an increase in the proportion of Ontarians that agree they are confident that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered to 64% 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	Aug '21	Sep '21	Sep 14-20	Sep 21-27	Sep 28- Oct 4	Oct 5-11	Oct 12-18	Oct 19-25	Oct 26- Nov 1
varies															
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
52	49	49	58	56	72	70	63	47	42	55	48	54	51	58	64
16	18	18	22	20	33	33	24	15	19	20	20	25	19	28	30
35	31	31	36	36	39	37	39	32	22	35	28	29	32	30	33
6	7	6	6	7	6	6	5	6	8	5	7	5	8	6	7
19	20	18	16	16	13	11	15	19	20	16	17	15	22	21	12
22	23	24	17	19	7	12	15	25	27	23	25	22	19	16	16
41	43	42	34	35	21	23	30	44	48	38	42	37	40	36	28

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

WILLINGNESS TO RECEIVE THIRD DOSE OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE

Ontarians are willing to receive a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine with eight-in-ten (79%) indicating they would take it if it was available to them, and intensity is high with 60% being ‘very’ willing.

	Sep 28-Oct 4	Oct 5-11	Oct 12-18	Oct 19-25	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	Varies				
	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL WILLING	79	82	79	85	79
Very willing	54	69	61	69	60
Somewhat willing	25	14	18	16	19
Not too willing	7	6	9	6	8
Not at all willing	9	7	10	6	9
TOTAL NOT WILLING	16	14	19	12	17
I have already had my booster dose	2	1	1	2	3
Don't know/not sure	4	3	2	1	1

QCV-120. As you may know, there has been some discussion of the need for all those fully vaccinated to receive third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. How willing are you to get a third dose of the vaccine if this were available to you?

Base: Total sample

REASONS WHY NOT WILLING TO RECEIVE THIRD DOSE OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE

The top cited reasons for not being willing to get a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine is their need for more information (17%) or that they believe that it is not necessary (17%).

	Sep 28-Oct 11	Oct 5-18	Oct 12-25	Oct 19-Nov 1
n=	69	84	73	60
	%	%	%	%
Research/need more information	11	11	9	17
Not necessary	28	13	8	17
Not confident in the effectiveness of the vaccine	-	2	10	14
I already got two doses (that is enough)	-	10	19	13
They originally said two doses were enough (and were wrong)	13	8	5	8
How many boosters are going to be needed (e.g., every six months)	10	4	3	8
They should focus on getting everyone vaccinated with the first two doses	-	4	6	7
I never wanted to get the first two doses/was forced to get first two doses (e.g., work)	-	6	4	7
I am not high risk/my exposure is low	10	6	8	5
Concerned about long term effects	9	5	4	5
I got sick when taking previous doses of the COVID-19 vaccine	-	10	7	4
Too soon/need a longer gap in between doses	-	8	6	4
Concerned about too much vaccine in the body	3	-	16	2
Do not trust the government	6	5	3	2
Heard negative things about the vaccine (e.g., in the media)	-	2	3	1
Just a ploy to give money to big pharma	-	1	1	1
Other	18	18	6	8
Don't know/not sure	1	5	8	2

QCV-121. Why are you Not too willing/Not at all willing to receive third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?

Base: Not too/not at all willing @ CV220

PERCEPTIONS OF BREAKTHROUGH INFECTIONS



Eight-in-ten (82%) Ontarians have seen, read, or heard anything about people fully vaccinated against COVID-19 contracting the virus.

	Oct 12-18	Oct 19-25	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	varies		
	%	%	%
Yes	81	80	82
No	18	20	17

QCV-122. Have you seen, read or heard anything about people fully vaccinated against COVID-19 contracting COVID-19?

Base: Total sample

LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT THE FULLY VACCINATED CONTRACTING COVID-19

And, just over half (55%) of Ontarians report they are concerned about the possibility of fully vaccinated people contracting COVID-19, while 45% are not concerned.

	Oct 12-18	Oct 19-25	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	53	55	55
Very concerned	12	16	19
Somewhat concerned	41	39	36
Not too concerned	29	31	30
Not at all concerned	16	14	14
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	46	45	45

QCV-123. How concerned or not are you about the possibility of fully vaccinated people contracting COVID-19? Would you say you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned or not at all concerned?
Base: Have received both doses at QD12

LEVEL OF CONCERN WILL CONTRACT COVID-19 ALTHOUGH FULLY VACCINATED

Ontarians tend to be split in their level of concern that they personally will contract COVID-19 although fully vaccinated, with 47% concerned and 53% not concerned.

	Oct 21-25	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	154	213
	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	49	47
Very concerned	10	13
Somewhat concerned	39	34
Not too concerned	39	37
Not at all concerned	13	16
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	51	53

INFLATION/COST OF LIVING



Preliminary results indicate Ontarians are aware of increasing inflation or cost of living expenses, with nine-in-ten (89%) saying they have seen, read or heard about it in the last few weeks. And, intensity is high with 69% reporting they have seen/read/heard ‘a lot’.

	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	Varies
	%
A LOT/SOMETHING	89
A lot	69
Something	20
Not too much	7
Nothing at all	5
NOT TOO MUCH/NOTHING AT ALL	11

LEVEL OF CONERN ABOUT INFLATION

Initial results also indicate there is a high level of concern about inflation increasing the cost of basic living expenses, with 91% concerned and 67% ‘very’ concerned.

	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	Varies
	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	91
Very concerned	67
Somewhat concerned	24
Not too concerned	7
Not at all concerned	2
NOT TOO/NOT AT ALL CONCERNED	9

Preliminary results indicate that half (49%) of Ontarians say they will definitely need additional income to make ends meet this coming year.

I will definitely need additional income to make ends meet this coming year.

	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	Varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	49
Strongly agree	27
Somewhat agree	22
Somewhat disagree	20
Strongly disagree	27
TOTAL DISAGREE	47

And, initial results indicate that four-in-ten (41%) Ontarians are presently having a very hard time making ends meet.

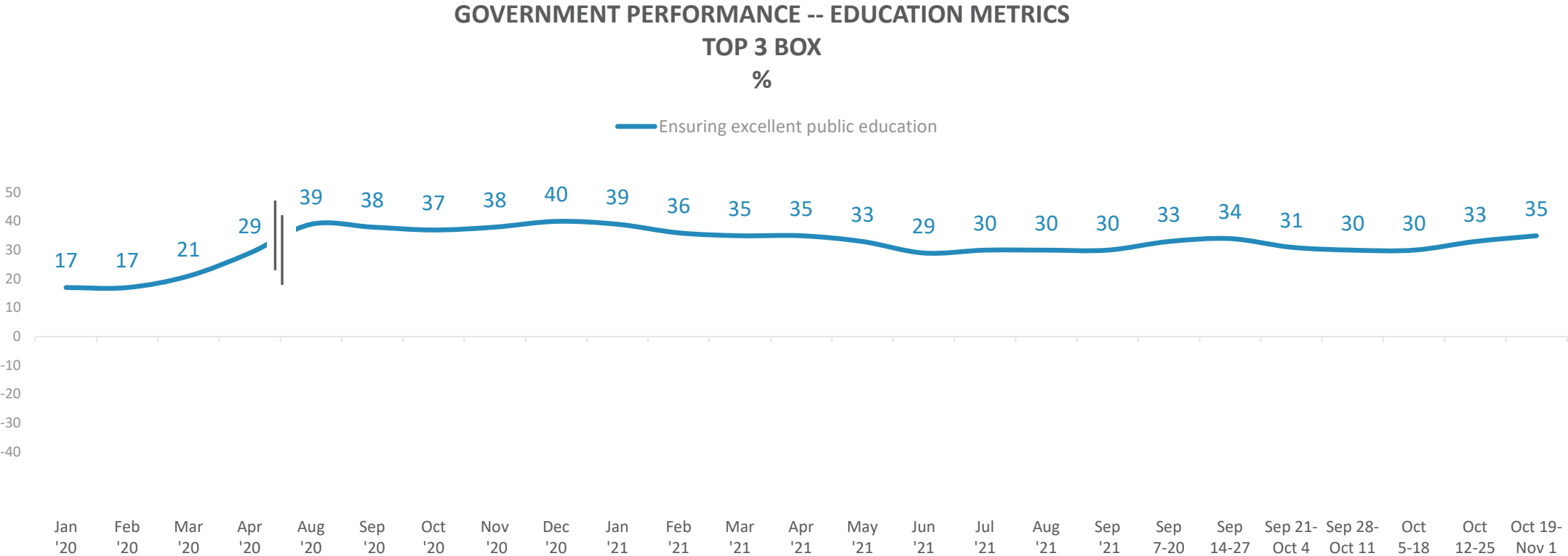
I am having a very hard time making ends meet.

	Oct 26-Nov 1
n=	Varies
	%
TOTAL AGREE	41
Strongly agree	20
Somewhat agree	21
Somewhat disagree	26
Strongly disagree	30
TOTAL DISAGREE	56

APPENDIX – PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

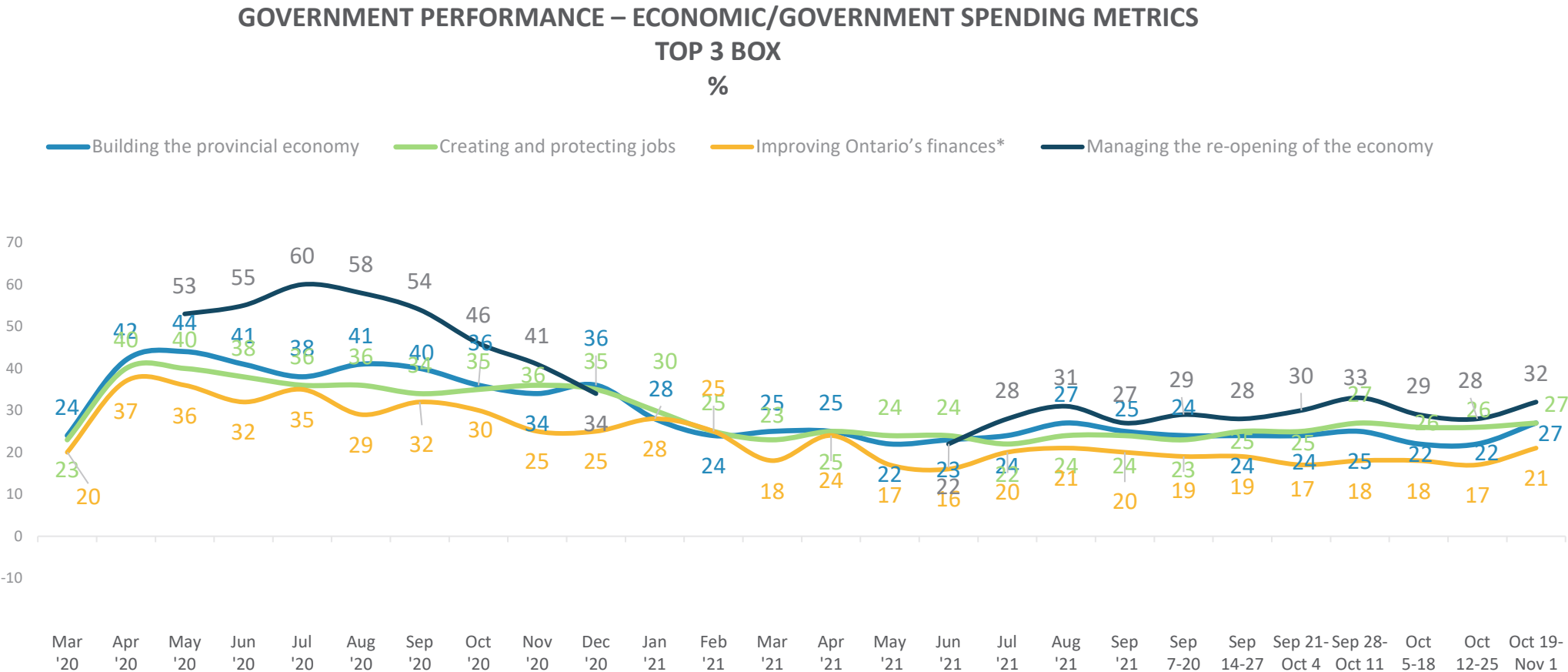


Positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ increased slightly over the past two weeks.



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?
Bases vary

Positive perceptions toward the government’s performance for the economic and government spending metrics increased this week for all but ‘creating and protecting jobs’ which remained steady.

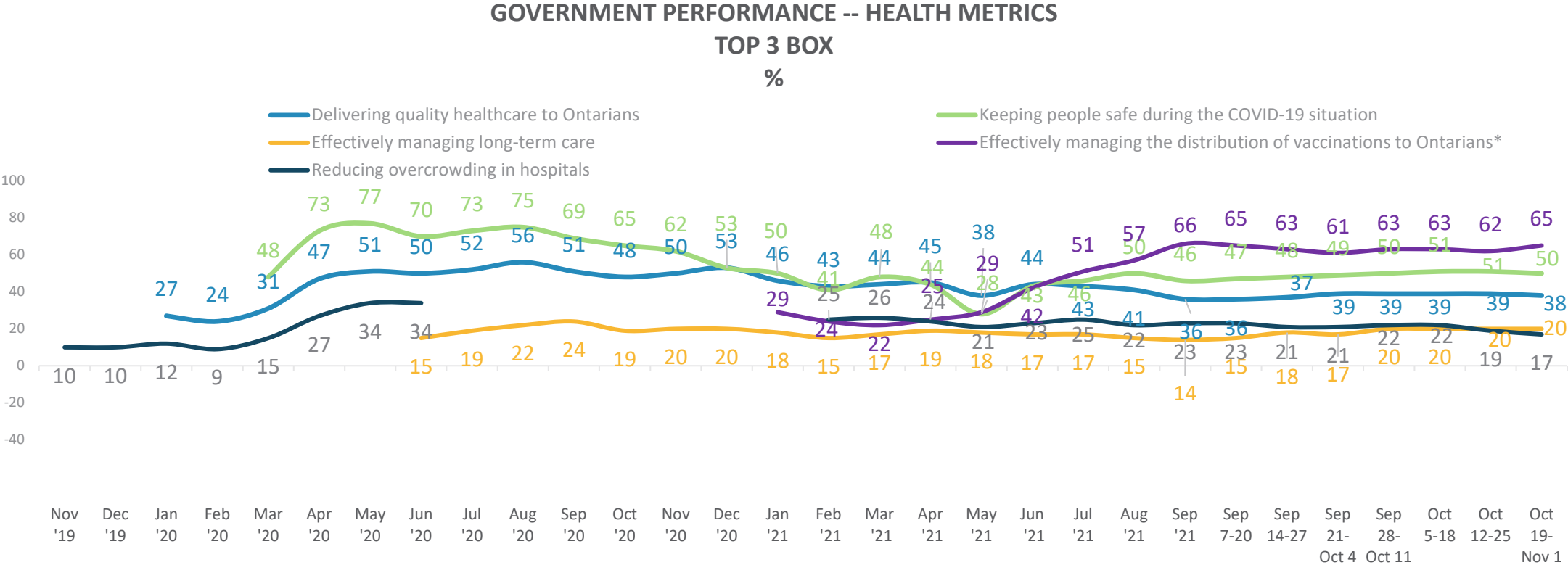


Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

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

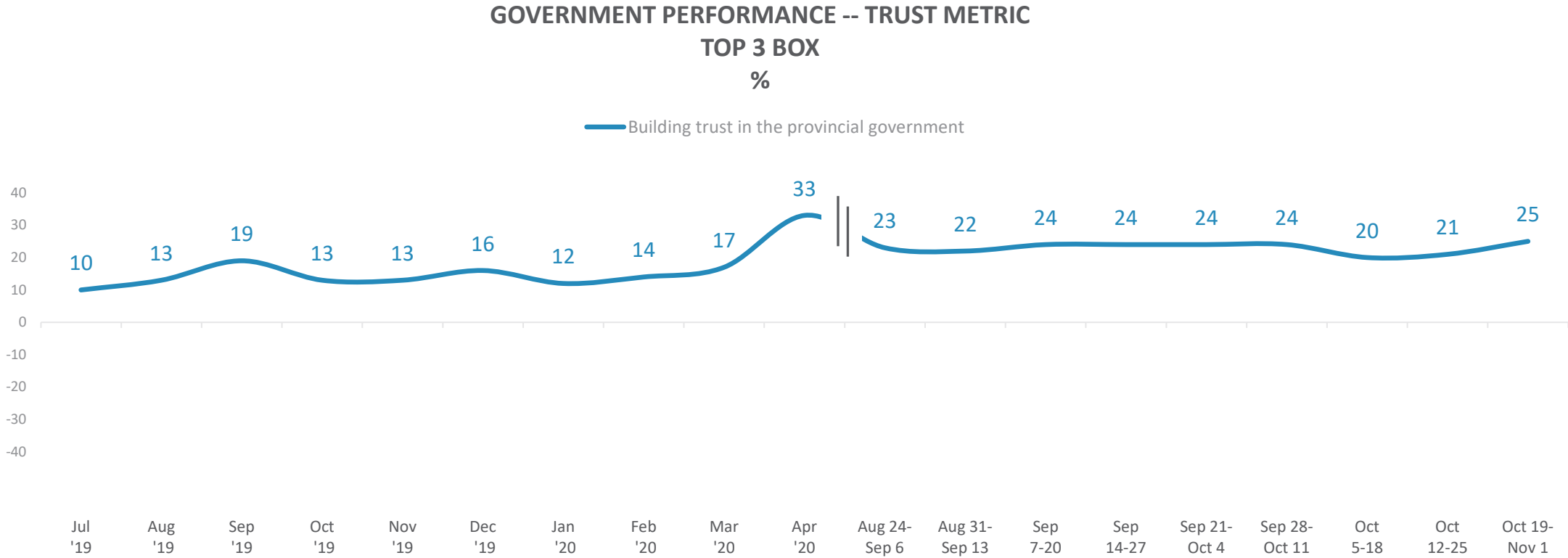
Bases vary

There was a slight uptick in the rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing vaccinations’ while ‘reducing overcrowding in hospitals’ has slowly declined over the past two 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: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

A positive rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’ increased.



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