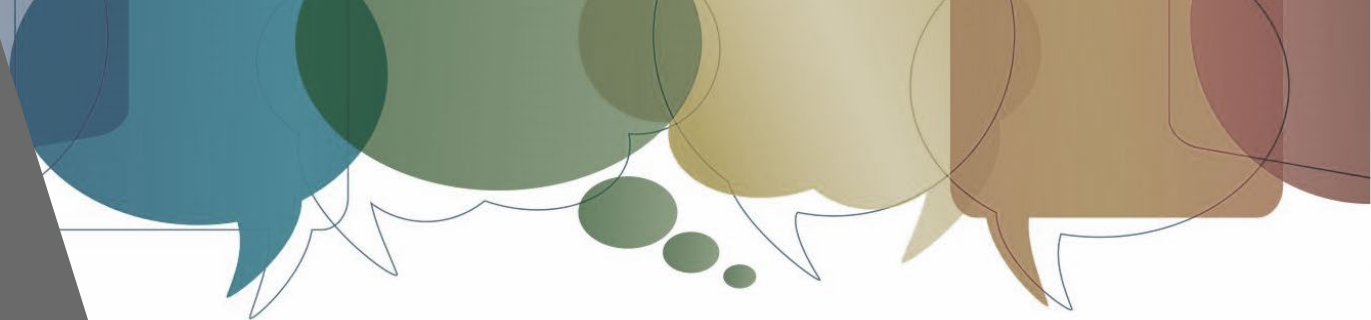




THE
**STRATEGIC
COUNSEL**

EXPERIENCE • PASSION • CREATIVITY

TORONTO | OTTAWA | CALGARY
www.thestrategiccounsel.com



PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #107

CABINET OFFICE

November 16th 2021



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 'Right track' has declined 6-points over the past two weeks to 54% this week.

3 Additionally, over the past two weeks, there has been an 11-point decrease to 51% that believe the government is 'doing what is required' to reduce the spread of the virus, while three-in-ten (28%) think the government is 'not doing as much as they should' – a 7-point increase over the past two weeks.

Trust in the government's communications about 'what the government is telling me about the COVID-19 situation' and 'the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured/appropriate' both declined again this week.

Rating of the government's performance for 'building trust in the provincial government' also declined this week.

2 Probably connected to the recent rise in infection rates, the proportion of Ontarians that believe that we are over the worst of the pandemic has declined 13-points over the past two weeks to 62%. Confidence levels that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered has also been declining over the past two weeks, down 10-points to 54%.

And, concern about a fourth wave of the pandemic has increased with seven-in-ten (68%) now registering concern - and one-third (34%) reporting they are 'very' concerned.

There also appears to be an increase in concern about the possibility of fully vaccinated people contracting COVID-19, with a 10-point increase this week to 59% being concerned.

4 That said, there continues to be more support for the government to focus on the economic issues surrounding COVID-19 (57%) compared to the health-related issues (35%).

And, Ontarians are starting to be looking at other priorities other than the pandemic. COVID-19 as the government's top priority is now at 28% - down from a high of 76% in February of this year – with 12% now citing healthcare followed by affordable housing (10%) and the economy (10%).

Cost of living/inflation is also starting to be cited as a priority issue.

Key Findings

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

Almost nine-in-ten (88%) say they have seen, read or heard about it in the last few weeks. And, intensity is high with 70% reporting they have seen/read/heard 'a lot'.

There is also a high level of concern about inflation increasing the cost of basic living expenses, with 90% concerned and 64% 'very' concerned.

And, while four-in-ten (41%) Ontarians say they are presently having a very hard time making ends meet, this increases to half (51%) who indicate they will definitely need additional income to make ends meet this coming year.

With the reporting about the number of COVID-19 cases in the schools, rating of the government's performance for 'ensuring excellent public education' declined again this week and is down 11-points over the past two weeks – and is now in negative territory.

In terms of the government's economic and spending metrics, 'creating and protecting jobs' and 'building the provincial economy' remained steady this week, while there were declines for 'managing the re-opening of the economy' and 'improving Ontario's finances' - with three of the four in negative territory.

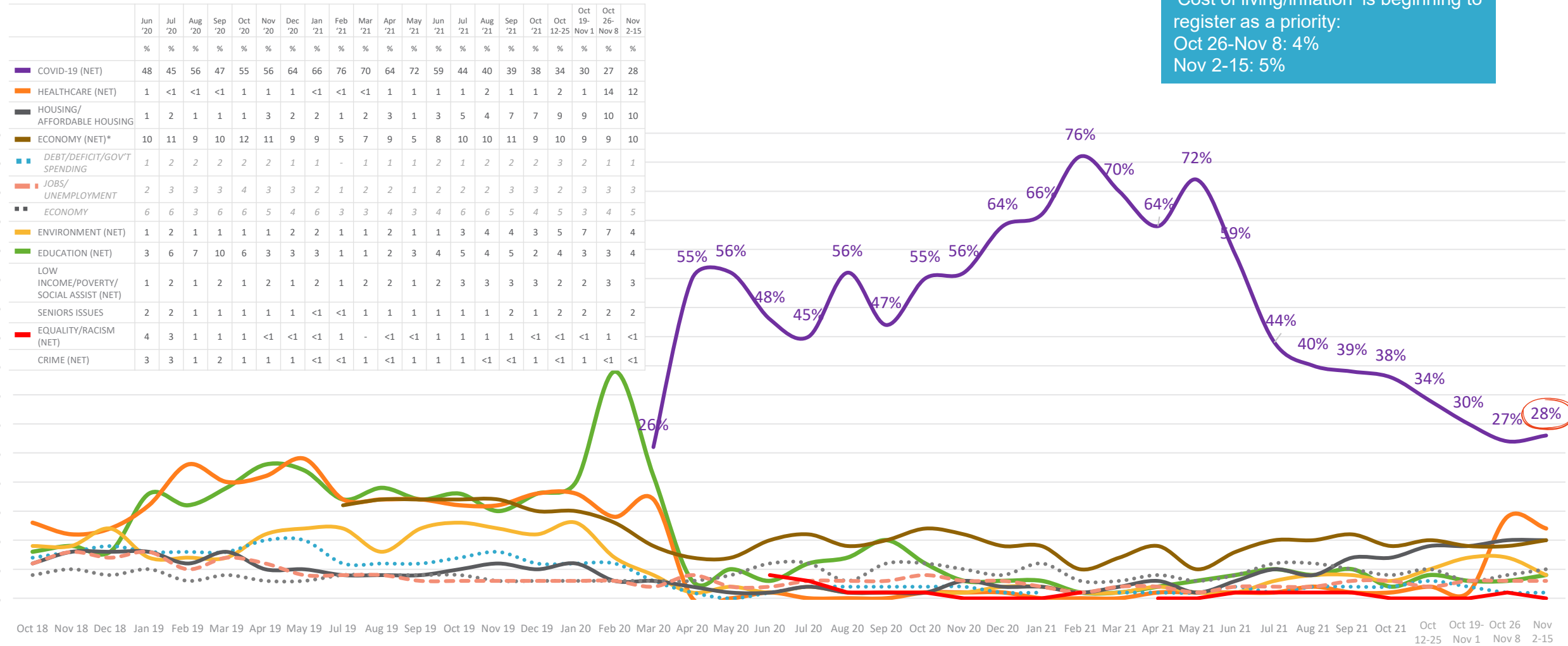
And, while the rating of the government's performance for 'making life more affordable' was stable this week, it remains in negative territory at NET -36.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



COVID-19 as the government’s top priority is at 28% this week; while 12% cite healthcare, affordable housing (10%), and the economy (10%).

‘Cost of living/inflation’ is beginning to register as a priority:
Oct 26-Nov 8: 4%
Nov 2-15: 5%



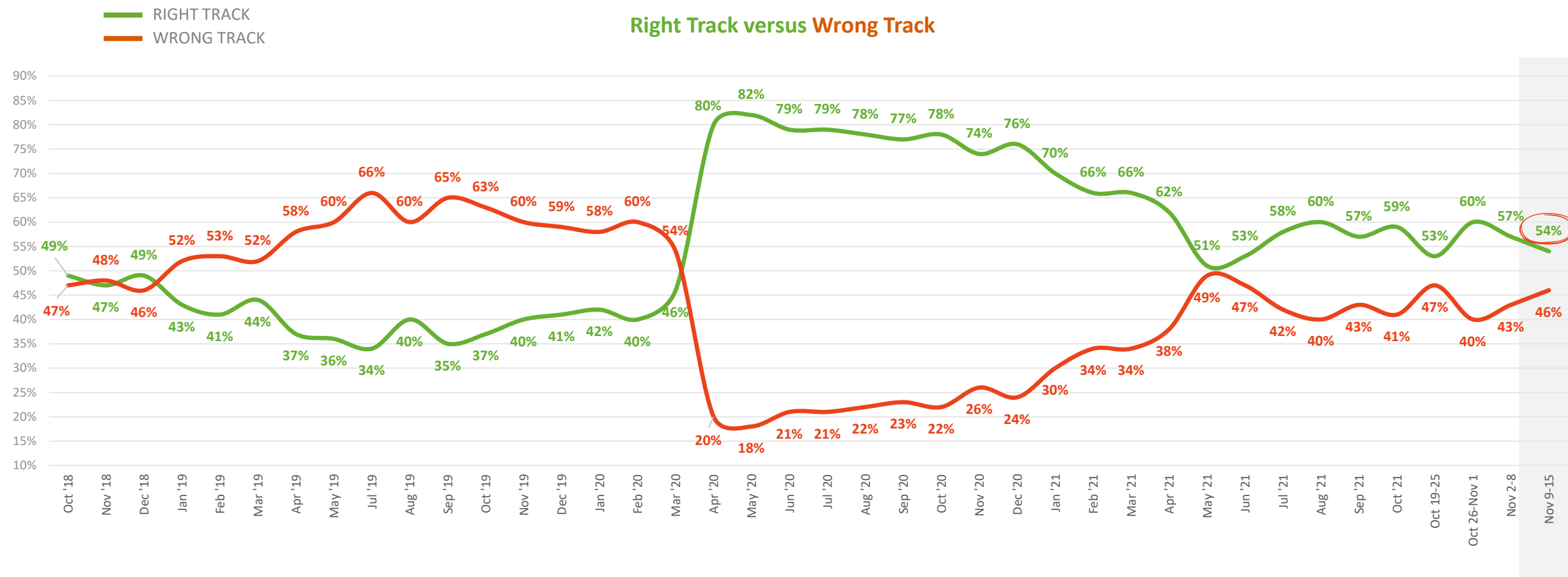
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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

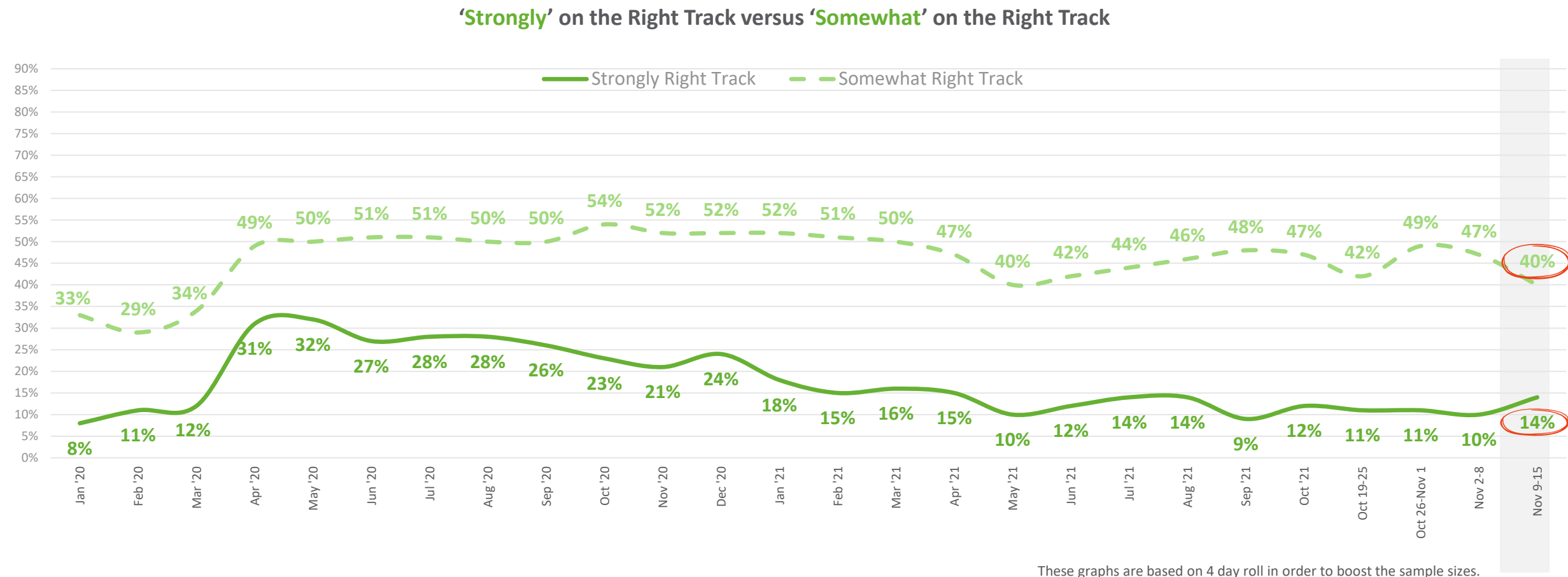


‘Right track’ has declined 6-points over the past two weeks to 54% this week.



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

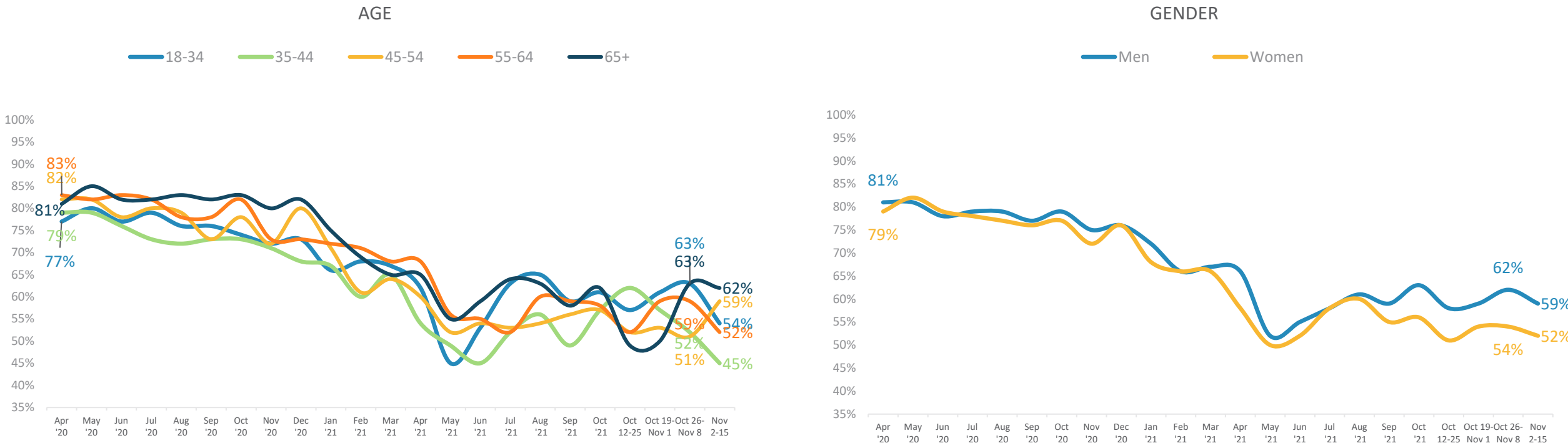
While there was an uptick this week in the proportion who believe the government is ‘strongly on the right track’, there has been a 9-point decline over the past two weeks for ‘somewhat on the right track’.



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

There was a slight decrease in ‘right track’ among both men and women this week, with men continuing to have higher scores. And, while ‘right track’ increased among Ontarians aged 45-54, declines were measured for the 18-34, 35-44 and 55-64 age segments. Results remained steady for those 65+.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

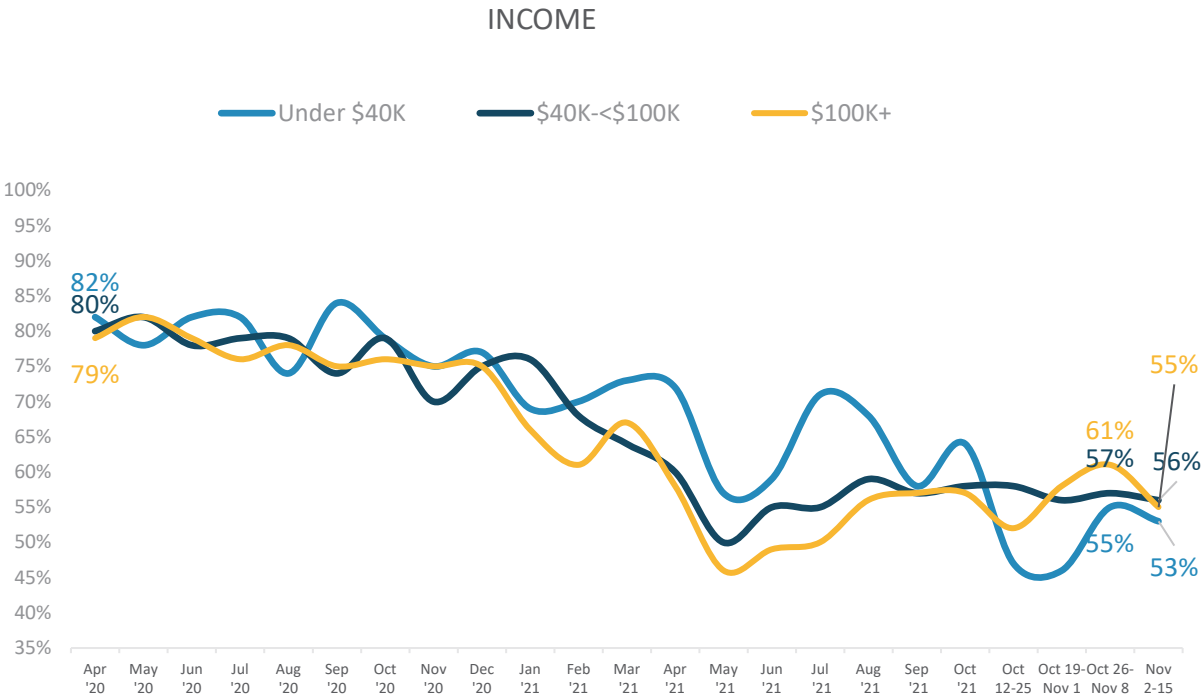
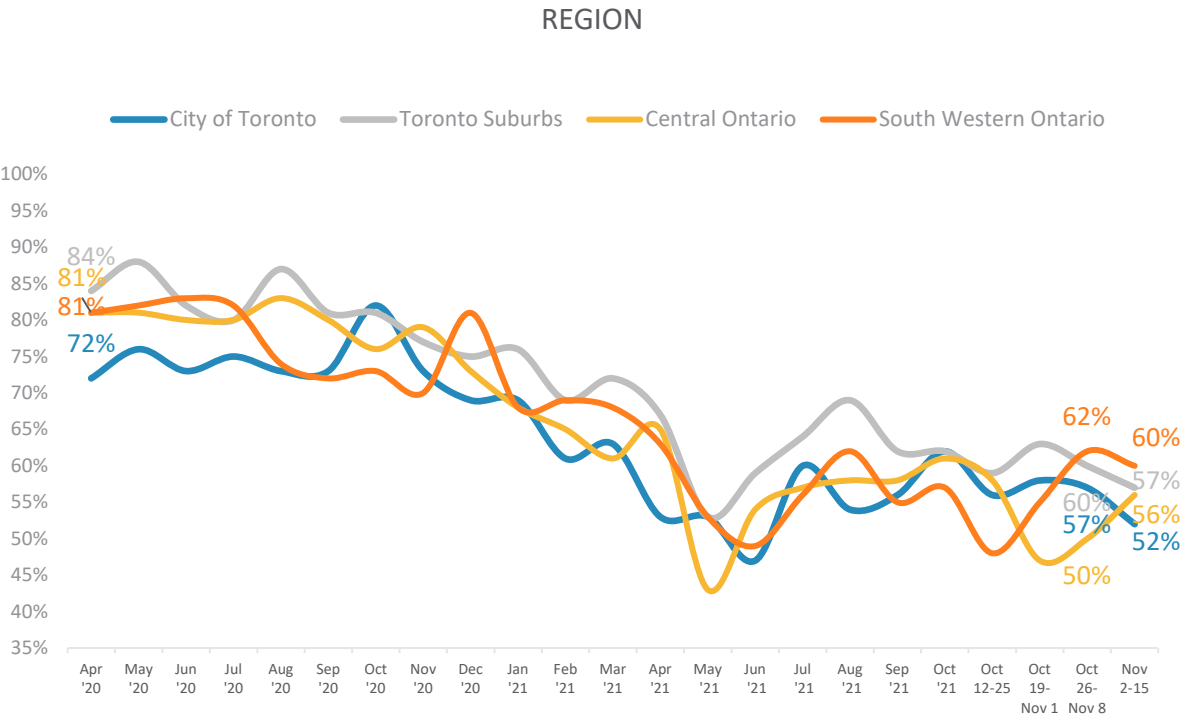


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

Regionally, there was an increase in ‘right track’ in Central Ontario while results were down in both the city of Toronto and the Toronto suburbs. SW Ontario remained stable. With a decline among those making \$100k+, ‘right track’ is close to parity among the three income brackets

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



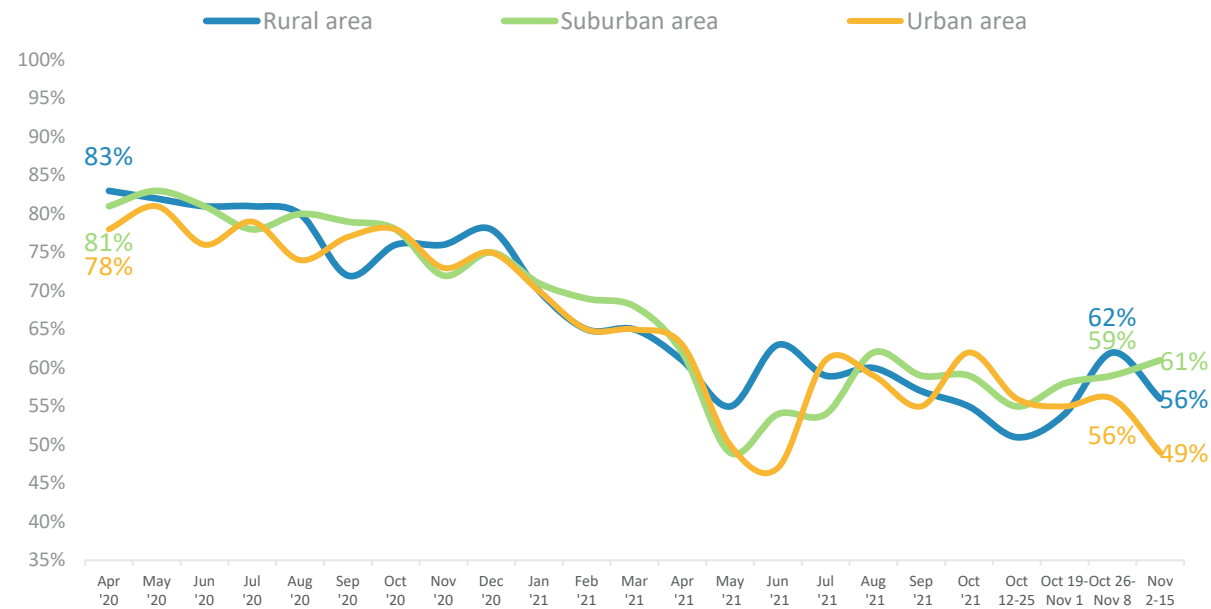
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

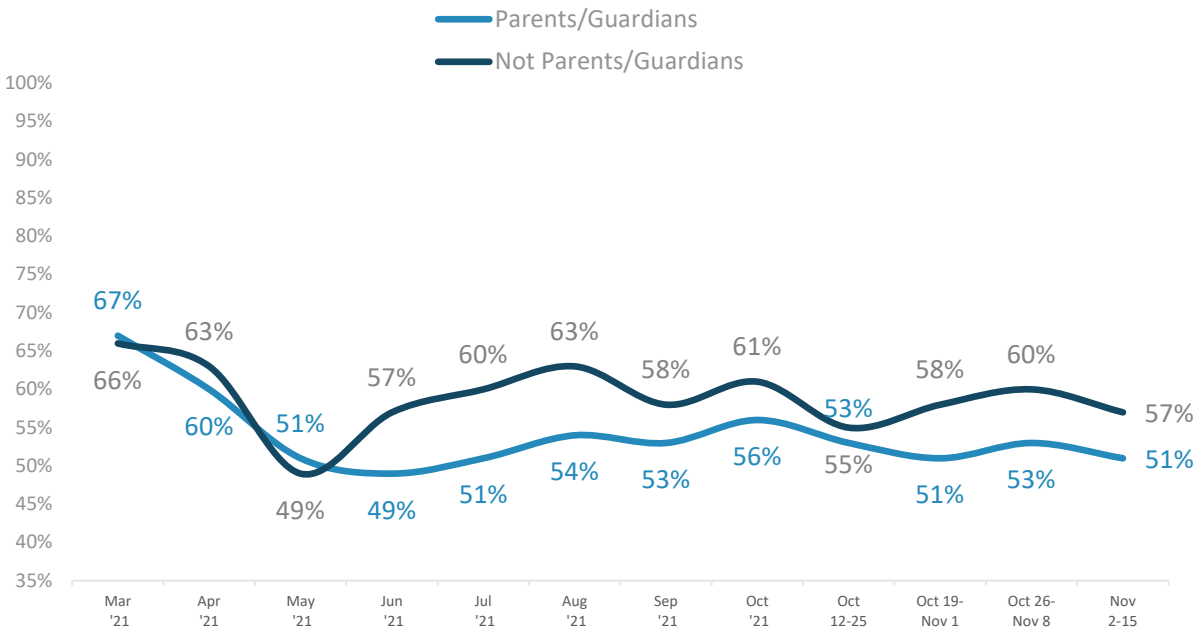
‘Right track’ scores declined in both rural and urban areas this week, while there has been a slow but steady increase in suburban areas.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS



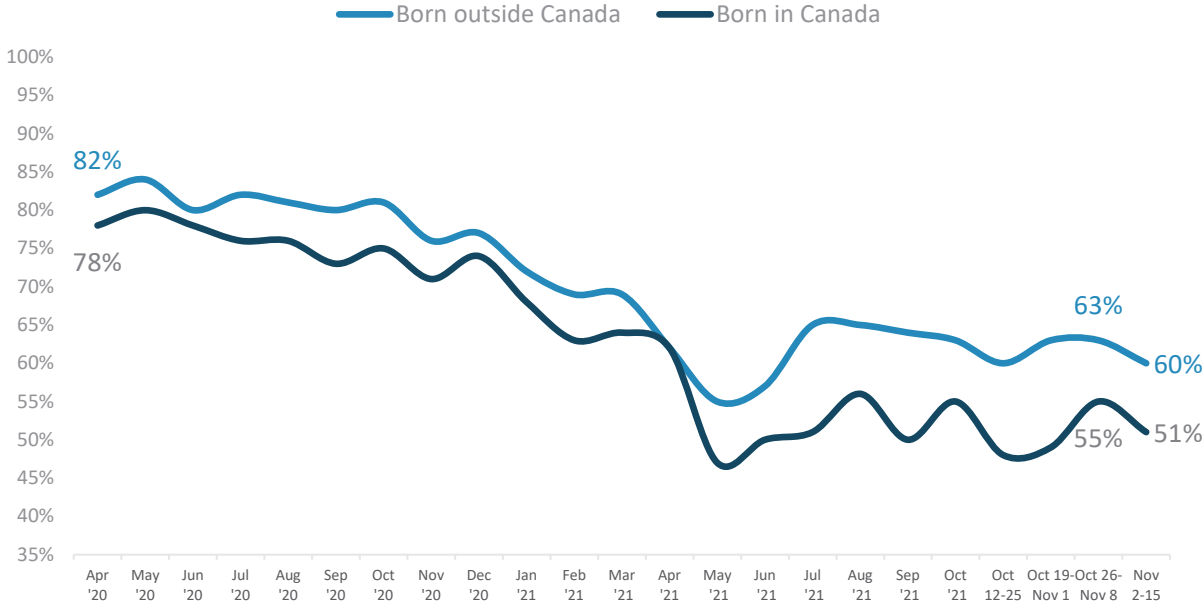
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

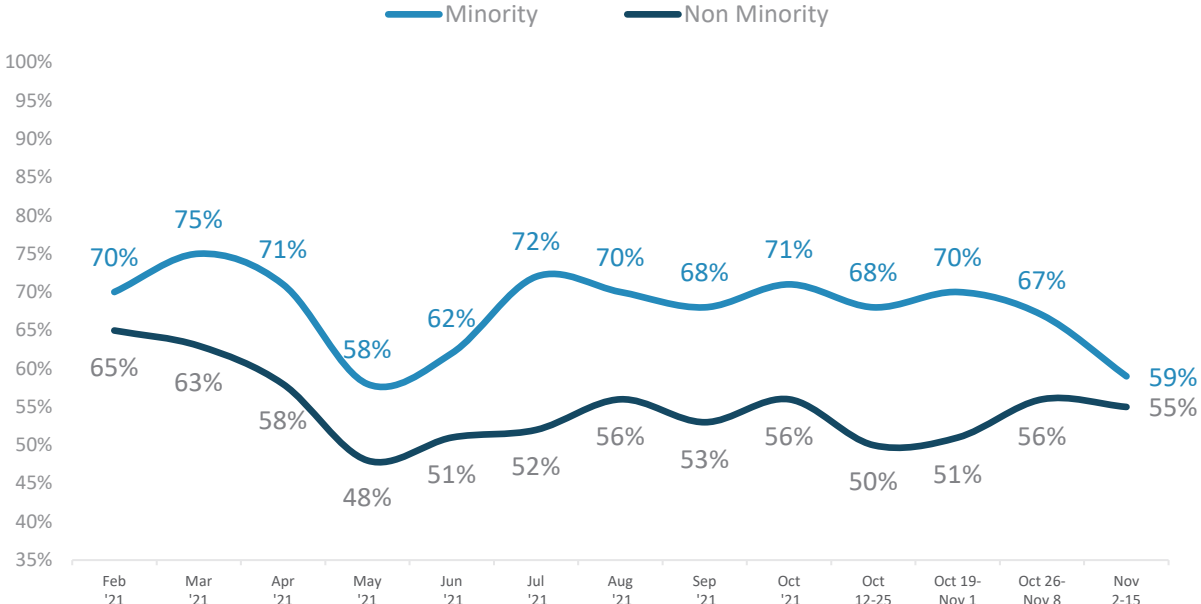
‘Right track’ declined among Ontarians born in and outside of Canada, as well as among minorities. Results among non-minorities remained steady.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY

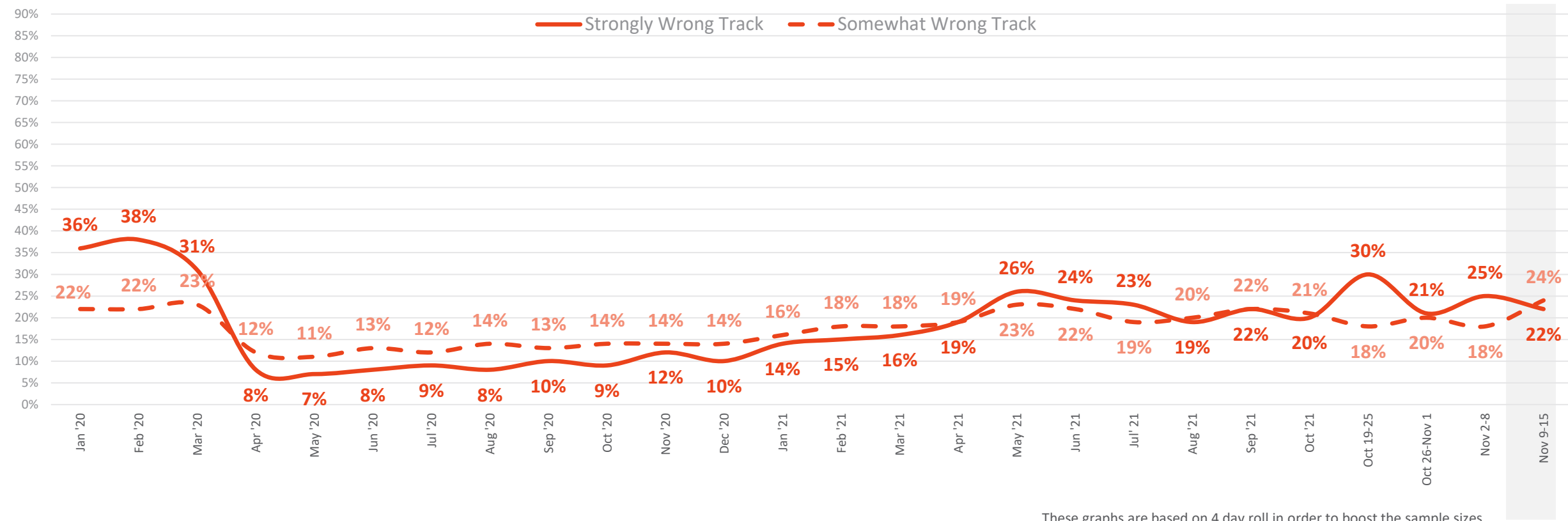


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

This week, there was an uptick in the proportion who believe the government is ‘somewhat on the wrong track’ and a slight decline for ‘strongly on the wrong track’.

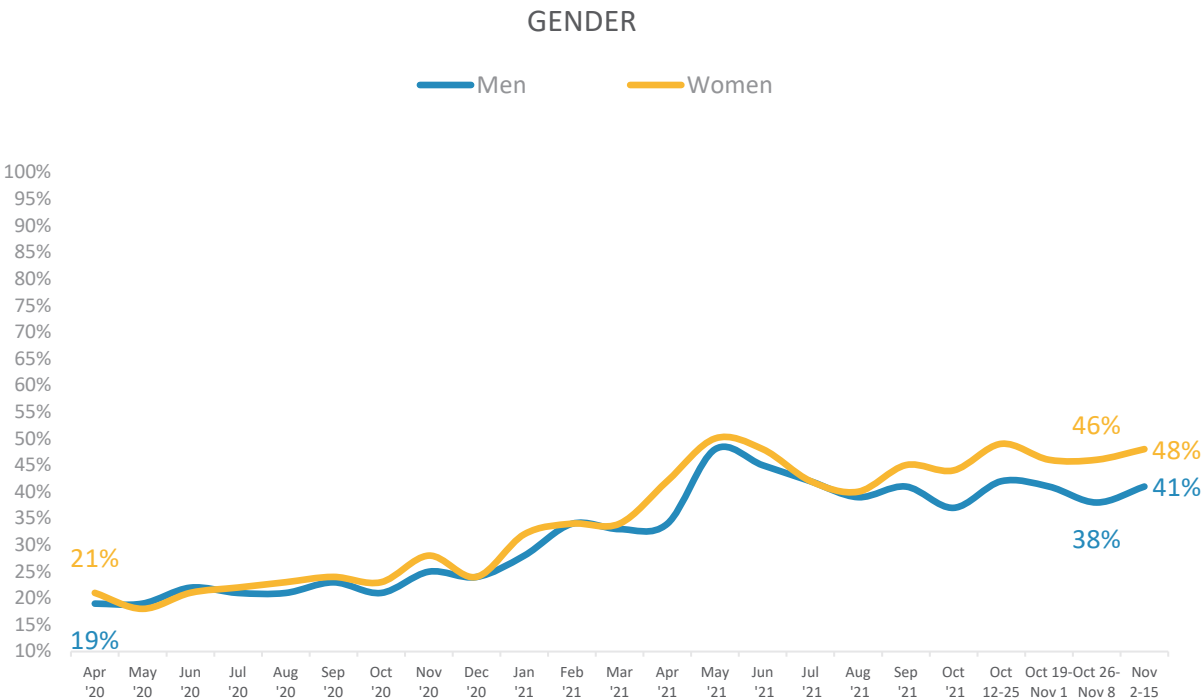
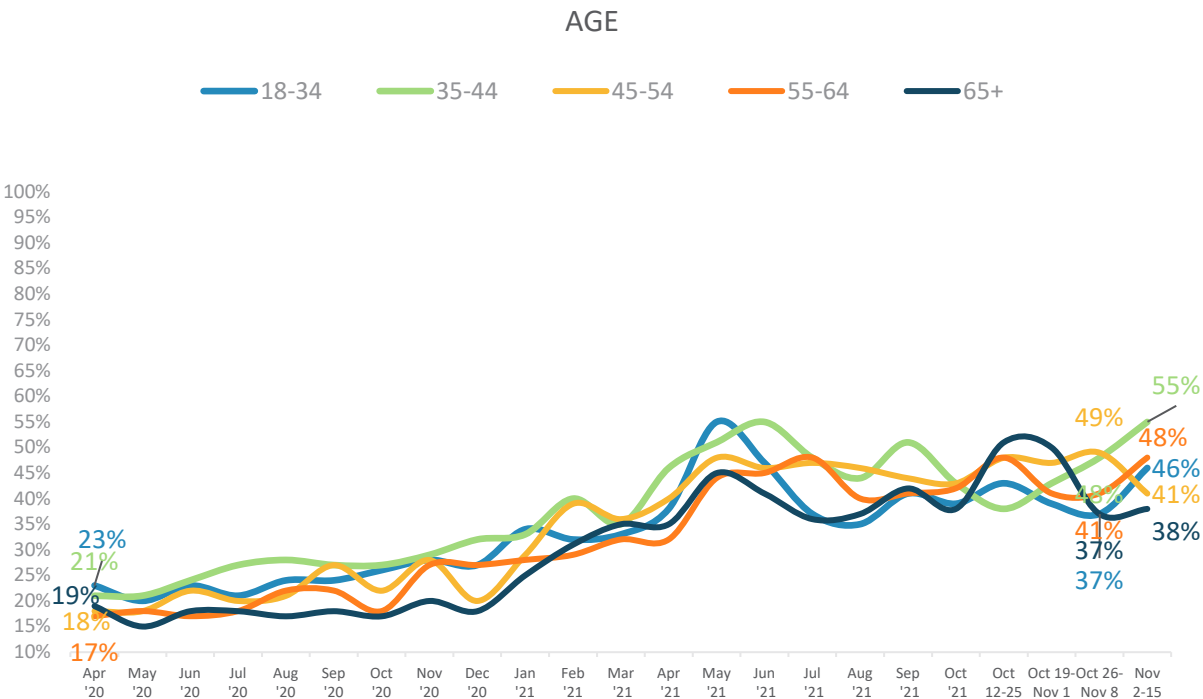
‘Strongly’ on the Wrong Track versus ‘Somewhat’ on the Wrong Track



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 among Ontarians aged 45-54 while increasing for the 18-34, 35-44, and 55-64 age groups. Results remained steady for those 65+. There was a slight uptick in ‘wrong track’ this week among both men and women.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

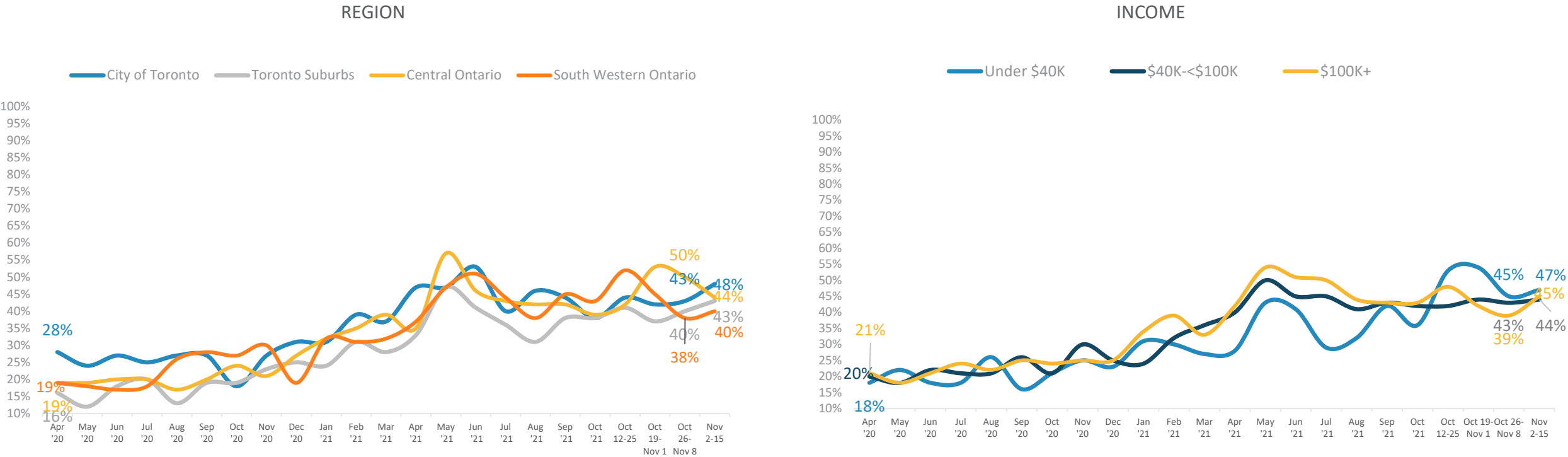


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

‘Wrong track’ declined in Central Ontario this week while increases were measured in both the city of Toronto and the Toronto suburbs. Results were stable in SW Ontario. With an increase among Ontarians making \$100k+, ‘wrong track’ scores are close to parity this week.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



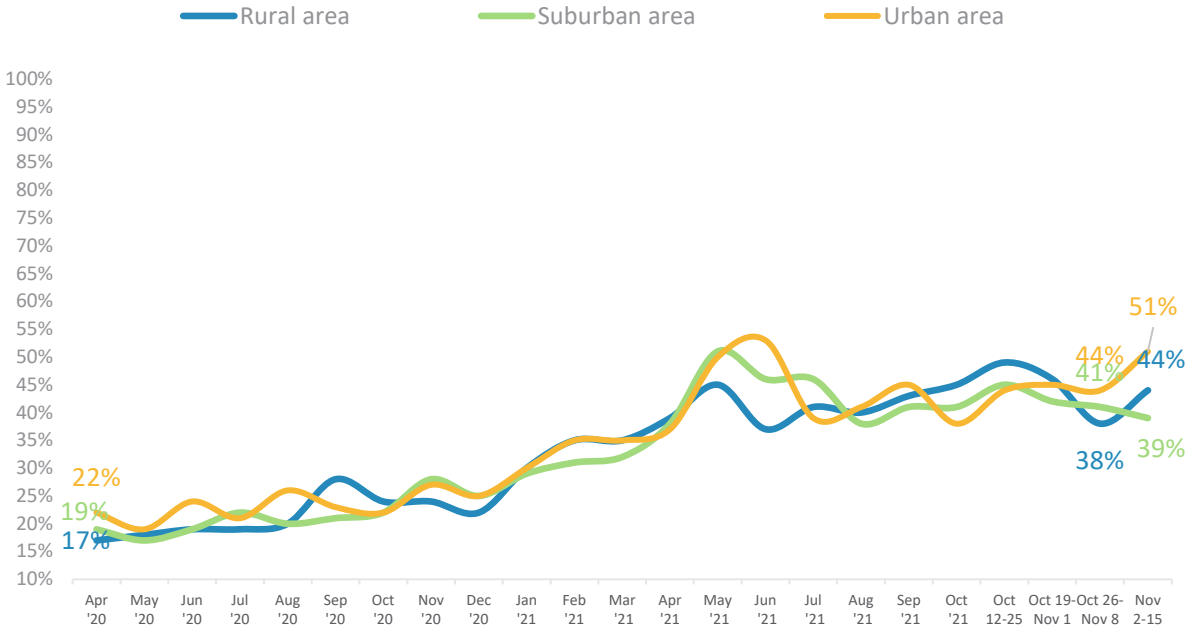
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

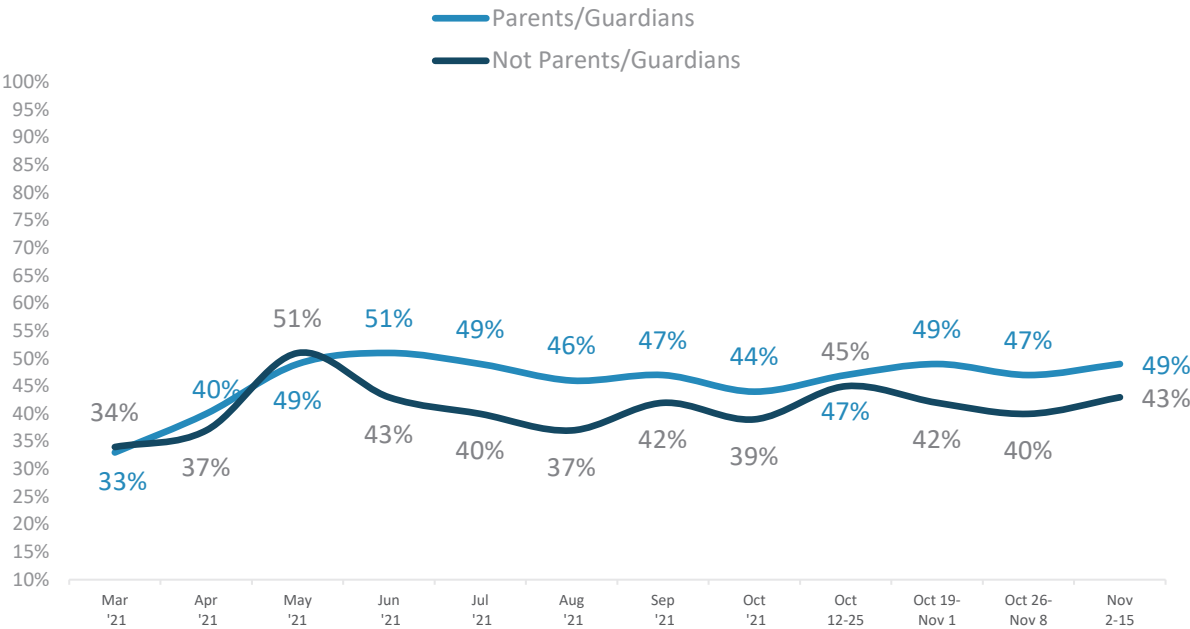
‘Wrong track’ increased in both rural and urban areas this week, while there continues a slow but steady decline in suburban areas.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

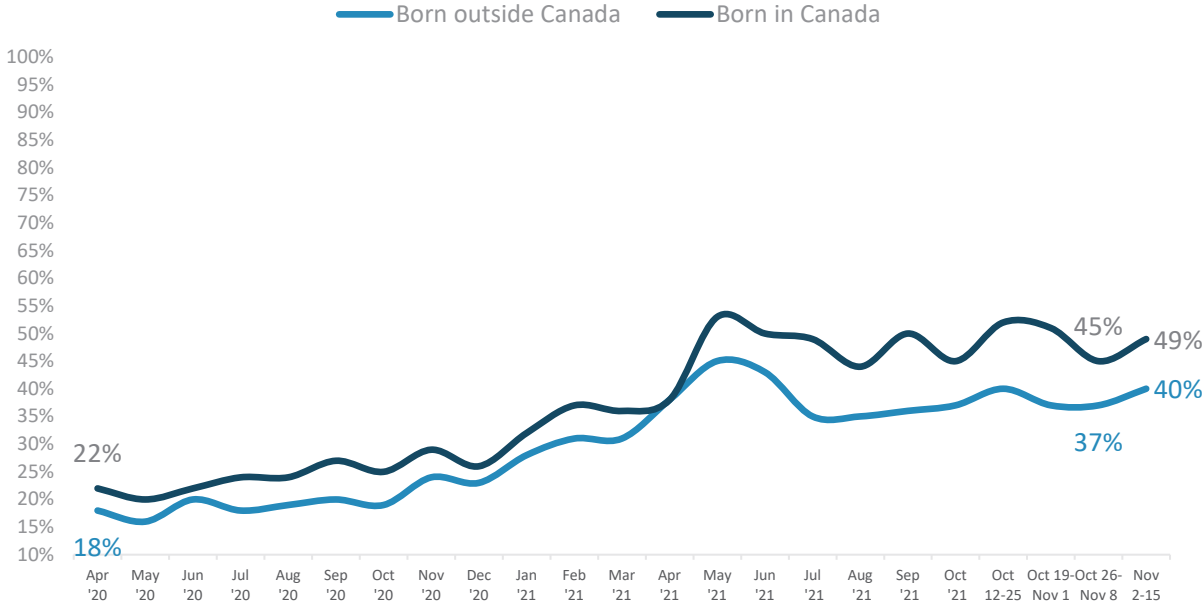


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

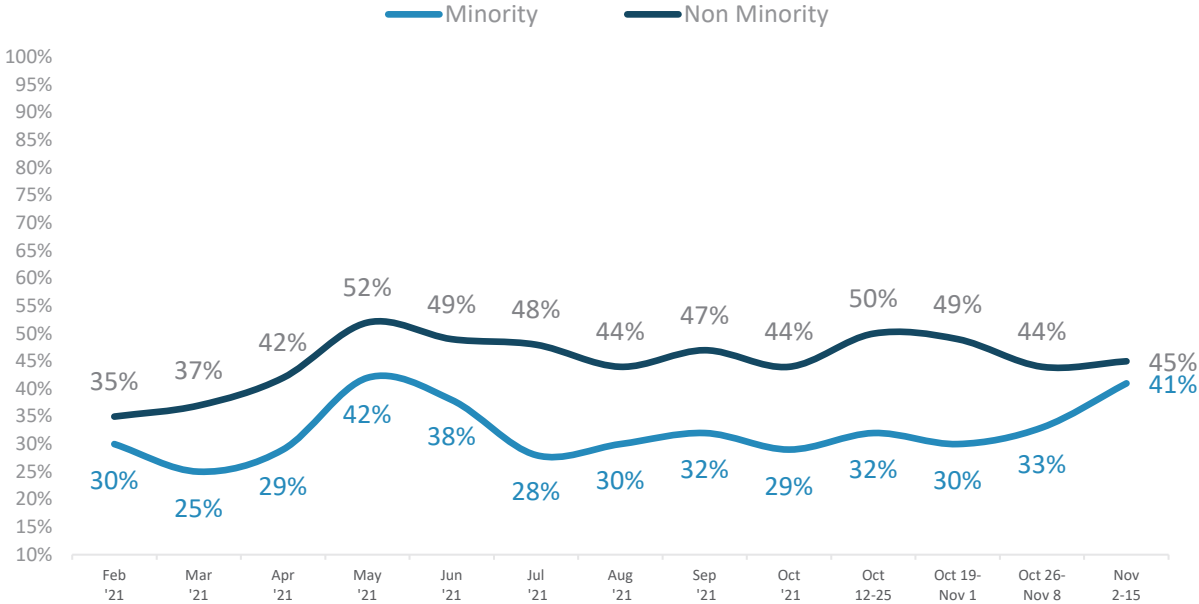
Increases in ‘wrong track’ were measured among Ontarians born in and outside of Canada, as well as among minorities. Results were steady among non-minorities this week.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY

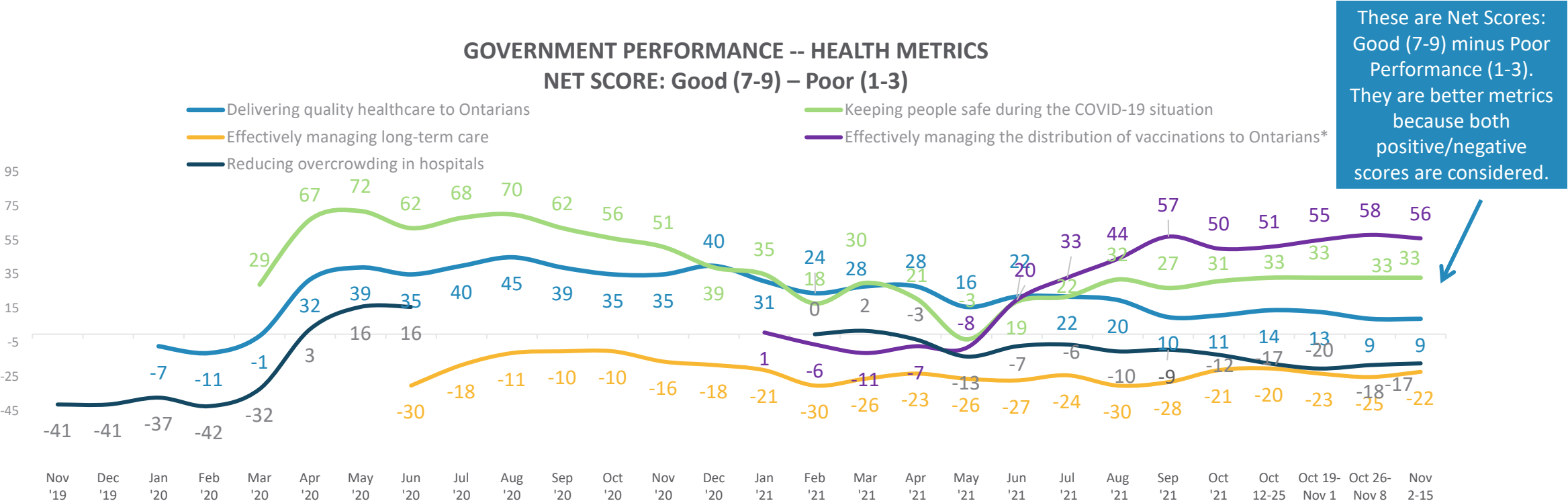


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

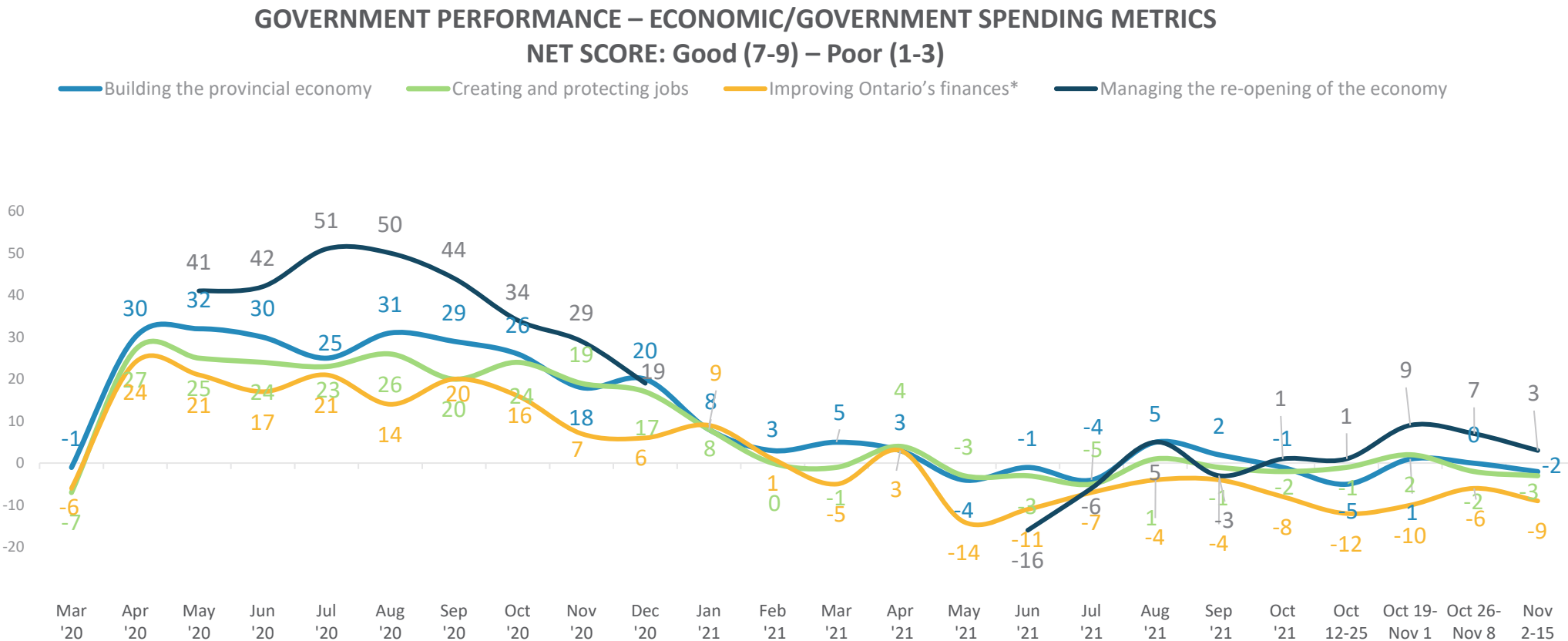


The rating of the government’s performance for the health metrics remained steady this week with the exception of ‘effectively managing long-term care’ which experienced a slight uptick.



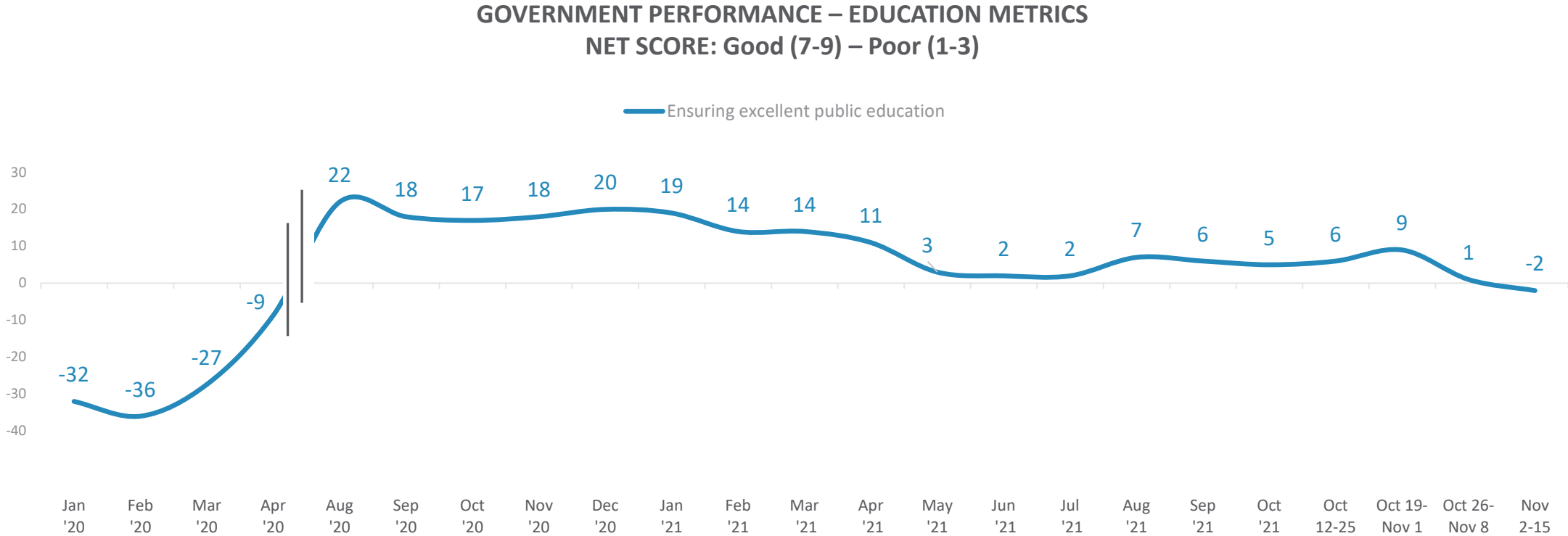
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

While ‘creating and protecting jobs’ and ‘building the provincial economy’ remained steady this week, there were declines for ‘managing the re-opening of the economy’ and ‘improving Ontario’s finances’, with three of the four in negative territory.



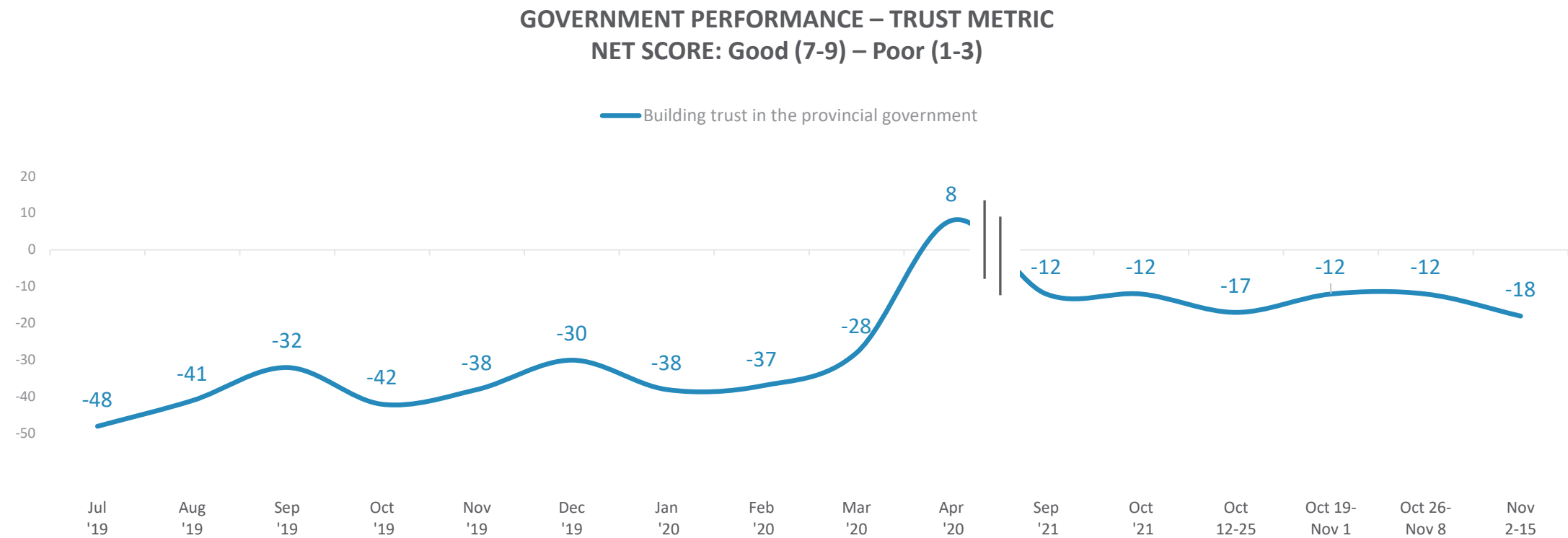
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘ensuring excellent public education’ declined again this week and now has a negative NET score.



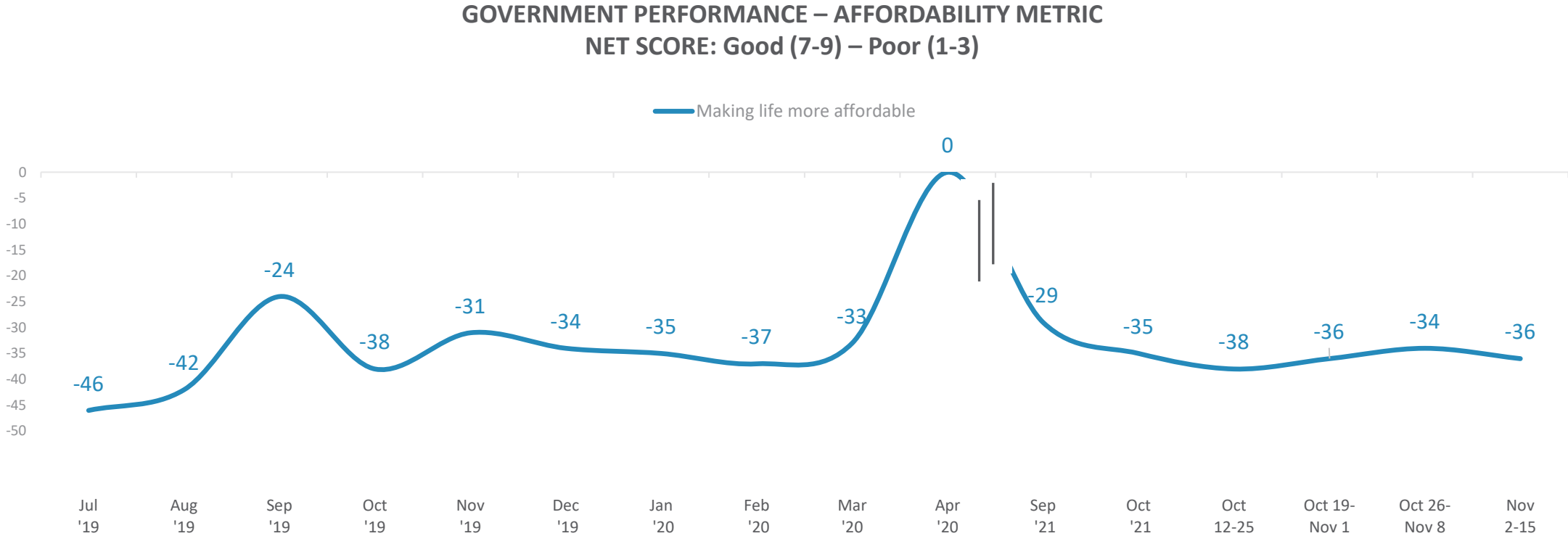
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’ also declined 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 ‘making life more affordable’ 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?
Bases vary

FOCUS ON HEALTH VERSUS ECONOMY



The majority of Ontarians continue to believe the Ontario government should focus on economic issues surrounding COVID-19 (57%) compared to health-related issues (35%).

	Jun '21	Jul '21	Aug '21	Sep '21	Oct '21	Oct 12-25	Oct 19-Nov 1	Oct 26-Nov 8	Nov 2-15
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.	48	38	39	40	38	31	35	38	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.	42	52	52	46	47	61	62	57	57
Both a health and an economic focus are equally important.	8	8	7	13	12	6	2	4	6

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



LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT 4TH WAVE OF THE PANDEMIC

Ontarians continue to remain concerned about a fourth wave of the pandemic, with an increase to seven-in-ten (68%) registering concern this week and one-third (34%) 'very' concerned.

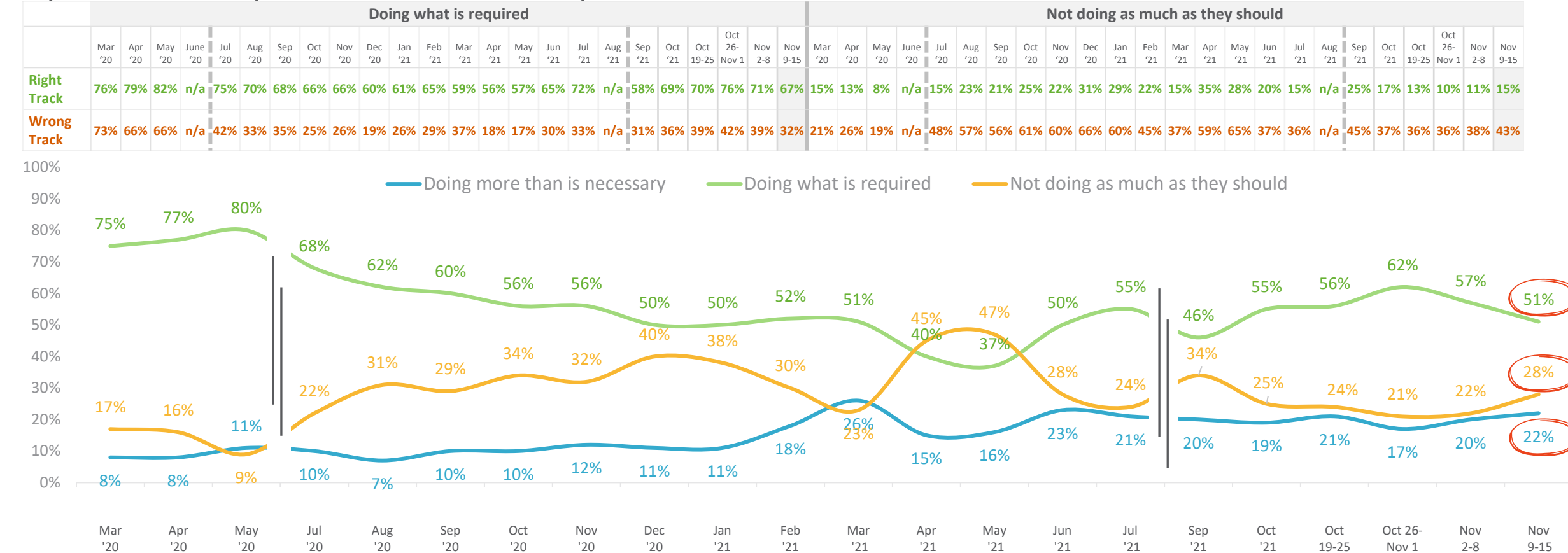
	Jul '21	Aug '21	Sep '21	Oct '21	Oct 19-25	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	varies							
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	61	71	75	68	68	60	55	68
Very concerned	19	30	43	32	22	15	26	34
Somewhat concerned	42	41	32	36	46	45	29	33
Not too concerned	22	16	12	17	22	19	26	17
Not at all concerned	16	12	12	14	10	21	17	13
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	38	28	24	31	31	40	43	30

TAKING ACTION TO DEAL WITH THE 4TH WAVE



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MEASURES

Over the past two weeks, there has been an 11-point decrease to 51% that believe the government is ‘doing what is required’ to reduce the spread of the virus, while three-in-ten (28%) think the government is ‘not doing as much as they should’ – a 7-point increase over the past two weeks.



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 (30%) continues to receive 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	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Making vaccines mandatory	29	34	33	39	33	39	35	27	29	30
Restricting international travel into Canada	23	21	19	13	19	19	23	17	18	19
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	13	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	7	13	10	14	10	11
Lockdowns / closing businesses	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	2	1	1
All of the above	5	7	6	5	10	8	5	5	6	5
No additional action is needed	6	3	9	9	11	5	5	13	13	12
Don't know/unsure	7	4	6	5	4	5	4	5	11	9

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

Base: Total sample

CONFIDENTIAL

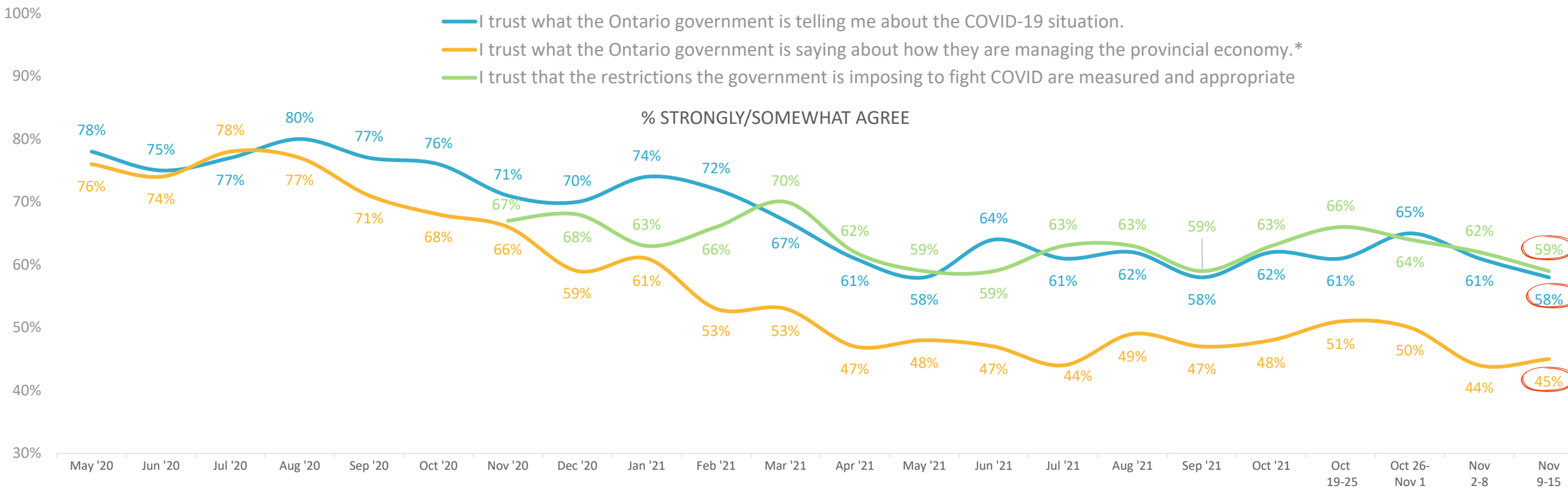
CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



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’ and ‘the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured/appropriate’ both declined again this week.

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



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?

While the majority of Ontarians continue to feel optimistic that the we are over the worst of the pandemic, the proportion that believes this has declined 13-points over the past two weeks to 62%.

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

	Jun '21	Jul '21	Aug '21	Sep '21	Oct '21	Oct 19-25	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	62	74	59	48	58	68	75	69	62
Strongly agree	24	37	27	18	27	31	34	32	25
Somewhat agree	38	38	33	30	32	37	41	37	37
Neither agree nor disagree	8	6	7	8	7	7	5	11	6
Somewhat disagree	17	9	16	18	14	16	8	8	15
Strongly disagree	10	8	15	22	17	8	10	10	13
TOTAL DISAGREE	28	17	31	39	32	24	18	18	28

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

Base: Total sample

VIEWS ON PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES



About two-thirds (64%) of Ontarians report they see people everyday not following the public health guidelines such as physical distancing and mask-wearing.

% 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	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
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	65	64

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

Half (52%) report 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

	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec'20	Apr '21	May '21	Jun '21	Jul '21	Oct 26- Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	varies										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	32	27	34	36	43	45	45	49	44	43	40
Strongly agree	19	14	18	24	24	25	26	26	26	26	24
Somewhat agree	13	12	16	12	19	21	19	23	18	18	15
Neither agree nor disagree	3	5	7	3	6	7	8	11	7	4	6
Somewhat disagree	18	19	15	12	14	16	19	13	17	20	20
Strongly disagree	46	49	44	48	36	30	26	26	32	31	32
TOTAL DISAGREE	64	68	59	60	50	47	46	39	49	52	52

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

There has been an uptick to 87% of Ontarians that say they are wearing a mask or face covering ‘all/most of the time’, with over half (57%) 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	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
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	83	87
All of the time	29	49	55	63	67	71	73	72	57	56	48	51	58	49	53	51	52	55	57
Most of the time	30	28	28	24	21	19	19	19	25	24	36	29	23	33	31	29	30	28	31
Some of the time	23	16	12	9	9	6	6	7	13	14	11	14	13	15	9	13	12	12	9
Rarely	14	7	4	3	3	3	2	2	4	3	5	6	6	3	7	6	4	4	3
Never	3	1	1	1	1	1	<1	<1	2	2	1	1	<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	5	4

	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 2-8	Nov 9-15	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 2-8	Nov 9-15
TOTAL ALL/MO ST OF THE TIME	90%	92%	94%	94%	84%	82%	85%	86%	85%	85%	89%	83%	86%	84%	90%	82%	83%	86%	85%	76%	79%	81%	73%	76%	77%	77%	76%	76%	82%	84%

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

Ontarians are now equally split in their view that public health measures such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places should continue (44%) and that while there is still the need for public health measures, there should be a plan to relax them (44%).

- Few think that there is no need for mask wearing and social distancing.

	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
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	10	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	48	44
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	40	44

LEVEL OF ATTENTION PAID TO NUMBER OF CASES/OTHER STATISTICS ABOUT THE PANDEMIC IN ONTARIO

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.

- One-in-five (21%) report they are paying more attention to the percentage of Ontarians fully vaccinated.

	Paying more attention			About the same			Paying less attention		
	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
The number of daily new cases	12	14	14	39	40	37	48	44	46
The number of daily deaths	10	10	12	36	42	36	53	46	51
The number of people in hospitals	12	15	15	37	39	33	51	43	49
The number of people in intensive care units	14	14	14	36	36	35	49	46	47
Percentage of Ontarians fully vaccinated	24	23	21	40	38	35	34	35	41

COVID-19 VACCINE



Confidence levels that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered has been declining over the past two weeks, down 10-points to 54%.

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	Oct '21	Oct 19-25	Oct 26- Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
varies													
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
52	49	49	58	56	72	70	63	47	52	58	64	61	54
16	18	18	22	20	33	33	24	15	21	28	30	25	18
35	31	31	36	36	39	37	39	32	30	30	33	37	36
6	7	6	6	7	6	6	5	6	6	6	7	5	6
19	20	18	16	16	13	11	15	19	18	21	12	18	20
22	23	24	17	19	7	12	15	25	22	16	16	14	17
41	43	42	34	35	21	23	30	44	40	36	28	33	37

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 about eight-in-ten (77%) indicating they would take it if it was available to them, and intensity is high with 57% being ‘very’ willing.

	Sep 28- Oct 4	Oct 5-11	Oct 12-18	Oct 19-25	Oct 26- Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL WILLING	79	82	79	85	79	80	77
Very willing	54	69	61	69	60	58	57
Somewhat willing	25	14	18	16	19	22	20
Not too willing	7	6	9	6	8	8	10
Not at all willing	9	7	10	6	9	7	10
TOTAL NOT WILLING	16	14	19	12	17	15	20
I have already had my booster dose	2	1	1	2	3	3	2
Don't know/not sure	4	3	2	1	1	2	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 that they believe that it is not necessary (19%) or that they already have two doses and that is enough (19%).

	Sep 28-Oct 11	Oct 5-18	Oct 12-25	Oct 19-Nov 1	Oct 26-Nov 8	Nov 2-15
n=	69	84	73	60	69	76
%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Not necessary	28	13	8	17	22	19
I already got two doses (that is enough)	-	10	19	13	10	19
Research/need more information	11	11	9	17	20	10
Do not trust the government	6	5	3	2	4	7
How many boosters are going to be needed (e.g., every six months)	10	4	3	8	10	6
I got sick when taking previous doses of the COVID-19 vaccine	-	10	7	4	2	6
Not confident in the effectiveness of the vaccine	-	2	10	14	5	5
I never wanted to get the first two doses/was forced to get first two doses (e.g., work)	-	6	4	7	5	4
Already had COVID and dealt with it/survived	-	-	-	-	-	4
They originally said two doses were enough (and were wrong)	13	8	5	8	9	3
Concerned about long term effects	9	5	4	5	4	3
Too soon/need a longer gap in between doses	-	8	6	4	3	3
Concerned about too much vaccine in the body	3	-	16	2	2	2
Just a ploy to give money to big pharma	-	1	1	1	1	2
I am not high risk/my exposure is low	10	6	8	5	4	1
Heard negative things about the vaccine (e.g., in the media)	-	2	3	1	1	1
They should focus on getting everyone vaccinated with the first two doses	-	4	6	7	4	-
Other	18	18	6	8	7	12
Don't know/not sure	1	5	8	2	9	11

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 (79%) 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	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	varies				
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	81	80	82	81	79
No	18	20	17	19	21

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

There appears to be an increase in concern about the possibility of fully vaccinated people contracting COVID-19, with a 10-point increase this week to 59% being ‘concerned’.

	Oct 12-18	Oct 19-25	Oct 26- Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	varies				
	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	53	55	55	49	59
Very concerned	12	16	19	15	18
Somewhat concerned	41	39	36	34	41
Not too concerned	29	31	30	35	29
Not at all concerned	16	14	14	15	12
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	46	45	45	50	40

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

However, Ontarians continue to be split in their level of concern that they personally will contract COVID-19 although fully vaccinated, with 50% ‘concerned’ and 49% ‘not concerned’.

	Oct 21-25	Oct 26- Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies			
	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	49	47	47	50
Very concerned	10	13	15	12
Somewhat concerned	39	34	32	38
Not too concerned	39	37	36	33
Not at all concerned	13	16	17	16
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	51	53	53	49

INFLATION/COST OF LIVING



Ontarians are aware of increasing inflation or cost of living expenses, with almost nine-in-ten (88%) saying they have seen, read or heard about it in the last few weeks. And, intensity is high with 70% reporting they have seen/read/heard ‘a lot’.

	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
A LOT/SOMETHING	89	87	88
A lot	69	70	70
Something	20	17	17
Not too much	7	7	6
Nothing at all	5	4	6
NOT TOO MUCH/NOTHING AT ALL	11	11	12

LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT INFLATION

There is a high level of concern about inflation increasing the cost of basic living expenses, with 90% concerned and 64% ‘very’ concerned.

	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	91	90	90
Very concerned	67	62	64
Somewhat concerned	24	27	27
Not too concerned	7	7	6
Not at all concerned	2	2	3
NOT TOO/NOT AT ALL CONCERNED	9	9	9

Half (51%) 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	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	49	44	51
Strongly agree	27	26	25
Somewhat agree	22	18	26
Somewhat disagree	20	18	23
Strongly disagree	27	32	25
TOTAL DISAGREE	47	50	48

And, presently, four-in-ten (41%) Ontarians say they are having a very hard time making ends meet.

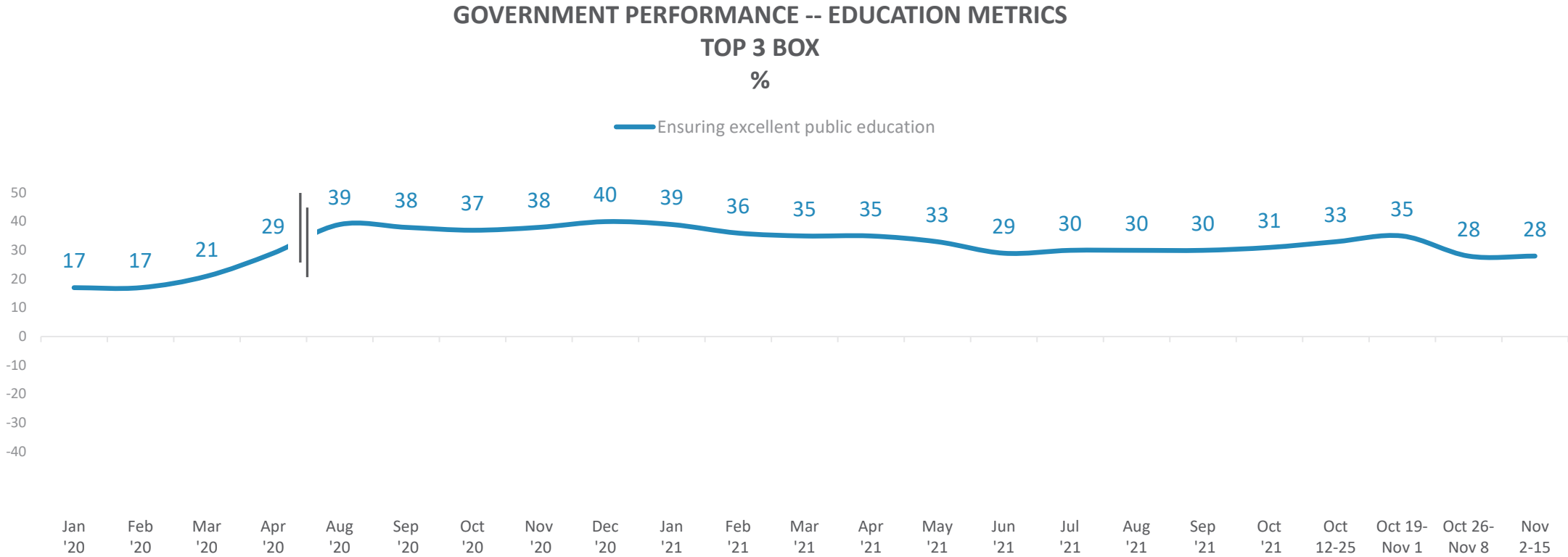
I am having a very hard time making ends meet.

	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	41	33	41
Strongly agree	20	17	18
Somewhat agree	21	16	23
Somewhat disagree	26	25	26
Strongly disagree	30	37	30
TOTAL DISAGREE	56	62	56

APPENDIX – PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

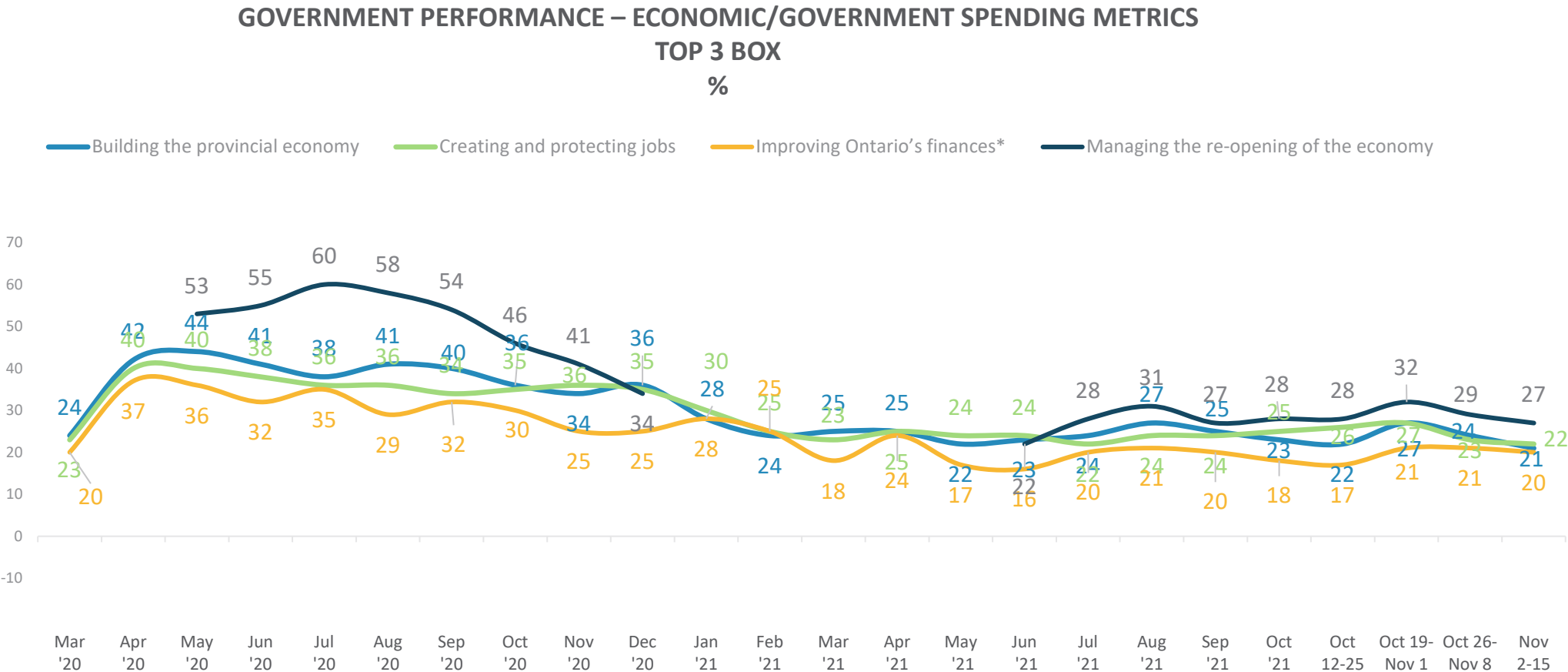


Positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ remained steady this week.



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 ‘building the provincial economy’ declined slightly while the other economic and government spending metrics were steady.

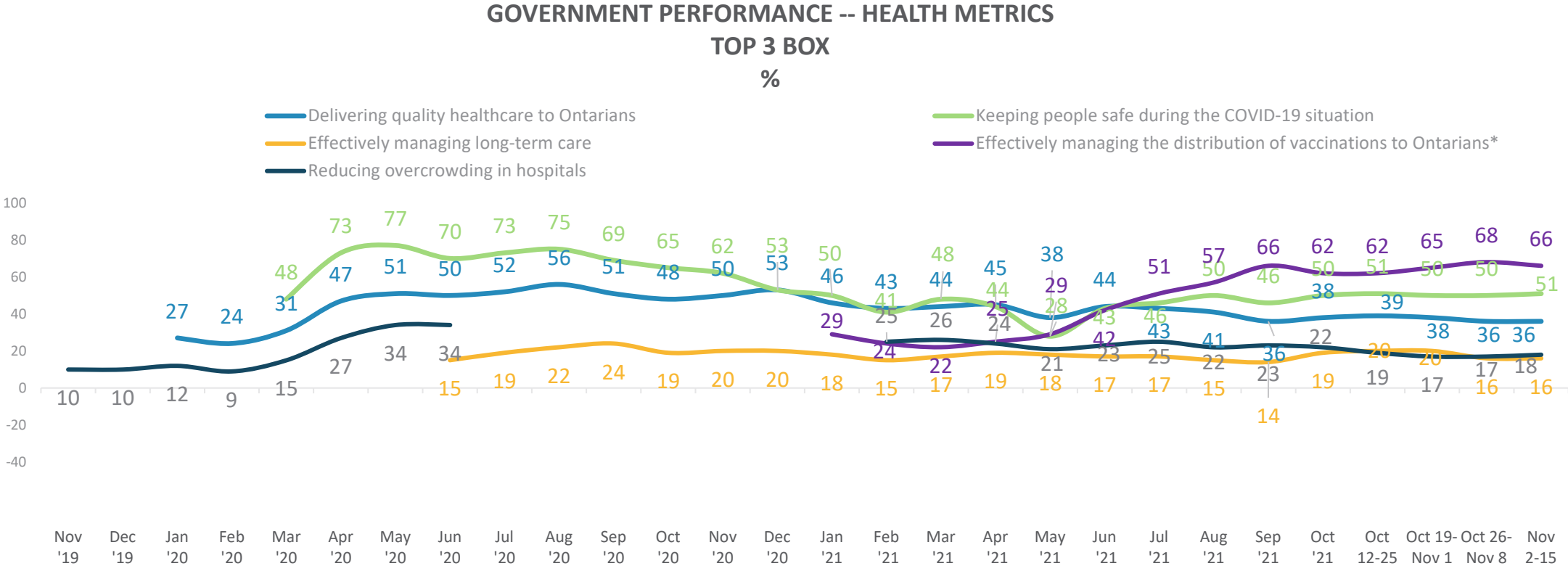


Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

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

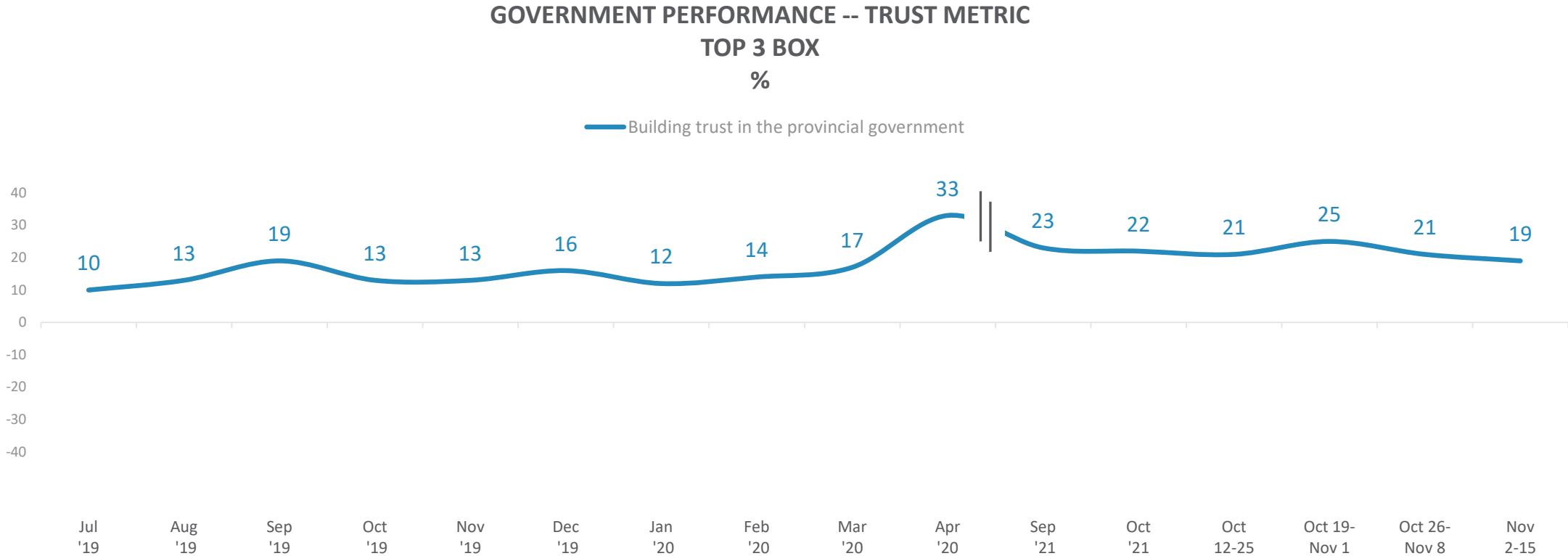
Bases vary

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



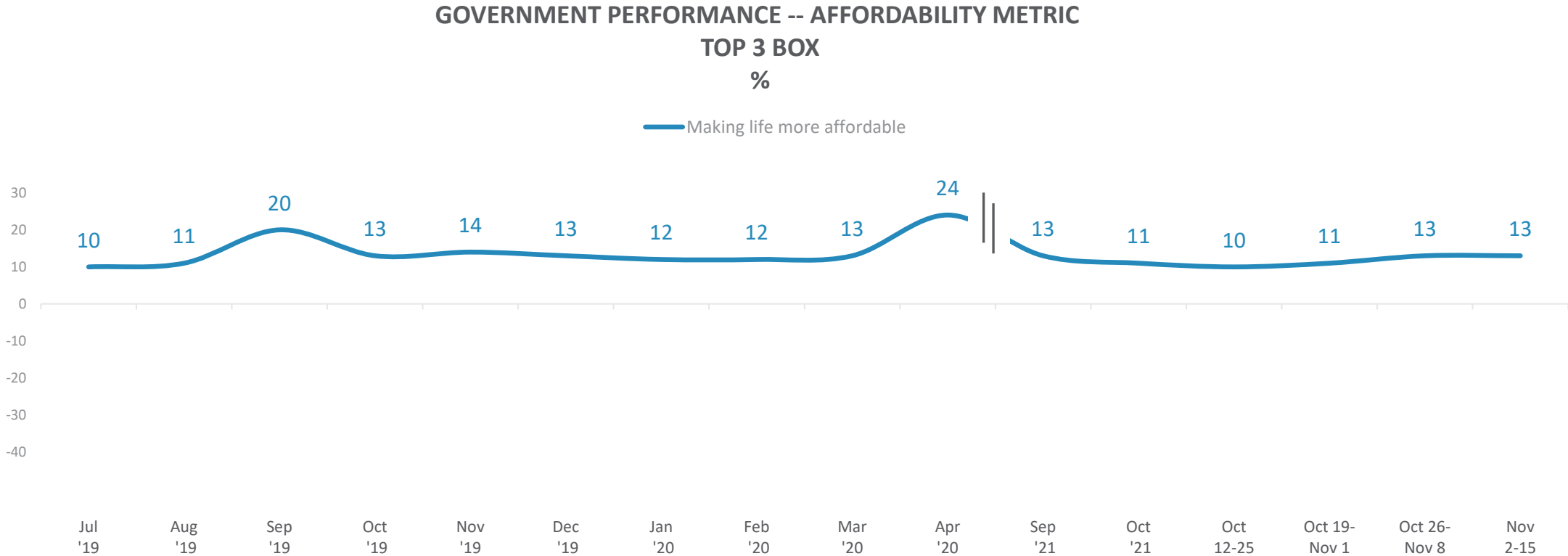
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

The rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’ declined again and is down 6-points 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

The positive rating of the Ontario government’s performance for ‘making life more affordable’ 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