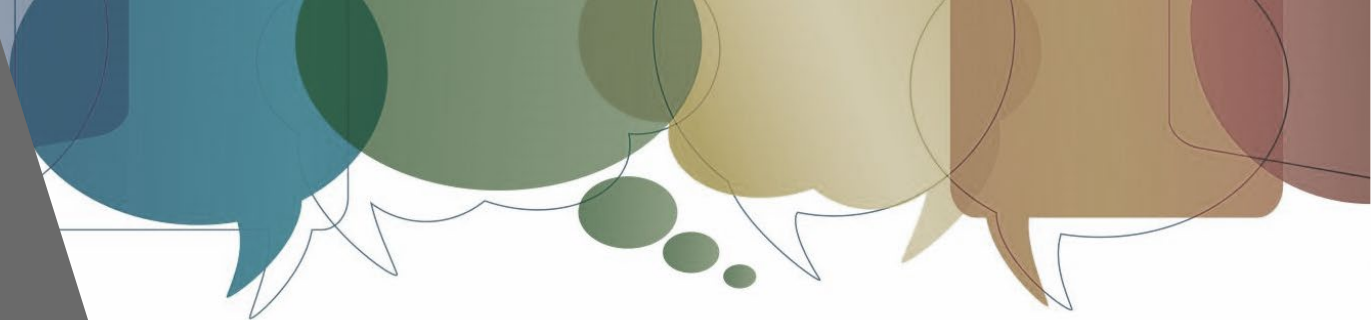




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PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #110

CABINET OFFICE
December 7th 2021



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 For the third week, 'right track' has continued to trend upwards and is now at 62% which represents a 6-point increase over the three week period.

This increase in 'right track' is primarily driven by women, the Toronto suburbs, people who identify as a minority, and those born outside of Canada.

3 In conjunction with this increasing level of concern, there was a slight decline this week to 54% that believe the government is 'doing what is required' to reduce the spread of the virus. Of note, there was also an 8-point increase to 32% saying they are 'not doing as much as they should'.

That said, similar to results concerning the fourth wave, early results indicate that three-quarters (74%) of Ontarians feel that the government is prepared to handle a fifth wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly.

As well, the rating of the government's performance for 'effectively managing the distribution of vaccinations' was up 7-points over the past two weeks. There was also a 9-point increase this week for 'keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation'.

2 With case numbers increasing in the province, and the new COVID-19 variant Omicron, there is a rising level of apprehension about COVID-19 among Ontarians.

Preliminary results indicate that seven-in-ten (71%) Ontarians are concerned about Ontario experiencing a fifth wave of the pandemic. And, four-in-ten (38%) report their level of concern over COVID-19 has increased over the last week.

In addition, there was a further 10-point drop this week to half (50%) who feel optimistic that we are over the worst of the pandemic, while confidence levels that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered declined again this week to 42% and is now down 15-points since mid-November.

4 With this rising concern, there appears to be a shift regarding public health measures. Nine-in-ten (91%) Ontarians support the need for public health measures. This week, 63% (up 21-points over the past two weeks) want public health measures such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places to continue. In contrast, 28% (down 18-points in the last two weeks) say there should be a plan to relax them.

This week, there was an increase to fully 90% of Ontarians who say they are wearing a mask or face covering 'all/most of the time', with two-thirds (65%) reporting they are wearing a mask 'all of the time'.

As well, Ontarians report they are paying more attention to the daily number of cases and other statistics about the pandemic in Ontario.

Key Findings

5 Ontarians are willing to receive a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine with 78% indicating they would take it if it was available to them, and intensity is high with 66% being 'very' willing.

Probably reflecting the increased concern about the 5th wave and the new variant, there appears to be a considerable appetite for the third dose. Early results indicate that if a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine was made available today to all Ontarians over the age of 18, 60% would get it as soon as it was made available to them. And, a further 21% would get it within a month of being available to them.

7 Importantly, rating of the government's performance for 'creating and protecting jobs' saw a 12-point increase this week, while 'improving Ontario's finances' was up 7-points (although remaining in negative territory). There was also a 4-point improvement measured for 'managing the re-opening of the economy'.

And, while still in negative territory, rating of the government's performance for 'building trust in the provincial government' improved 13-points over the past two weeks.

6 The increasing concern about COVID-19 continues to impact Ontarians' views on what the government's focus should be.

This week, less than half (45%) of Ontarians believe the Ontario government should focus on economic issues surrounding COVID-19, a decline of 8-points in the last two weeks. This compares to 39% who believe the focus should be on health-related issues.

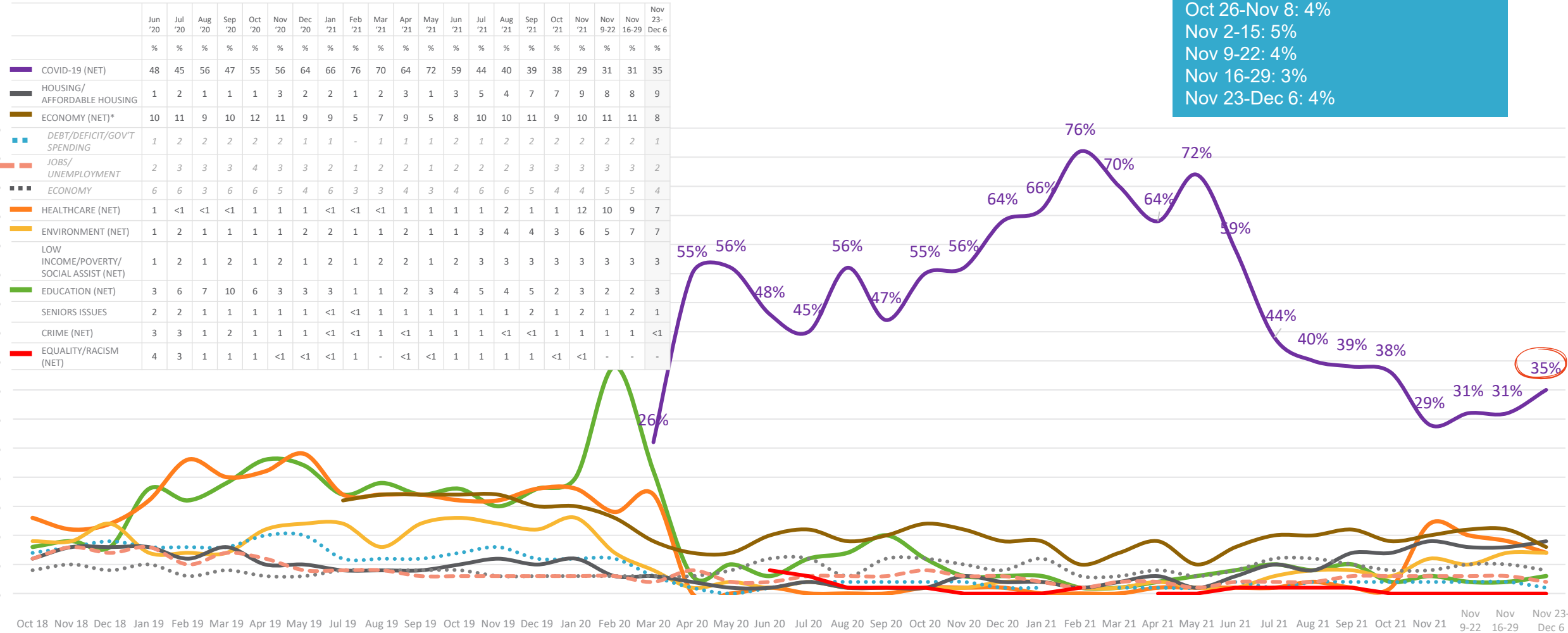
8 As well, rating of the government's performance for 'ensuring excellent public education' continued to trend upward this week with an increase of 8-points (and up 14-points over the past two weeks).

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



COVID-19 as the government’s top priority has continued to increase this week to 35%, while 9% cite affordable housing, 8% the economy, and 7% for both healthcare and the environment.

‘Cost of living/inflation’ is beginning to register as a priority:
Oct 26-Nov 8: 4%
Nov 2-15: 5%
Nov 9-22: 4%
Nov 16-29: 3%
Nov 23-Dec 6: 4%



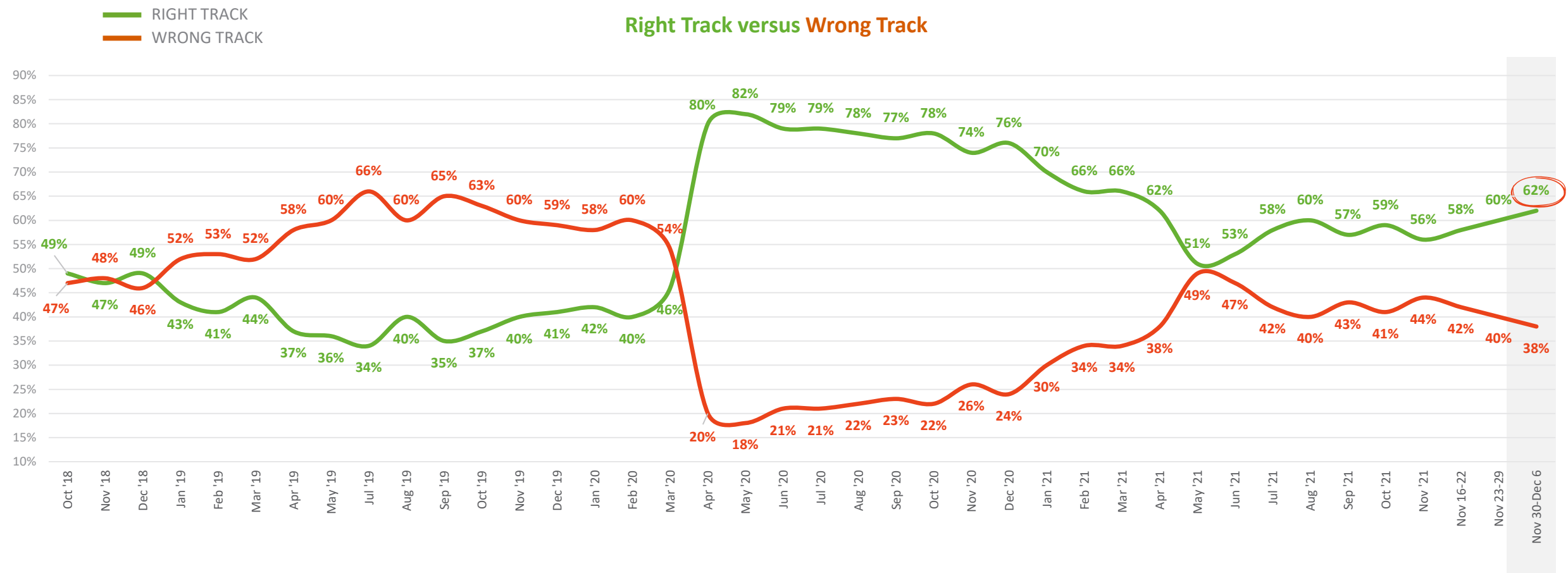
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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

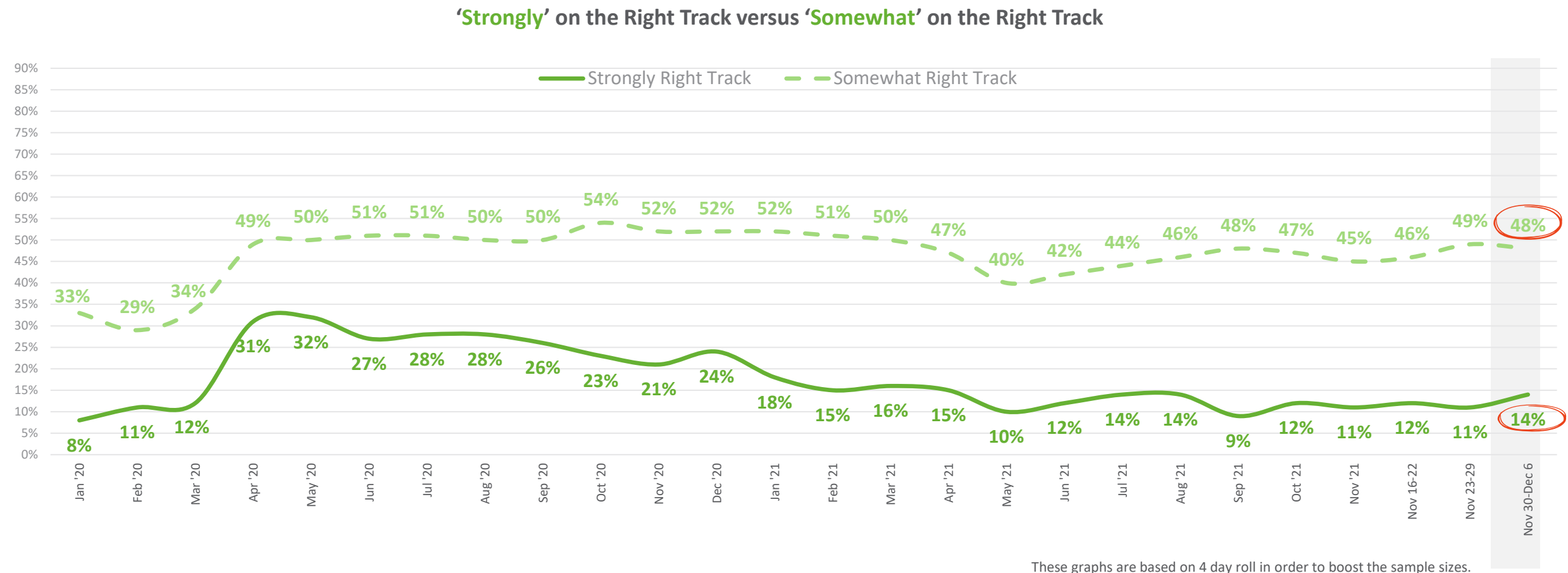


For the third week, 'right track' has continued to trend upwards and is now at 62%.



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

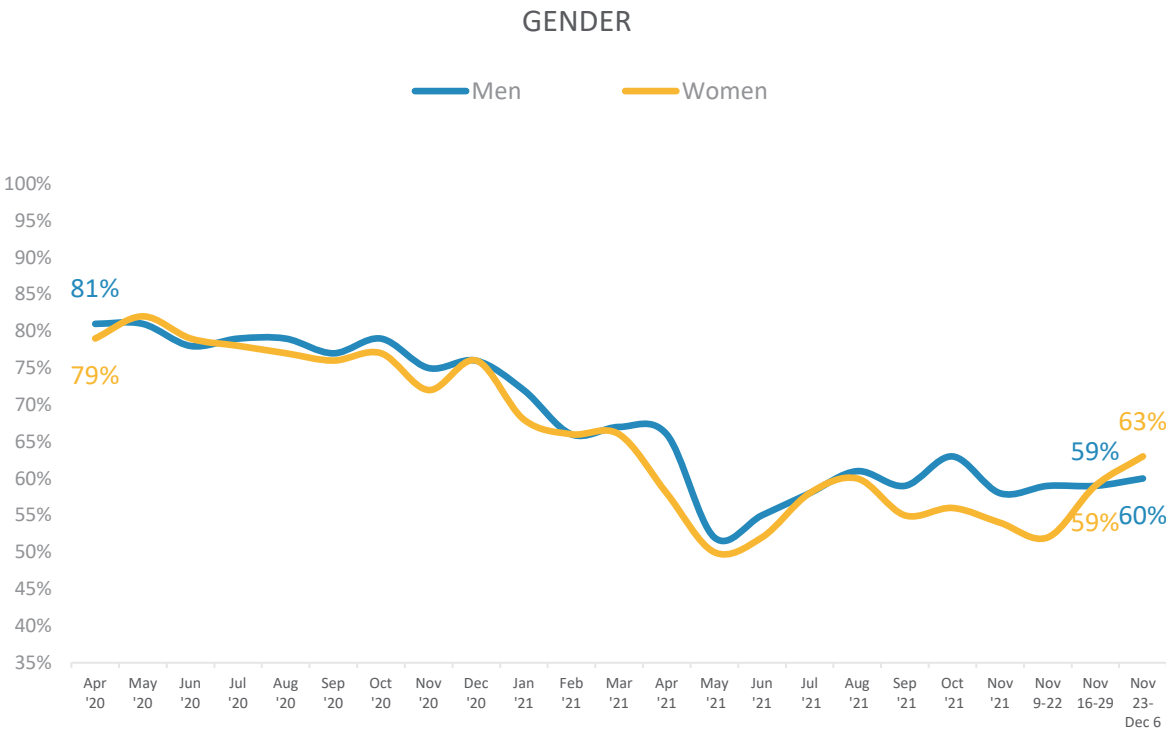
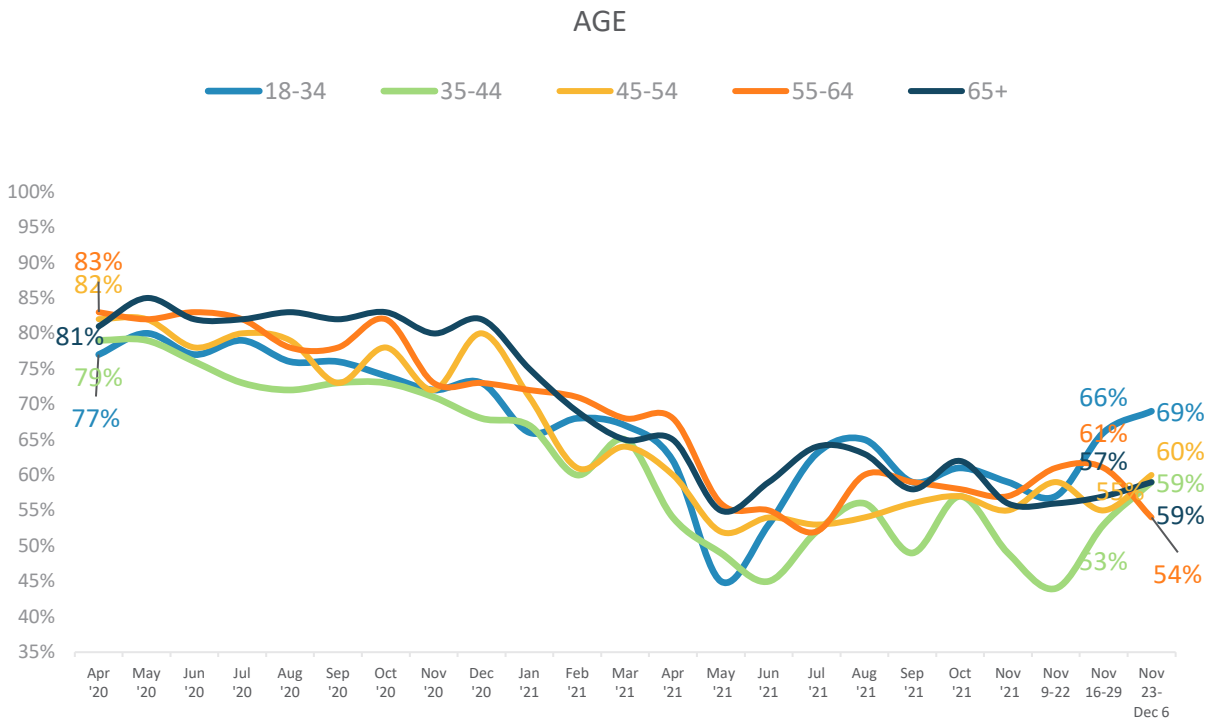
Over the past three weeks, there have been improvements in both ‘strongly on the right track’ and ‘somewhat on the right track’.



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

‘Right track’ by age remains highest among those age 18-34, while there is parity among the ages 35-54 and 65+. Ontarians aged 55-64 provide the lowest ‘right track’ scores this week. After lagging for several weeks, women now provide higher ‘right track’ scores than do men.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

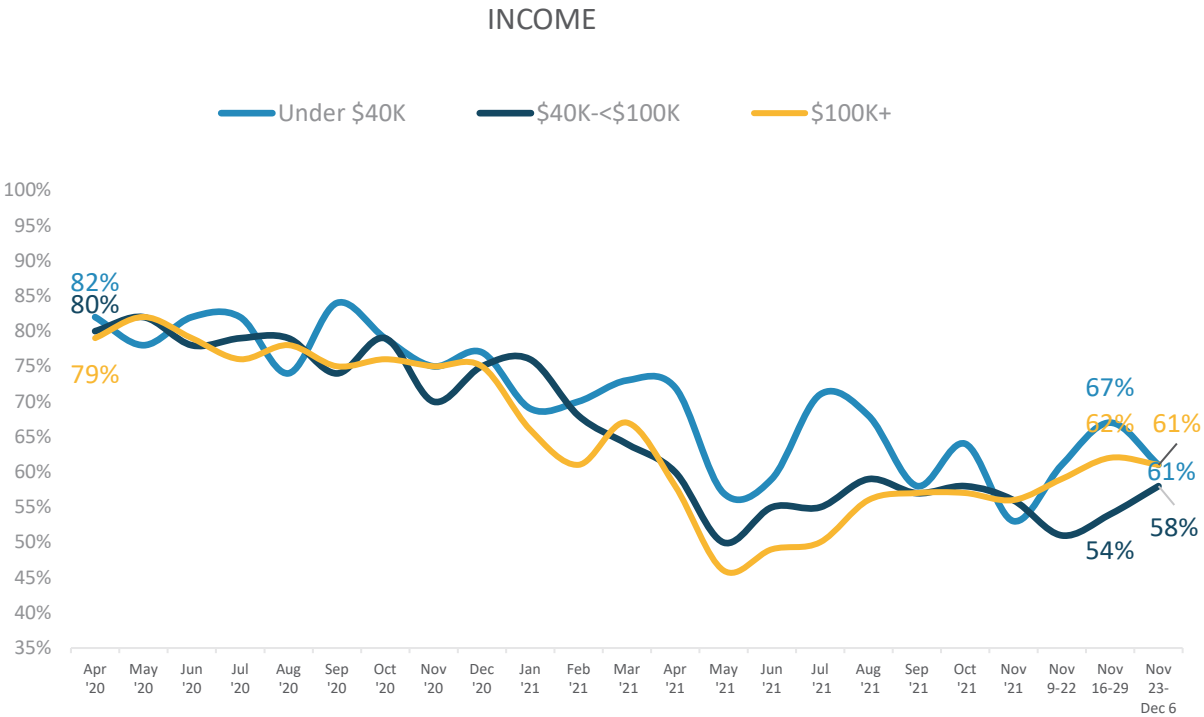
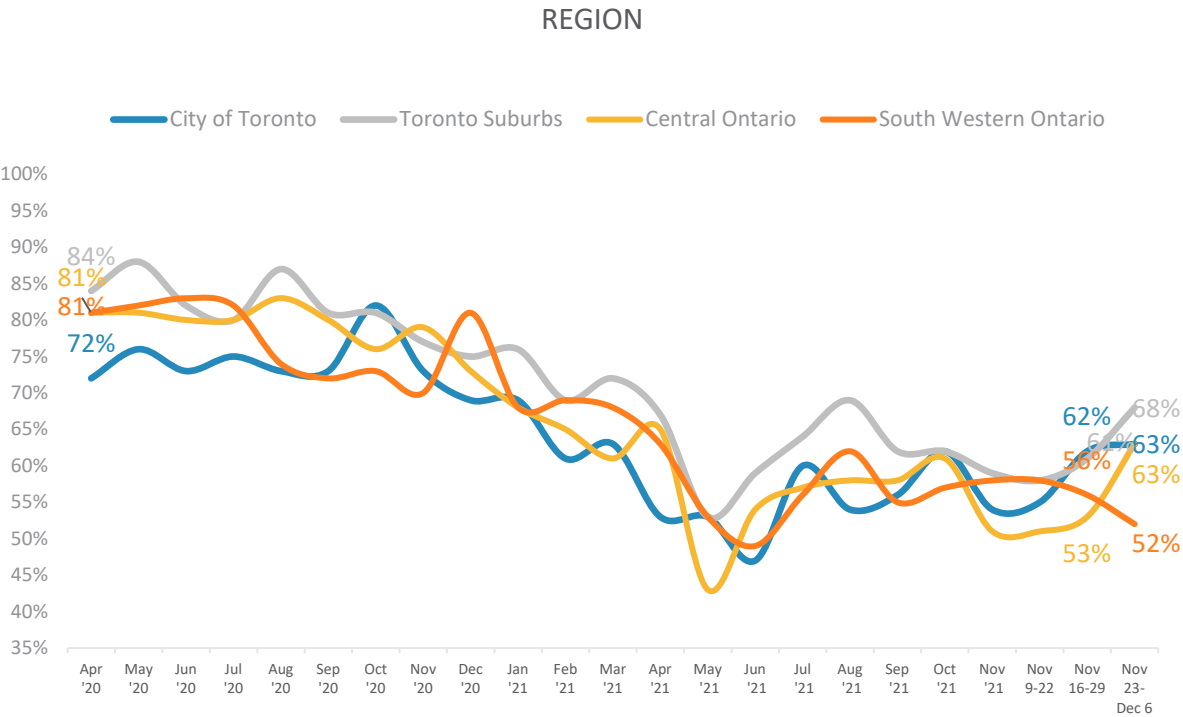


These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

Regionally, there were increases in ‘right track’ measured in both the Toronto suburbs and central Ontario this week while declines continued in SW Ontario. The city of Toronto remained relatively unchanged. By income, ‘right track’ is at parity for all income brackets.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



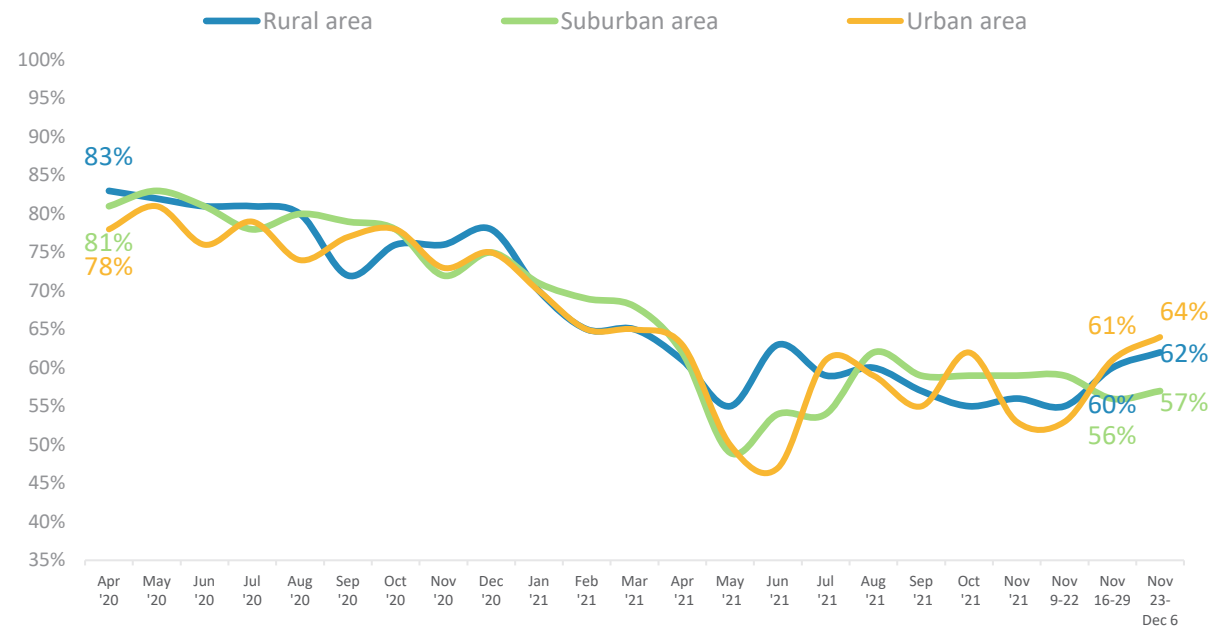
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

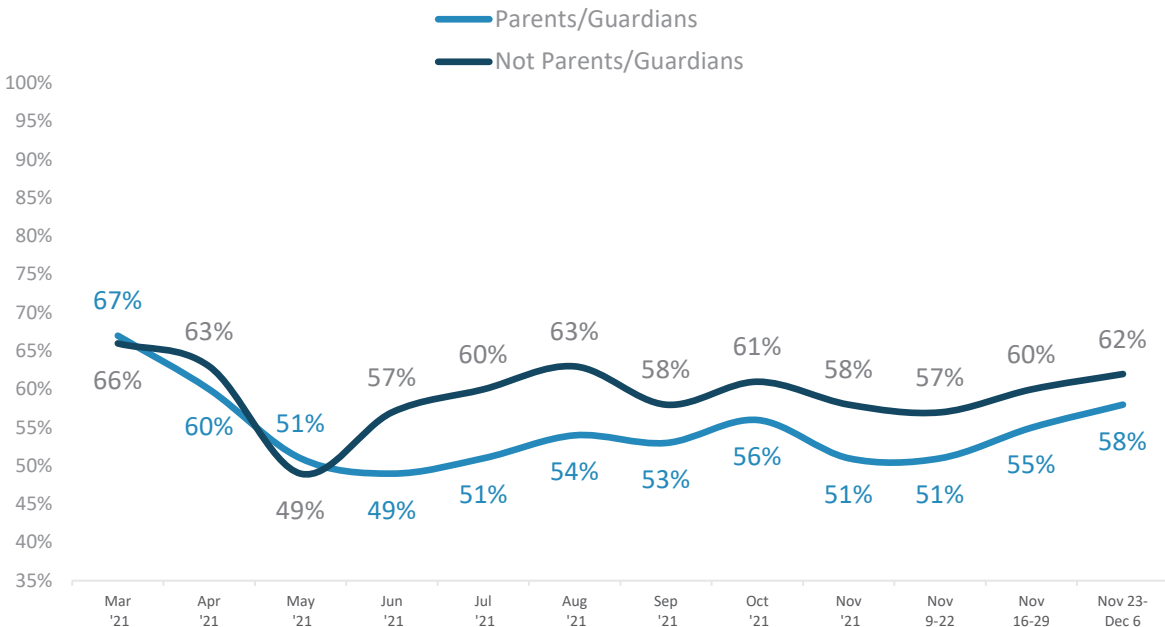
‘Right track’ has continued to increase in both urban and rural areas while results for suburban areas remained stable this week.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS



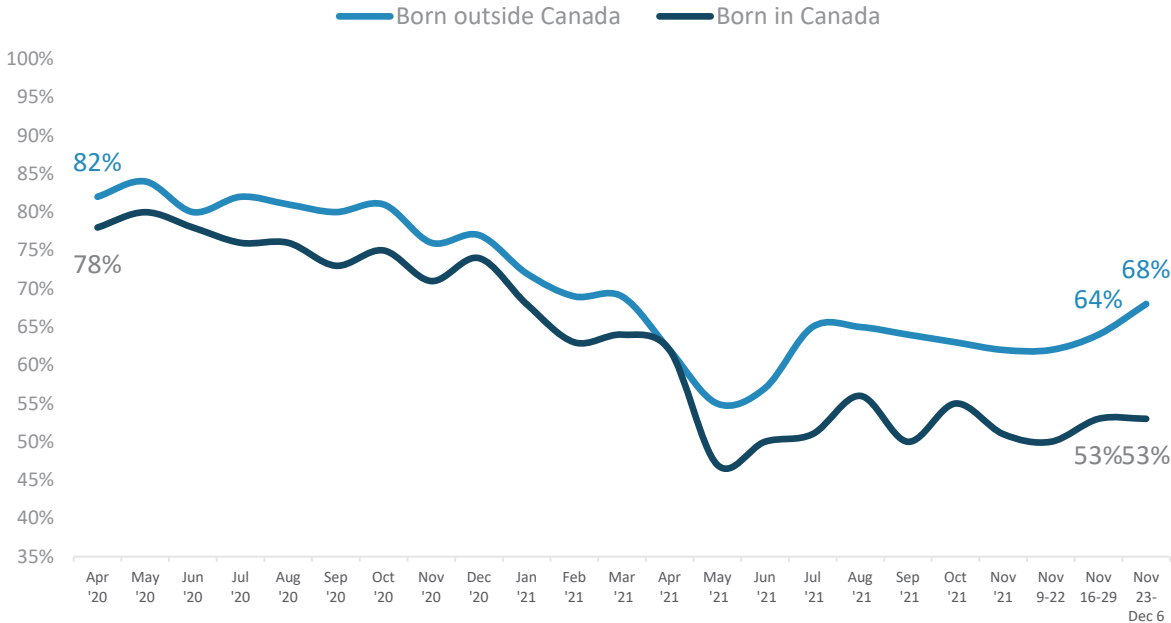
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

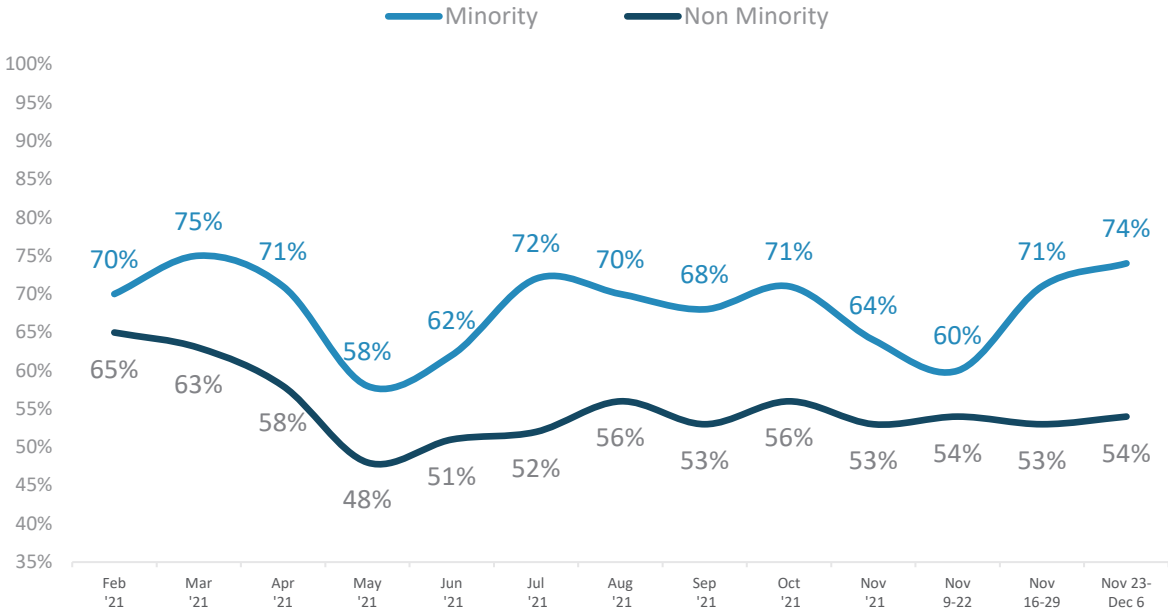
There were increases in ‘right track’ again this week among Ontarians born outside of Canada and among minorities. Scores remained steady among those born in Canada and non-minorities.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



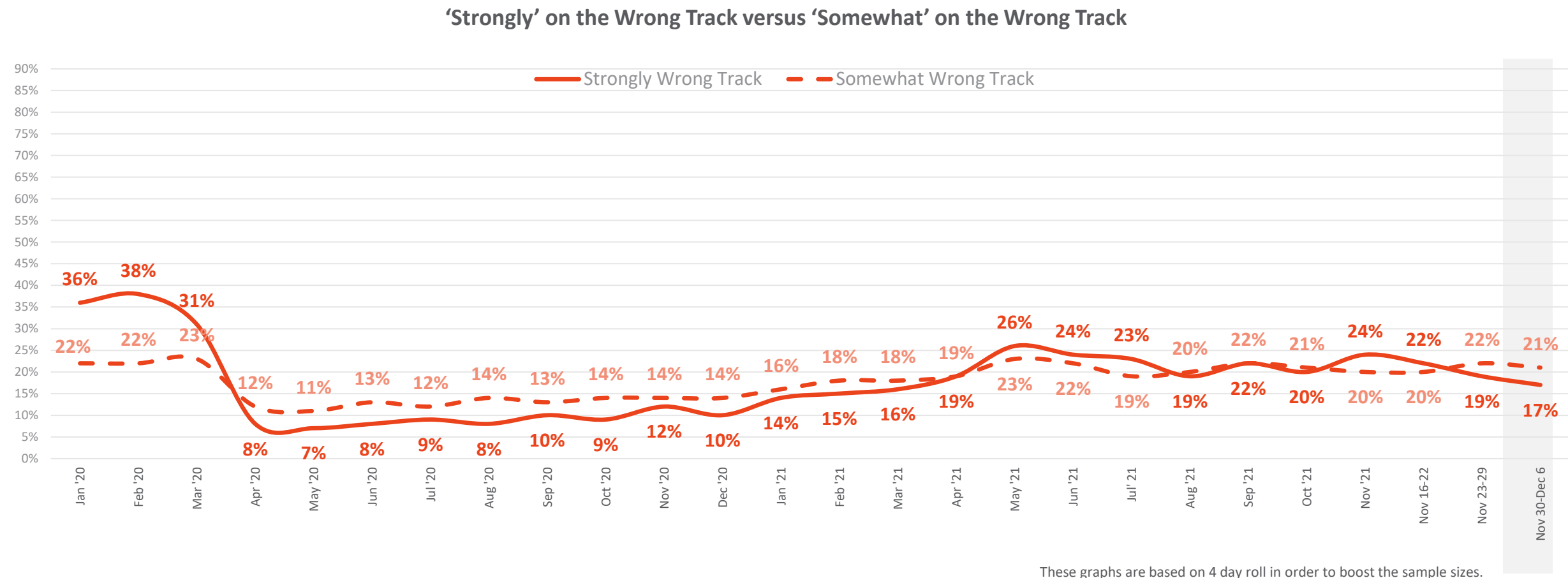
MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



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

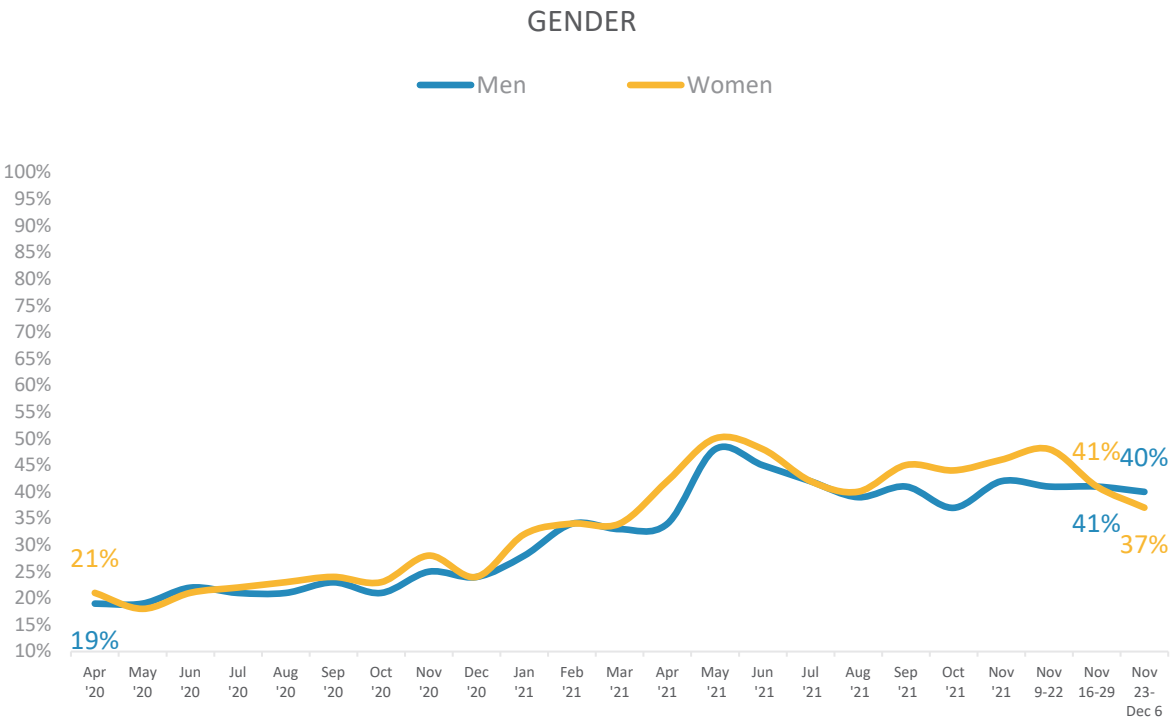
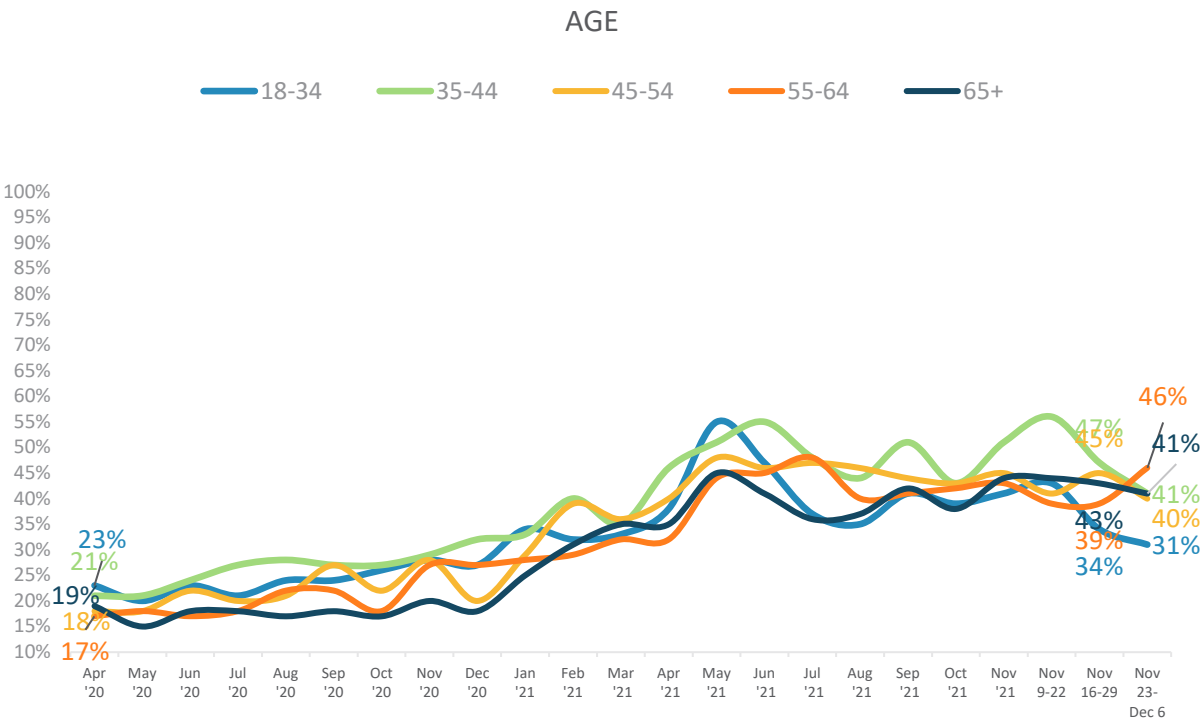
The proportion who believe the government is ‘strongly on the wrong track’ has declined 5-points over the past two weeks.



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’ is now highest among Ontarians aged 55-64 and remains lowest among 18-34 year olds. With declines measured among women this week, ‘wrong track’ is now higher among men.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



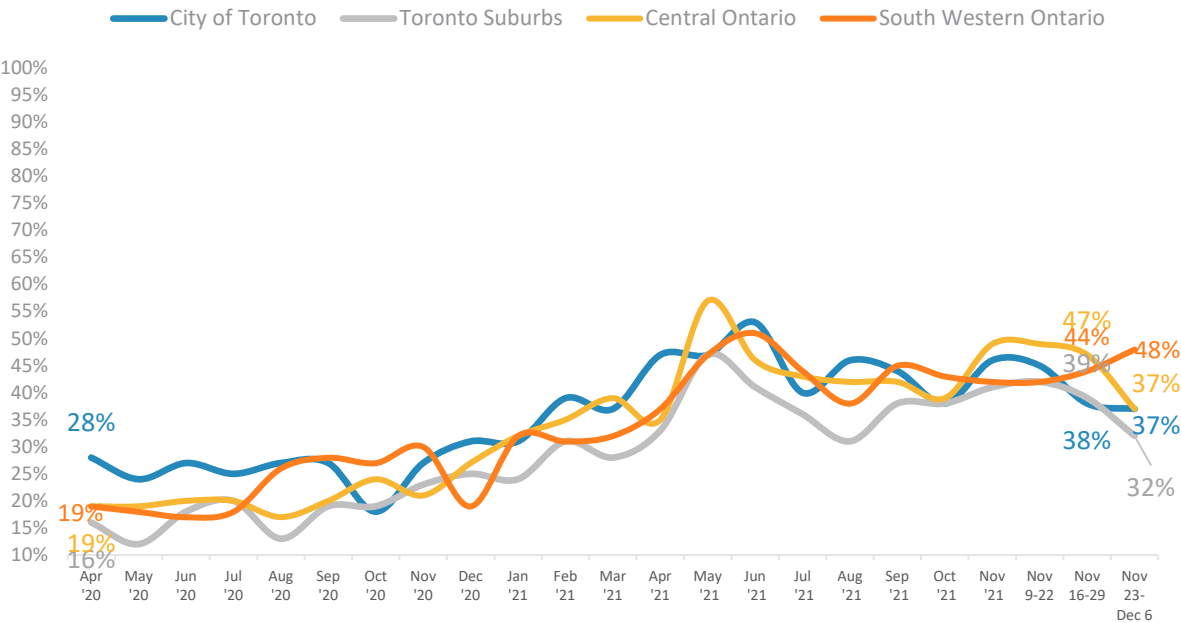
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

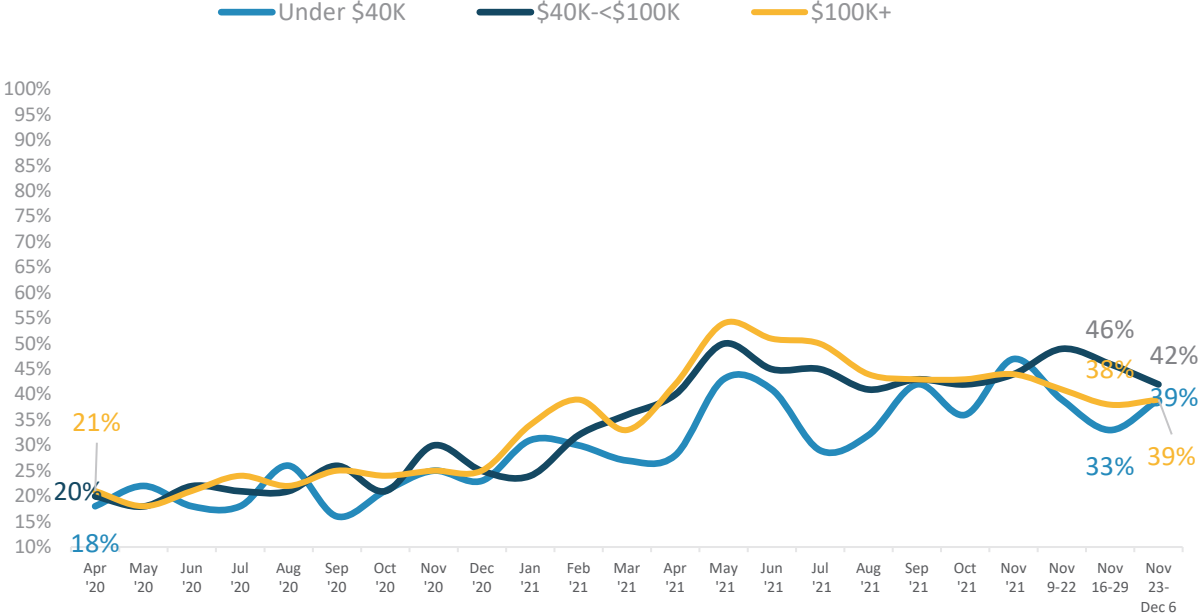
Regionally, there were declines in ‘wrong track’ in both the Toronto suburbs and central Ontario, while results in the city of Toronto remained stable. However, with increases this week, ‘wrong track’ is now highest in SW Ontario. By income, ‘wrong track’ is at parity all income brackets.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

REGION



INCOME



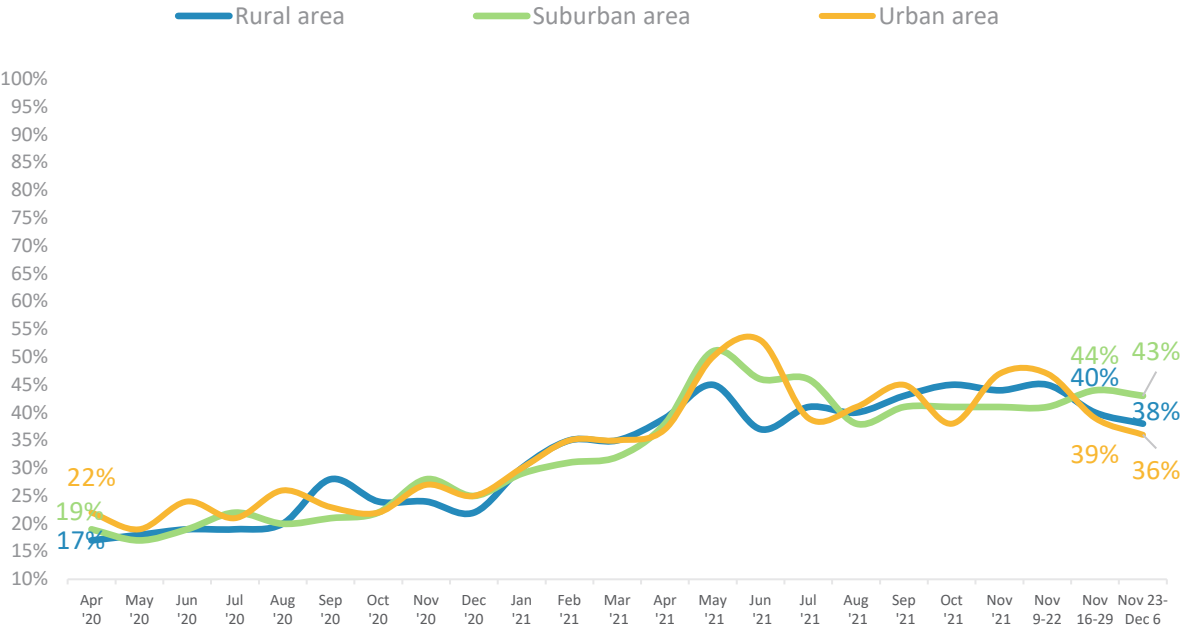
These graphs are based on 5 day roll in order to boost the sample sizes.

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

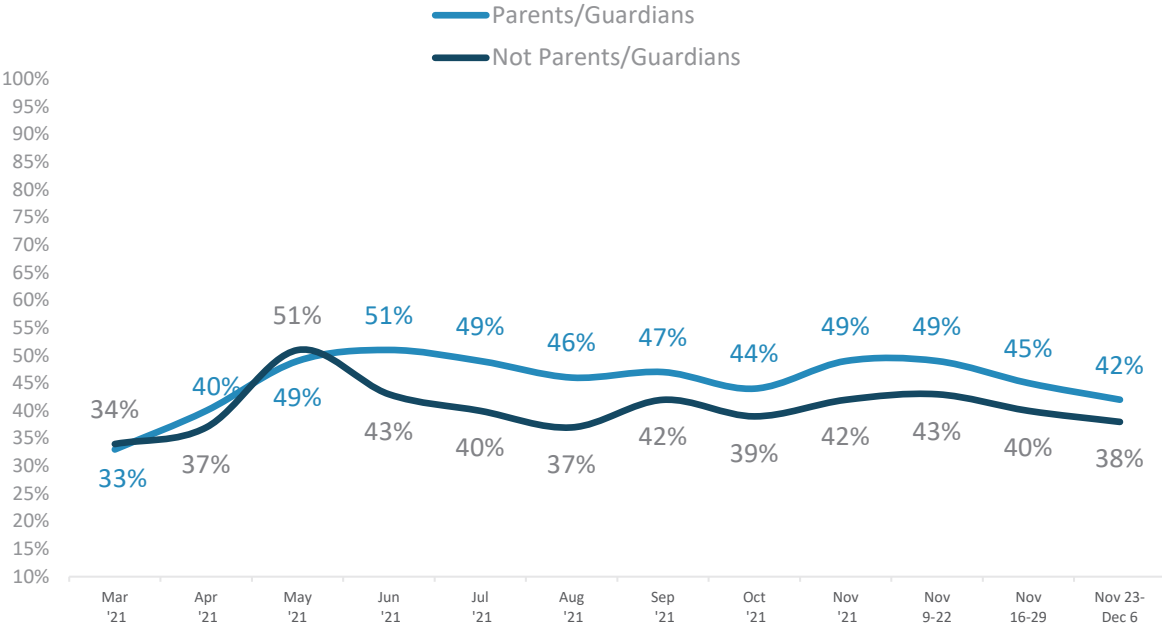
‘Wrong track’ has continued to trend down in both urban and rural areas, while results were stable in suburban areas.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

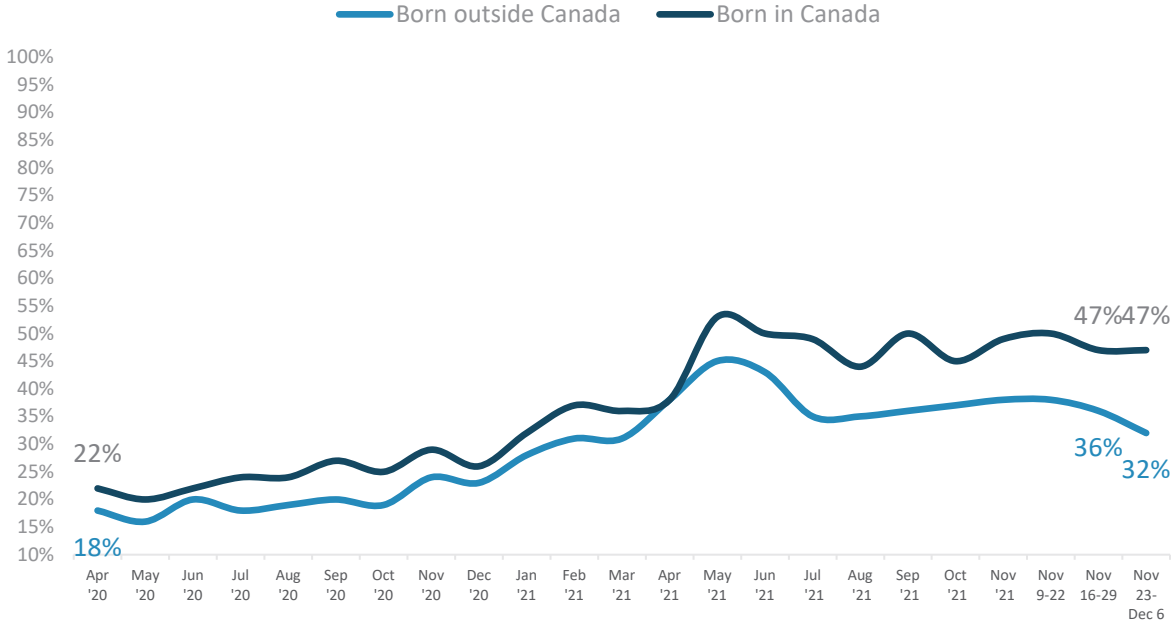


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

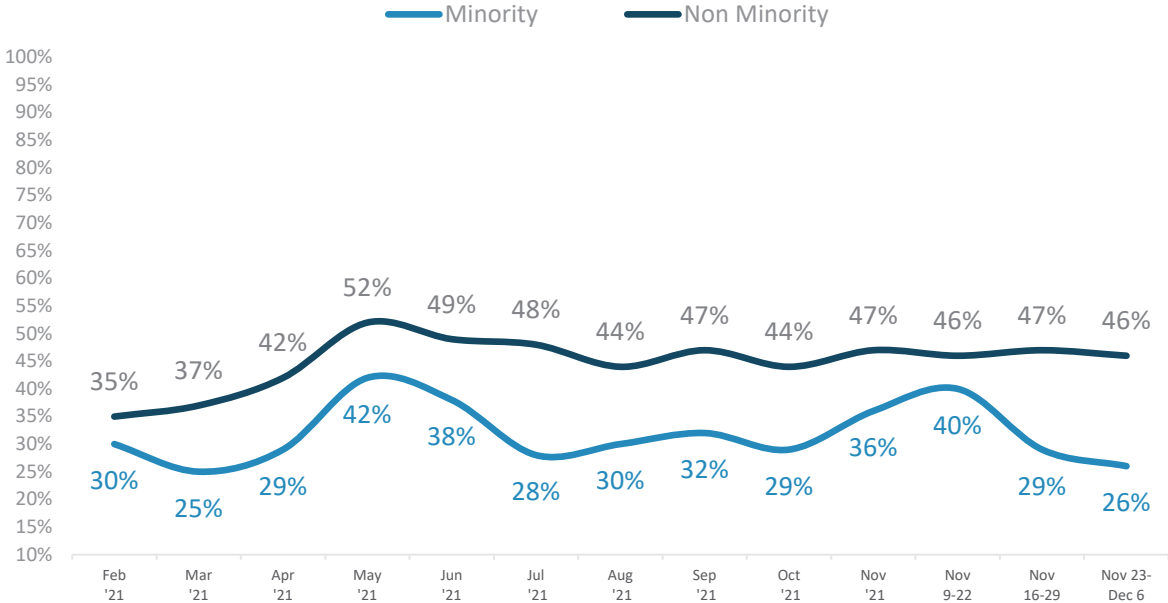
‘Wrong track’ declined this week among those born outside of Canada and among minorities. Results were stable among those born in Canada and among non-minorities.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



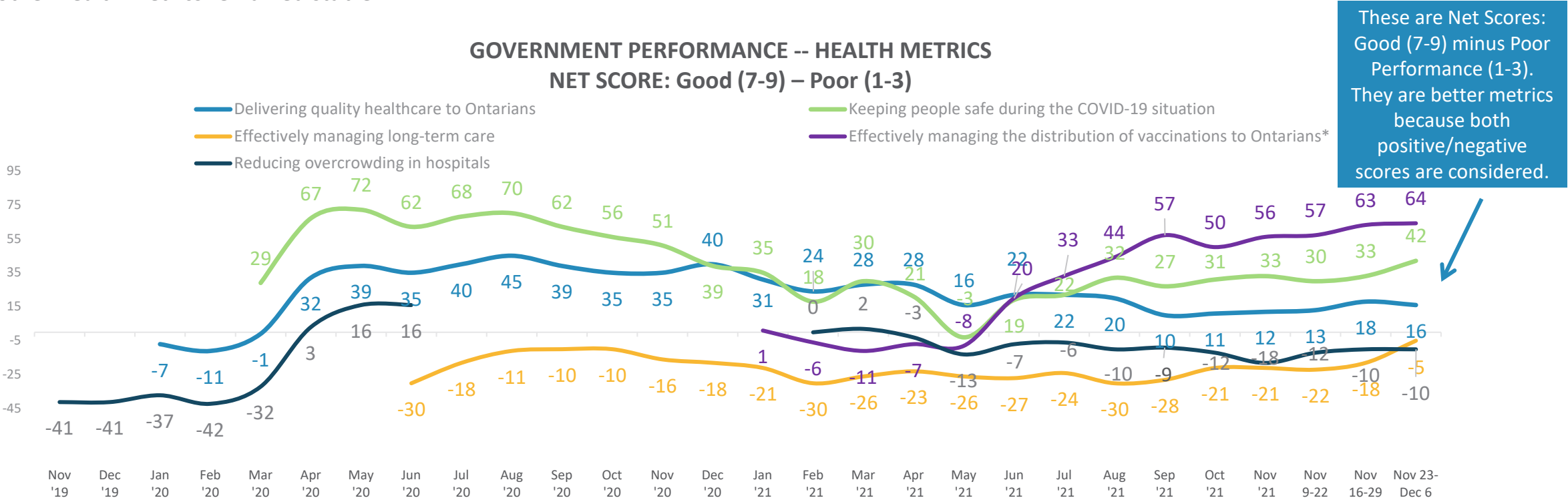
Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



The rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing the distribution of vaccinations’ was up 7-points over the past two weeks and is at the highest point since tracking began. There was also a 9-point increase this week for ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’.

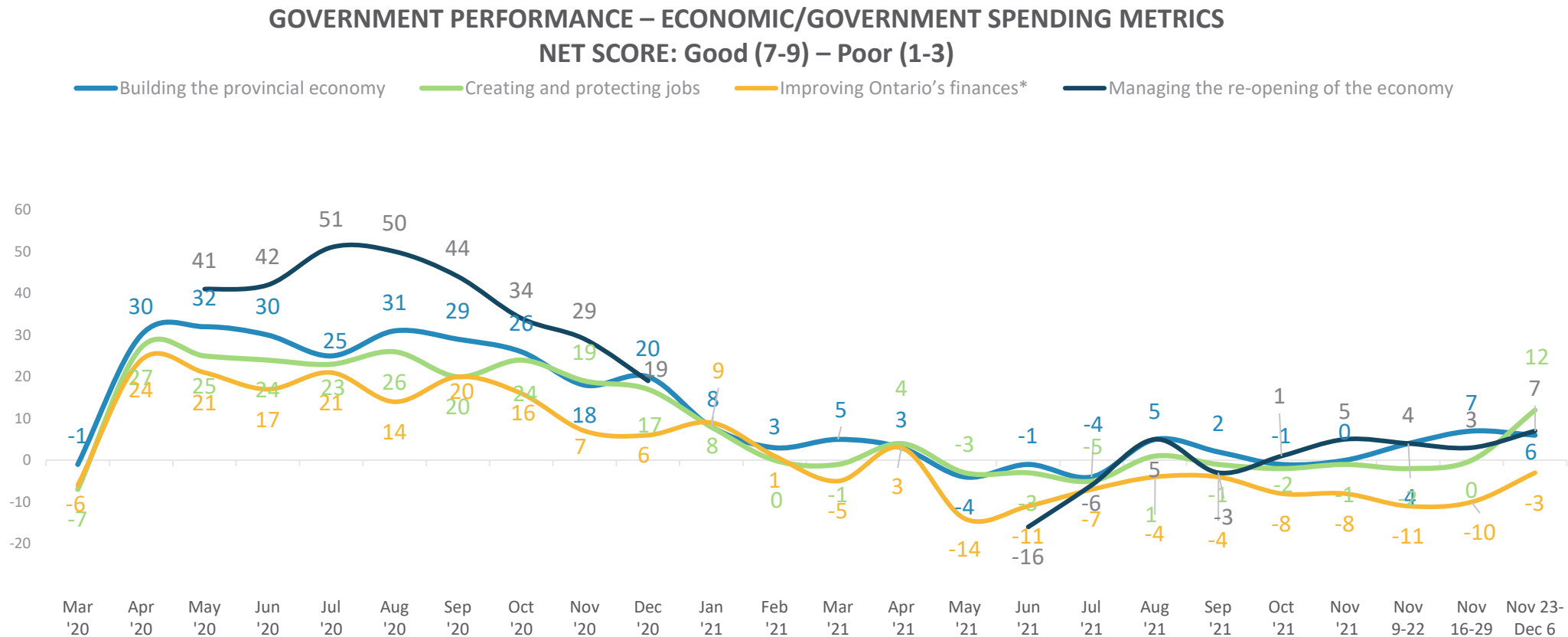
- An improvement was also measured for ‘effectively managing long-term care’ (up 13-points this week) now with the highest rating since tracking began.
- The other health metrics remained stable.



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

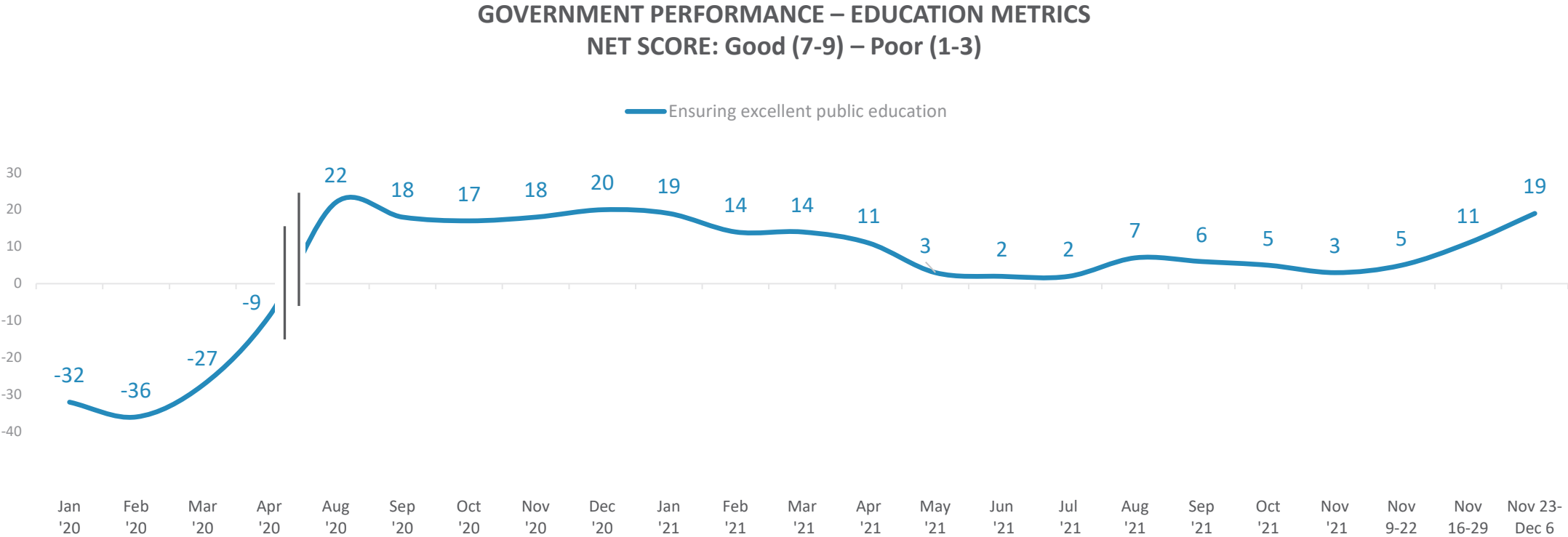
PERCEIVED ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE – ECONOMIC/GOVERNMENT SPENDING METRICS

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘creating and protecting jobs’ saw a 12-point increase this week, while ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ was up 7-points (although remaining in negative territory). There was also a 4-point improvement measured for ‘managing the re-opening of the economy’.



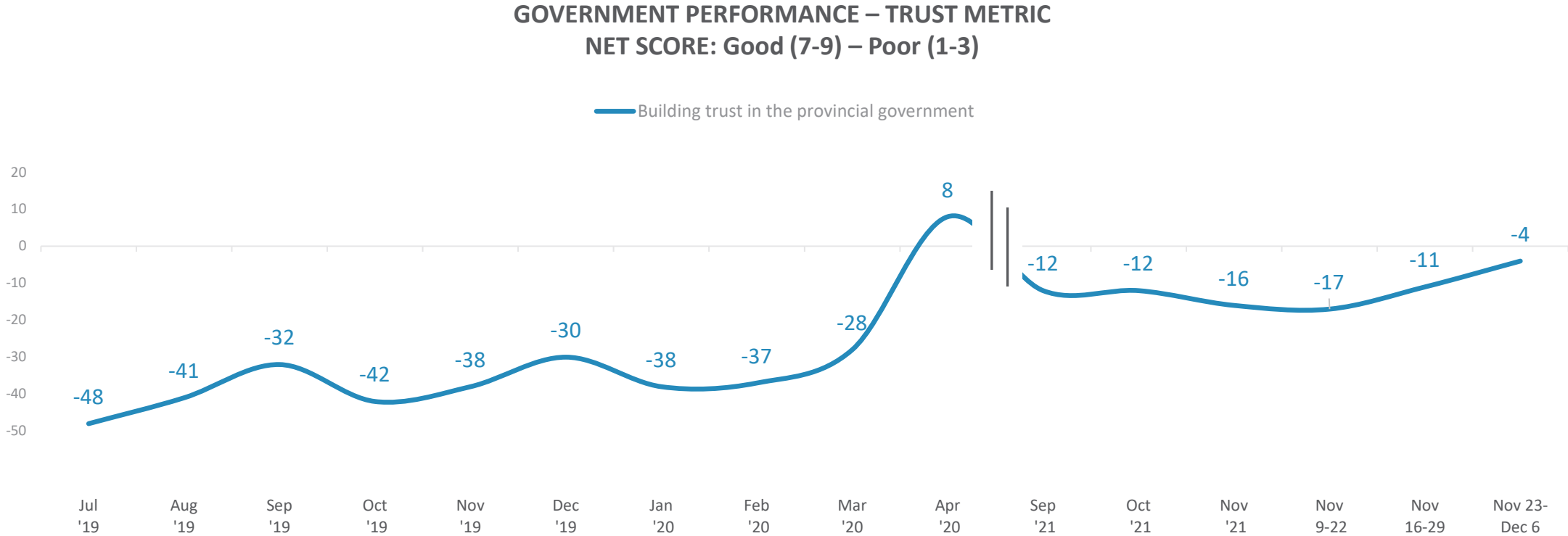
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘ensuring excellent public education’ continued to trend upward this week with an increase of 8-points.



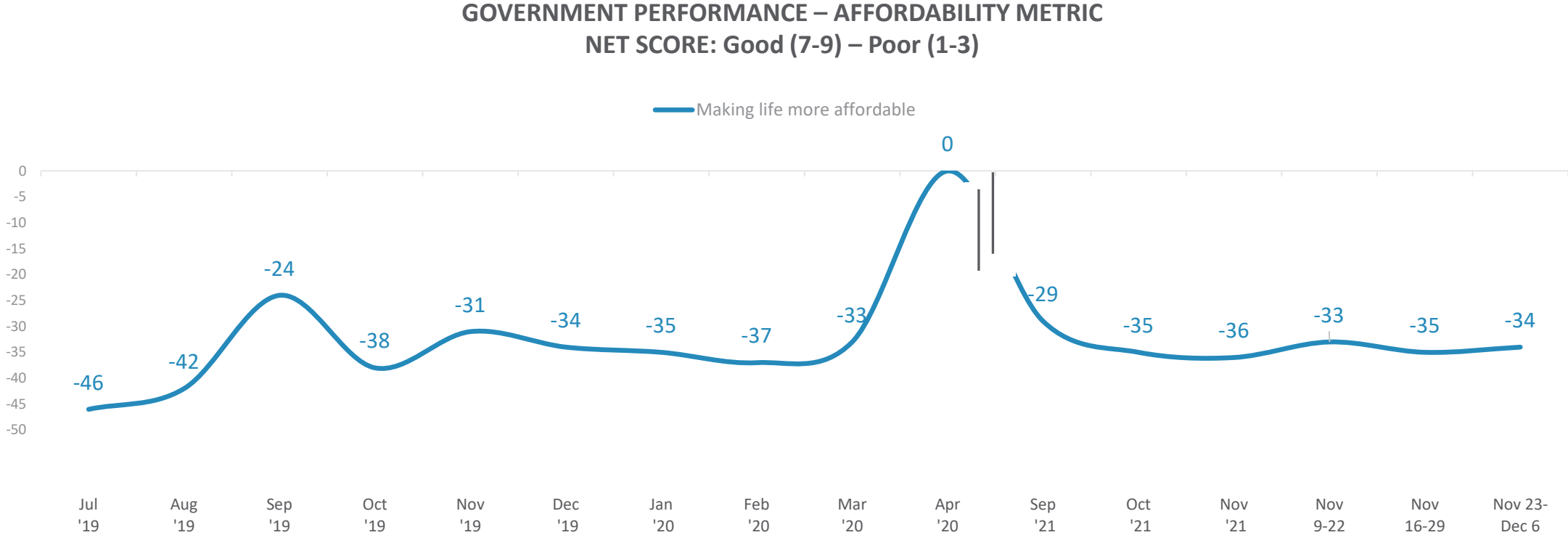
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
Bases vary

While still in negative territory, rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’ improved 13-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

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

FOCUS ON HEALTH VERSUS ECONOMY



This week, less than half (45%) of Ontarians believe the Ontario government should focus on economic issues surrounding COVID-19, a decline of 8-points in the last two weeks. This compares to 39% who believe the focus should be on health-related issues.

	Jun '21	Jul '21	Aug '21	Sep '21	Oct '21	Nov '21	Nov 9-22	Nov 16-29	Nov 23-Dec 6
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	37	37	36	39
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	57	53	50	45
Both a health and an economic focus are equally important.	8	8	7	13	12	5	8	10	11

PERCEPTIONS OF THE
GOVERNMENT'S PERFORMANCE
IN HANDLING
THE WAVES OF COVID-19



Preliminary results indicate that seven-in-ten (71%) Ontarians register concern about Ontario experiencing a fifth wave of the pandemic, with 39% saying they are ‘very’ concerned.

How concerned are you that Ontario will experience a fourth wave of the pandemic? Are you

How concerned are you that Ontario will experience a fifth wave of the pandemic? Are you

	Jul '21	Aug '21	Sep '21	Oct '21	Nov '21	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29
n=	varies						
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	61	71	75	68	63	65	71
Very concerned	19	30	43	32	25	24	38
Somewhat concerned	42	41	32	36	38	41	32
Not too concerned	22	16	12	17	21	25	16
Not at all concerned	16	12	12	14	15	10	12
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	38	28	24	31	36	34	28

Nov 30-Dec 6
varies
%
71
39
31
19
9
28

Similar to results concerning the fourth wave, early results indicate that three-quarters (74%) of Ontarians feel that the government is prepared to handle a fifth 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 . .

Jul '21	Aug '21	Sep '21	Oct '21	Nov '21
varies				
%	%	%	%	%
71	67	69	74	73
18	14	16	18	16
52	53	53	56	57
18	19	16	14	16
10	10	11	9	9
28	29	26	23	25
1	3	5	3	2

How prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a 'fifth' wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly? Would you say the Ontario government is . .

Nov 30-Dec 6
varies
%
74
22
52
15
9
24
2

QCV-211. How prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a 'fifth' wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly? Would you say the Ontario government is... (previous phrasing) How prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a 'fourth' wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly? Would you say the Ontario government is . .

QCV-127. Considering the increasing rate of infection, how prepared or not do you feel the government of Ontario is to handle a second wave of infections this fall? Would you say the Ontario government is...

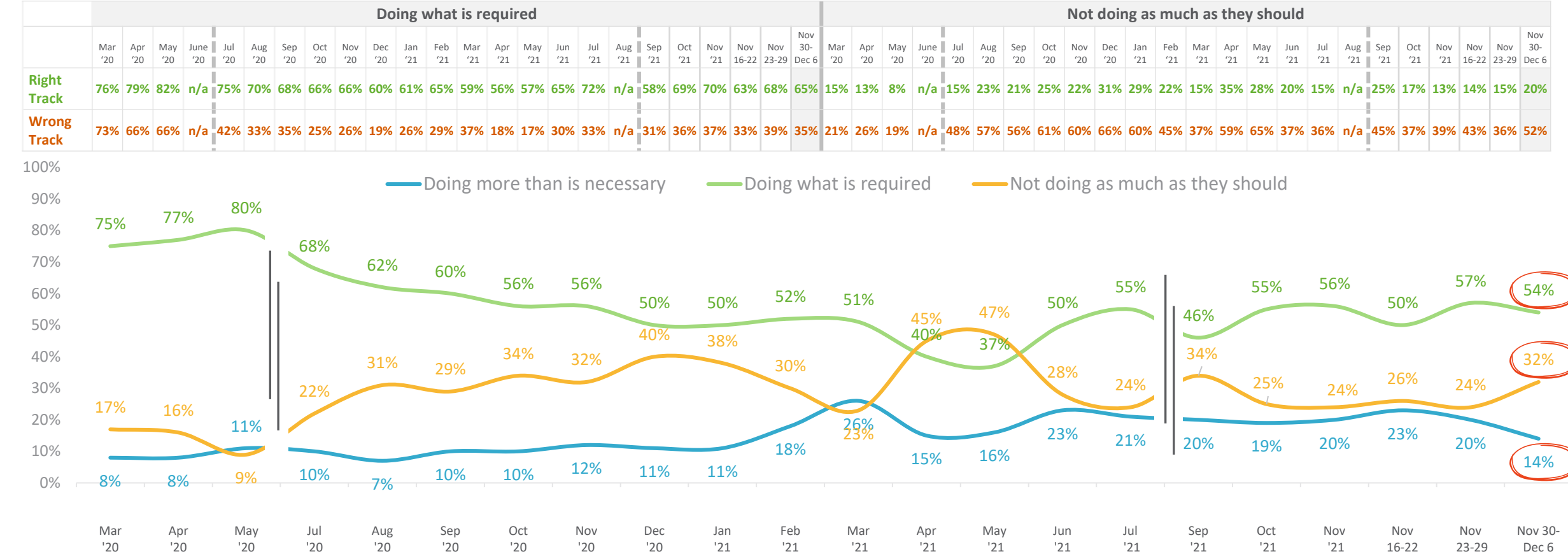
Base: Total sample

TAKING ACTION TO DEAL WITH THE 4TH WAVE



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MEASURES

There was a slight decline this week to 54% that believe the government is ‘doing what is required’ to reduce the spread of the virus, while there was an 8-point increase to 32% saying they are ‘not doing as much as they should’.



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 ...

One quarter (26%) of Ontarians support restricting international travel into Canada, and 14% support requiring international travellers to be tested upon arrival in Canada, as additional actions to reduce COVID-19 transmission.

	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	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30- Dec 6
n=	Varies												
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Restricting international travel into Canada	23	21	19	13	19	19	23	17	18	19	18	16	26
Requiring international travelers to be tested upon arrival in Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
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	10	12	6
Extending the pause on the next step of Ontario's re-opening plan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Requiring international air travelers who enter Ontario to quarantine in a hotel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Requiring domestic air travelers who enter Ontario to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Regional approach to increasing COVID-19 restrictions in areas with higher COVID-19 cases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Lockdowns / closing businesses	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	3
Making vaccines mandatory	29	34	33	39	33	39	35	27	29	30	26	35	-
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	18	12	-
All of the above	5	7	6	5	10	8	5	5	6	5	6	7	8
No additional action is needed	6	3	9	9	11	5	5	13	13	12	15	10	8
Don't know/unsure	7	4	6	5	4	5	4	5	11	9	6	6	12

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

Base: Total sample

CONFIDENTIAL

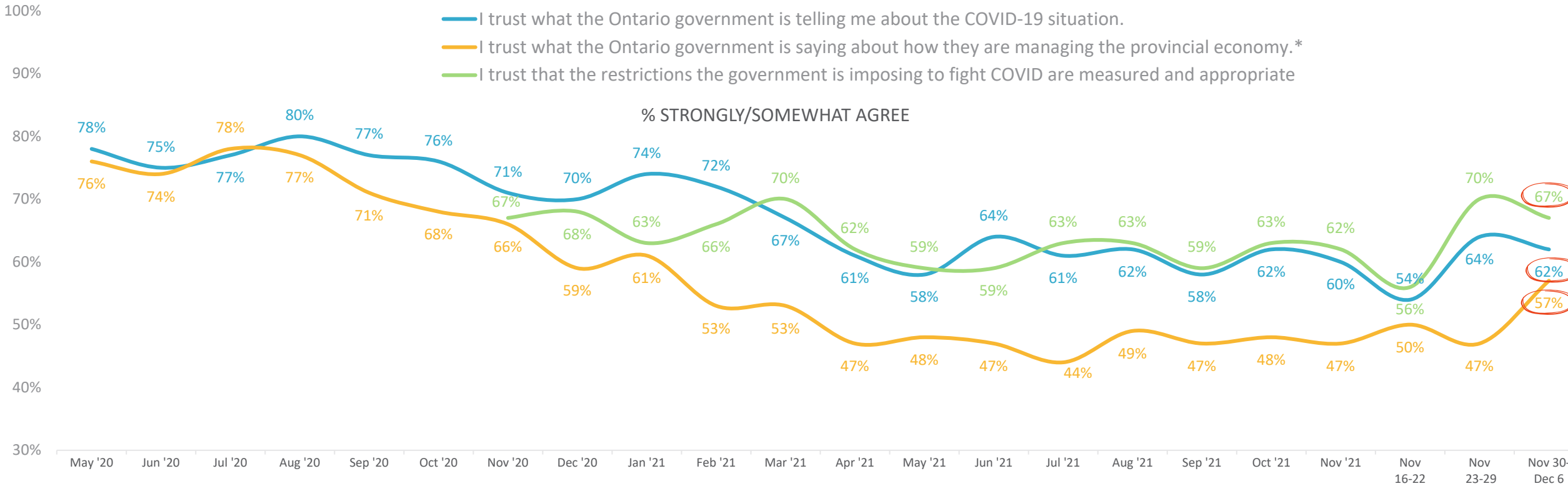
CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



TRUST IN THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COVID-19

Most of the improvements from last week were retained for 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’.

- Results for ‘how they are managing the provincial economy’ were up 10-points 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?

There was a further 10-point drop this week to half (50%) of Ontarians who feel optimistic that we are over the worst of the pandemic.

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

	Jun '21	Jul '21	Aug '21	Sep '21	Oct '21	Nov '21	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6
n=	varies								
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	62	74	59	48	58	67	62	60	50
Strongly agree	24	37	27	18	27	30	29	33	19
Somewhat agree	38	38	33	30	32	38	32	27	30
Neither agree nor disagree	8	6	7	8	7	7	9	7	8
Somewhat disagree	17	9	16	18	14	12	13	11	18
Strongly disagree	10	8	15	22	17	11	13	19	20
TOTAL DISAGREE	28	17	31	39	32	23	26	30	38

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

Base: Total sample

CHANGE IN CONCERN OVER COVID-19 IN THE LAST WEEK

Four-in-ten (38%) Ontarians report their level of concern over COVID-19 has increased over the last week. Those reporting it has ‘decreased’ declined 8-points.

	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6
n=	Varies	
	%	%
Increased	25	38
Stayed about the same	57	51
Decreased	17	9
Don't know/not sure	1	2

AWARENESS OF AND CONCERN ABOUT OMICRON VARIANT



Preliminary results indicate there is very high awareness of Omicron variant, with 96% saying they have heard about the new COVID-19 mutation.

	Nov 30- Dec 6
n=	Varies
	%
Yes	96
No	4

And, early results suggest that two-thirds (67%) of Ontarians are concerned about this new COVID-19 variant.

	Nov 30- Dec 6
n=	Varies
	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	67
Very concerned	35
Somewhat concerned	32
Not too concerned	19
Not at all concerned	11
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	30
Don't know/not sure	3

QCV-191. How concerned are you about this new COVID variant otherwise known at the Omicron?

Base: Total sample

VIEWS ON PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES



FREQUENCY OF FACE MASK WEARING

Fully 90% of Ontarians report they are wearing a mask or face covering ‘all/most of the time’, with two-thirds (65%) saying 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	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6
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	85	84	90
All of the time	29	49	55	63	67	71	73	72	57	56	48	51	58	49	53	51	52	55	57	55	65	65
Most of the time	30	28	28	24	21	19	19	19	25	24	36	29	23	33	31	29	30	28	31	30	19	25
Some of the time	23	16	12	9	9	6	6	7	13	14	11	14	13	15	9	13	12	12	9	12	10	6
Rarely	14	7	4	3	3	3	2	2	4	3	5	6	6	3	7	6	4	4	3	2	4	4
Never	3	1	1	1	1	1	<1	<1	2	2	1	1	<1	-	1	1	1	<1	<1	2	2	<1
RARELY/NEVER	17	8	5	4	3	4	2	2	6	5	6	7	6	3	7	7	6	5	4	4	6	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 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6	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 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6
TOTAL ALL/ MOST OF THE TIME	90%	92%	94%	94%	84%	82%	85%	86%	85%	85%	89%	83%	86%	84%	90%	90%	90%	93%	82%	83%	86%	85%	76%	79%	81%	73%	76%	77%	77%	76%	76%	82%	84%	77%	76%	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

Nine-in-ten (91%) Ontarians support the need for public health measures. This week, 63% (up 21-points over the past two weeks) want public health measures such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places to continue. In contrast, 28% (down 18-points in the last two weeks) say there should be a plan to relax them.

	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6
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	8	8	7
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	42	54	63
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	46	36	28

Ontarians report they are paying more attention to the daily number of cases and other statistics about the pandemic in Ontario.

	Paying more attention						About the same						Paying less attention					
	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6	Oct 26-Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6
n=	Varies																	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
The number of daily new cases	12	14	14	12	21	28	39	40	37	40	36	37	48	44	46	45	38	31
The number of daily deaths	10	10	12	10	17	22	36	42	36	39	34	40	53	46	51	50	44	34
The number of people in hospitals	12	15	15	13	18	22	37	39	33	42	37	41	51	43	49	43	40	33
The number of people in intensive care units	14	14	14	13	19	22	36	36	35	45	37	41	49	46	47	39	39	34
Percentage of Ontarians fully vaccinated	24	23	21	24	27	29	40	38	35	40	30	37	34	35	41	35	38	31

COVID-19 VACCINE



Confidence levels that the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered declined again this week to 42%, and is now down 15-points since mid-November.

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	Nov '21	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6
varies													
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
52	49	49	58	56	72	70	63	47	52	58	57	52	42
16	18	18	22	20	33	33	24	15	21	25	25	20	16
35	31	31	36	36	39	37	39	32	30	33	32	31	26
6	7	6	6	7	6	6	5	6	6	6	5	7	7
19	20	18	16	16	13	11	15	19	18	18	16	14	21
22	23	24	17	19	7	12	15	25	22	17	19	24	28
41	43	42	34	35	21	23	30	44	40	34	36	38	49

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 78% indicating they would take it if it was available to them, and intensity is high with 66% 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	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30- Dec 6
n=	Varies									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL WILLING	79	82	79	85	79	80	77	76	82	78
Very willing	54	69	61	69	60	58	57	63	66	66
Somewhat willing	25	14	18	16	19	22	20	13	15	12
Not too willing	7	6	9	6	8	8	10	11	3	4
Not at all willing	9	7	10	6	9	7	10	7	10	6
TOTAL NOT WILLING	16	14	19	12	17	15	20	18	14	11
I have already had my booster dose	2	1	1	2	3	3	2	4	4	10
Don't know/not sure	4	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	2

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 are that they believe that it is not necessary (23%), that they already have two doses and that is enough (12% and down 10-points over the past two weeks), or lack of confidence in the effectiveness of the vaccine (12%).

	Sep 28- Oct 11	Oct 5-18	Oct 12-25	Oct 19- Nov 1	Oct 26- Nov 8	Nov 2-15	Nov 9-22	Nov 16-29	Nov 23- Dec 6
n=	69	84	73	60	69	76	81	68	48
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Not necessary	28	13	8	17	22	19	19	24	23
I already got two doses (that is enough)	-	10	19	13	10	19	22	17	12
Not confident in the effectiveness of the vaccine	-	2	10	14	5	5	9	8	12
Do not trust the government	6	5	3	2	4	7	4	6	9
Research/need more information	11	11	9	17	20	10	3	5	9
I got sick when taking previous doses of the COVID-19 vaccine	-	10	7	4	2	6	8	5	8
Concerned about long term effects	9	5	4	5	4	3	9	9	6
It is not mandatory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5
Just a ploy to give money to big pharma	-	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	5
They should focus on getting everyone vaccinated with the first two doses	-	4	6	7	4	-	1	2	2
They originally said two doses were enough (and were wrong)	13	8	5	8	9	3	-	2	2
Heard negative things about the vaccine (e.g., in the media)	-	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	2
I am not high risk/my exposure is low	10	6	8	5	4	1	-	1	2
How many boosters are going to be needed (e.g., every six months)	10	4	3	8	10	6	7	5	-
Concerned about too much vaccine in the body	3	-	16	2	2	2	5	4	-
Should be my choice to decide if I want a booster shot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
I never wanted to get the first two doses/was forced to get first two doses (e.g., work)	-	6	4	7	5	4	4	2	-
Already had COVID and dealt with it/survived	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	1	-
Too soon/need a longer gap in between doses	-	8	6	4	3	3	2	-	-
Other	18	18	6	8	7	12	7	7	12
Don't know/not sure	1	5	8	2	9	11	9	9	8

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

PREFERRED LOCATIONS FOR RECEIVING 3RD DOSE OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE

Preliminary results indicate that Ontarians’ preferred locations for receiving their third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine is at a pharmacy (54%), public health vaccination clinic (44%), a pop-up clinic (41%) or at a doctor’s office (38%).

	Nov 30-Dec 6
n=	Varies
	%
At a pharmacy	54
Public Health vaccination clinic	44
At a mass vaccination or pop-up clinic	41
At doctor's office	38
At a hospital	33
In a mall, while shopping	16
At public transportation hub	15
In a grocery store	14
Anywhere/everywhere/all of the above	5
At another location	2
Unsure / don't know	4
Prefer not to answer	2

A pharmacy is the preferred location of one-third (33%) of Ontarians.

	Nov 30-Dec 6
n=	Varies
	%
At a pharmacy	33
Public Health vaccination clinic	18
At a mass vaccination or pop-up clinic	13
At doctor's office	10
At a hospital	7
At another location	6
In a mall, while shopping	1
At public transportation hub	1
In a grocery store	<1
Unsure / don't know	8
Prefer not to answer	2

TIMING OF RECEIVING 3RD DOSE OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE

Early results indicate that if a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine was made available today to all Ontarians over 18, 60% would get it as soon as it was made available to them. And, a further 21% would get it within a month of being available to them.

	Nov 30-Dec 6
n=	Varies
	%
As soon as it is made available to me	60
In the next week	7
Within the next two weeks	6
Within the next month	8
Within the next two months	6
Sometime later	6
Never	2
Don't know/not sure	4

STATE OF THE ICU IN ONTARIO



Overall, one-in-four (38%) indicate they have seen, read, or heard anything lately about Ontario’s Intensive Care Units and COVID-19.

	Nov 23-29	Nov 30- Dec 6
n=	Varies	
	%	%
Yes	39	38
No	61	62

WHAT THEY HAVE HEARD ABOUT ONTARIO’S ICUs

Among those who are aware, over four-in-ten (45%) say they have heard that the number of COVID-19 patient’s in Ontario’s ICUs has been increasing. Three-in-ten (28%) say they have heard the number has been going down, while 21% believe it is staying about the same.

	Nov 23-29	Nov 30- Dec 6
n=	Varies	
	%	%
Going down	33	28
Staying about the same	17	21
Increasing	38	45
Fluctuating	-	1
Some other news	8	2
Don’t know/not sure	4	3

CV252. Which of the following comes closest to what you have seen, read or heard about Ontario’s ICUs? That the number of COVID-19 patients in Ontario’s ICU’s is . . .
Base: Yes at CV251

LEVEL OF CONCERN WITH INCREASE IN COVID-19 PATIENTS IN ICUs

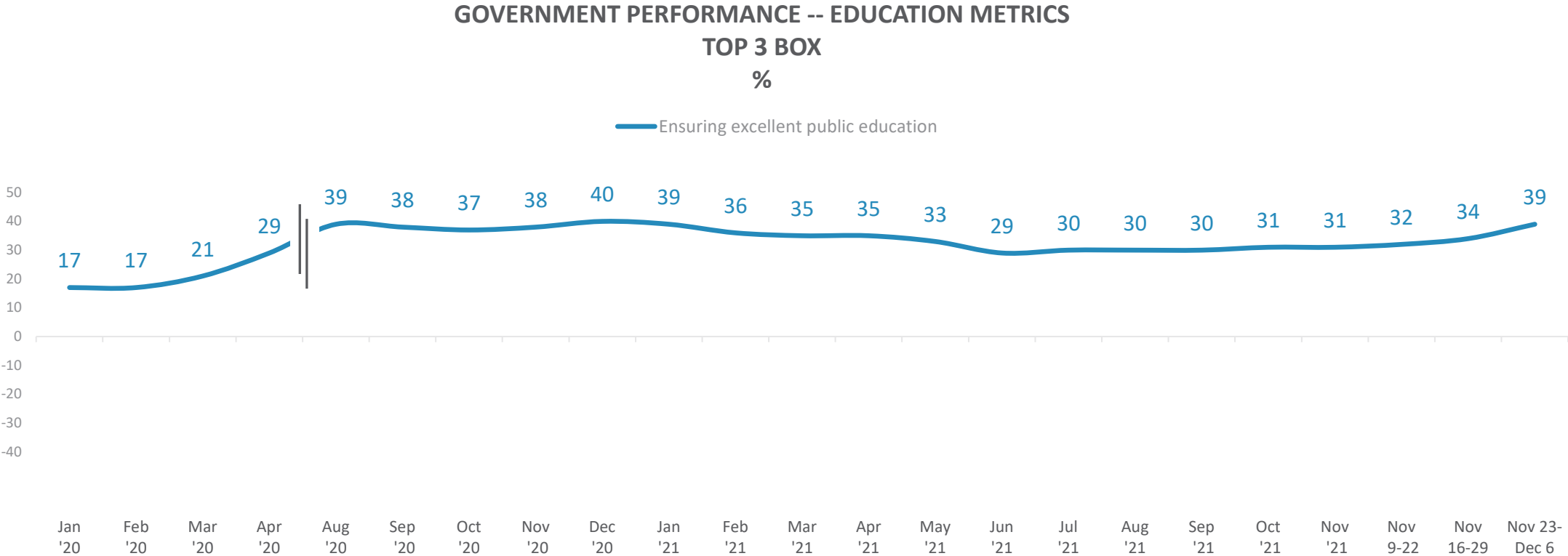
Among those who have heard the number of patients in Ontario’s ICUs is increasing, eight-in-ten (82%) say they are concerned and intensity is high with half (52%) ‘very’ concerned.

	Nov 23-Dec 6
n=	80
	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	82
Very concerned	52
Somewhat concerned	30
Not too concerned	16
Don’t know/not sure	2

APPENDIX – PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

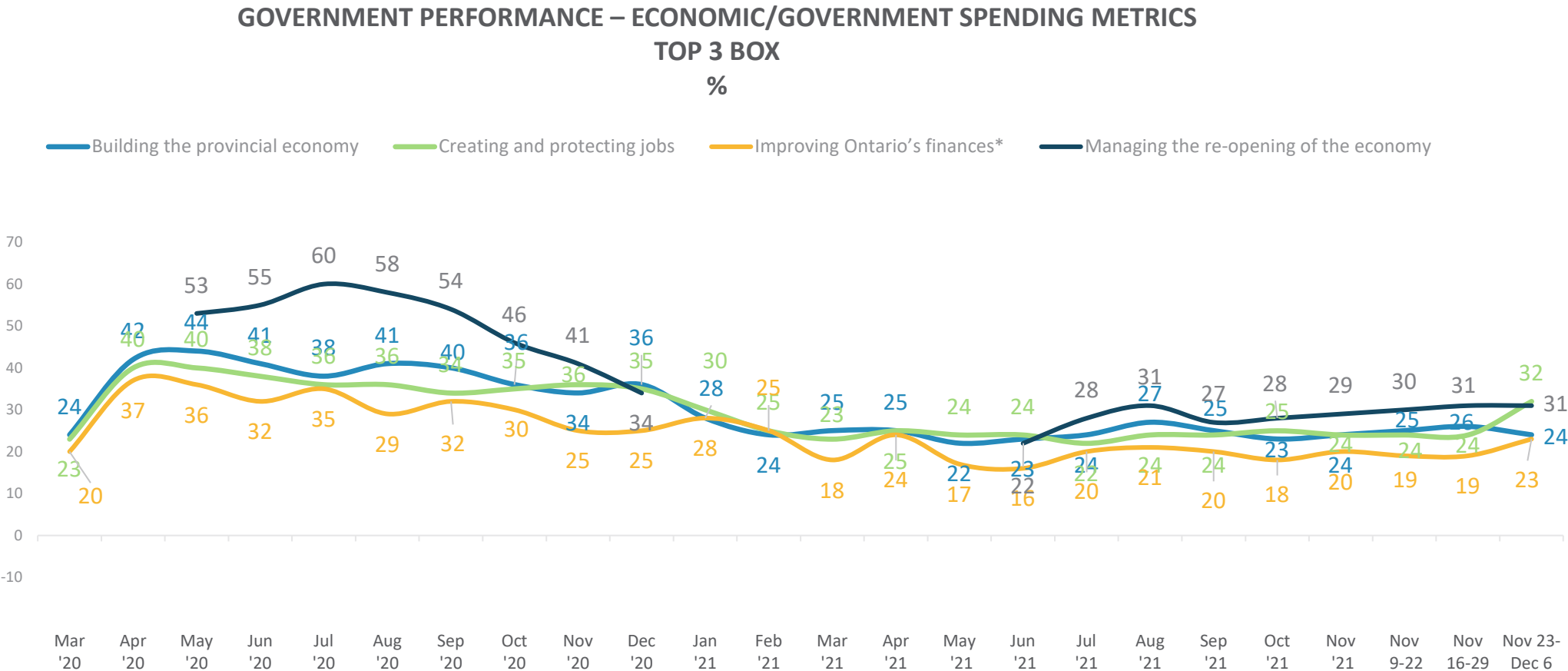


Positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ continued to trend upward this week.



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 were up this week for ‘creating and protecting jobs’ and ‘improving Ontario’s finances’.

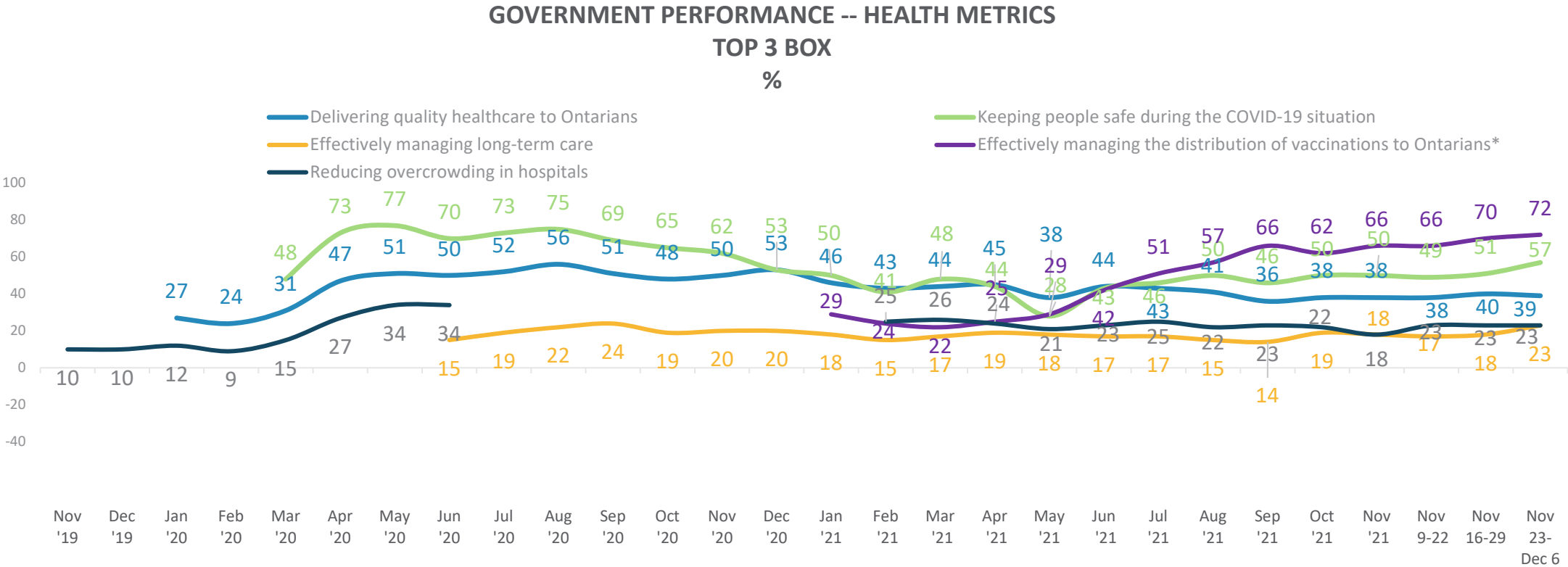


Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

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

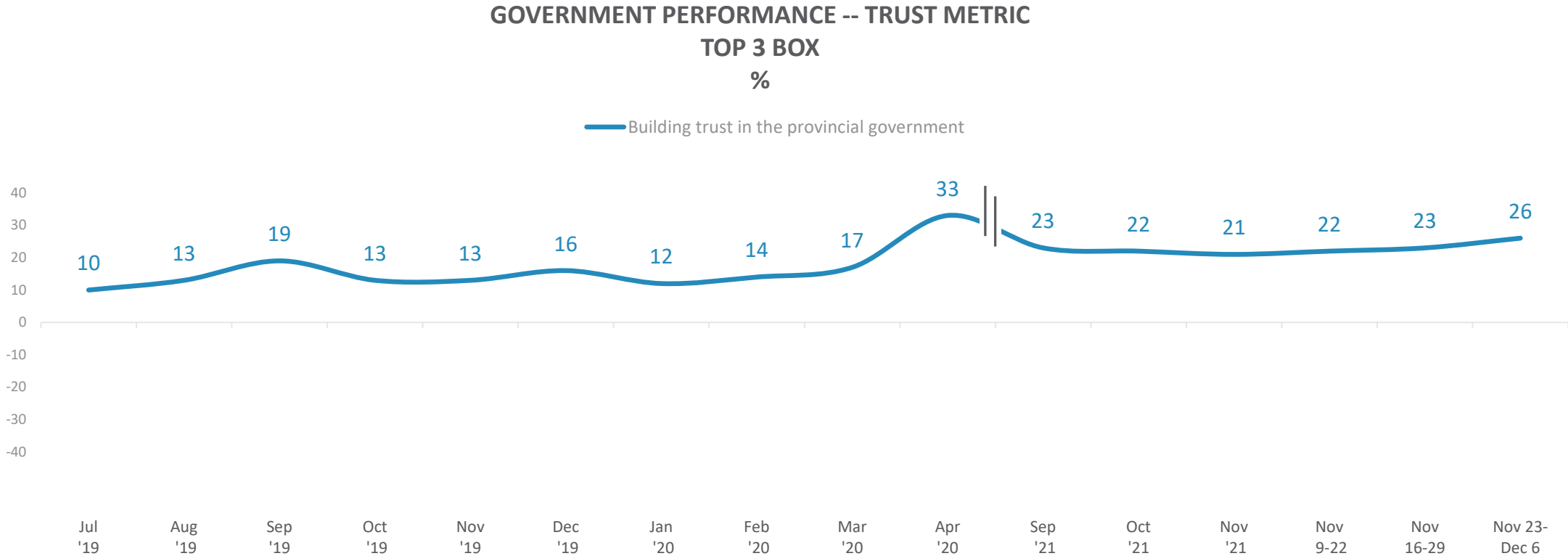
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing the distribution of vaccines’ continued to trend up this week and there were improvements measured for both ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’ and ‘effectively managing long-term care’.



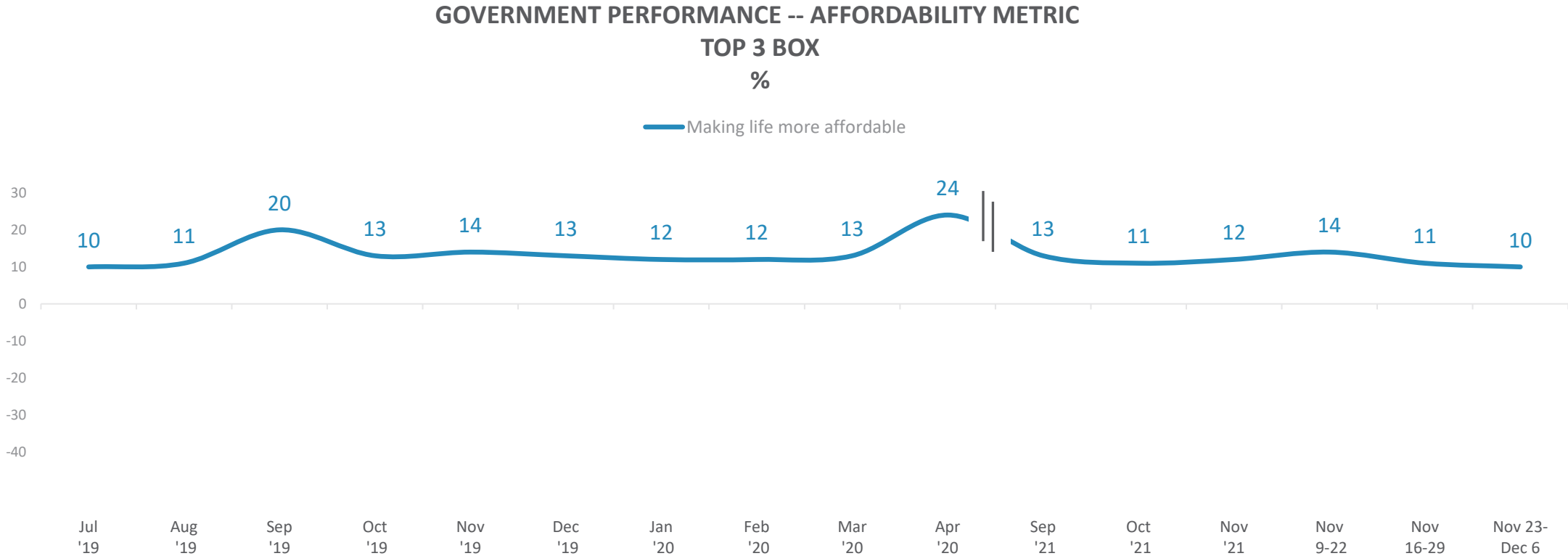
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

The rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’ has been slowly trending up.



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’ is down 4-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