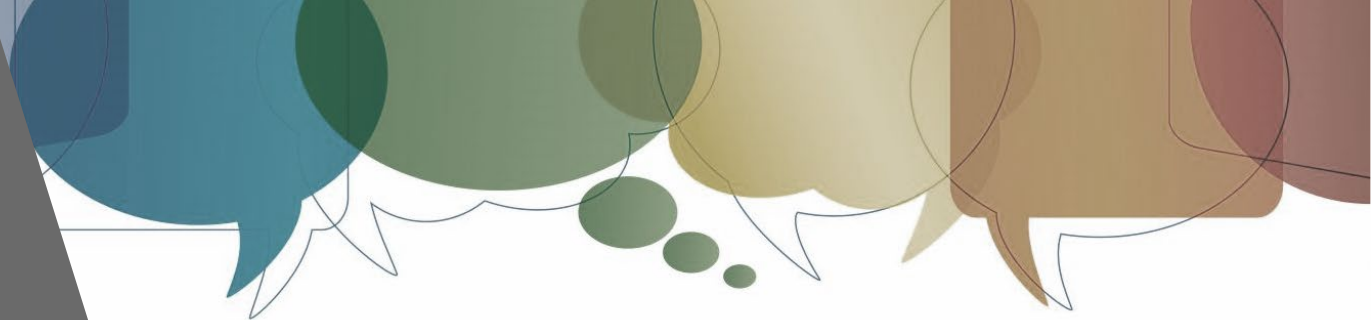




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PULSE REPORT ON COVID-19 – REPORT #111

CABINET OFFICE

December 14th 2021



KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1 After trending up for three weeks, 'right track' remained stable this week at 60%.

3 With the increasing levels of concern, there has been a 7-point decline over the past two weeks to half (50%) of Ontarians that believe the government is 'doing what is required' to reduce the spread of the virus. The proportions saying they are 'not doing as much as they should' remained unchanged at 32%.

And, while seven-in-ten (68%) Ontarians feel that the government is prepared to handle a fifth wave of infections if a COVID-19 variant spreads rapidly, this compares to 74% last week – and is a metric that bears watching.

After hitting its highest point last week, the rating of the government's performance for 'effectively managing the distribution of vaccinations' dropped 9-points this week. There was also a slight decline measured for 'keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation'.

2 With case numbers increasing, and most aware of the new COVID-19 variant Omicron, there is a rising concern about COVID-19.

Almost eight-in-ten (77%) Ontarians register concern about Ontario experiencing a fifth wave of the pandemic, with 41% saying they are 'very' concerned. And, 30% report their level of concern over COVID-19 has increased this week.

Since mid-November, there has been a 16-point drop to now less than half (46%) of Ontarians who feel optimistic that we are over the worst of the pandemic. This compares to 74% in July. Similarly, less than half (46%) of Ontarians are confident the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered, down 11-points since mid-November.

4 There continues to be strong support for public health measures. Nine-in-ten (89%) Ontarians support the need for public health measures. The majority (55%) want public health measures such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places to continue while 34% say there should be a plan to relax them.

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

However, while 70% have trust in the government's communications about 'the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured/appropriate', trust has been declining over the past two weeks regarding 'what the government is telling me about the COVID-19 situation'.

Key Findings

5 Ontarians are willing to receive a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine with 65% indicating they would take it if it was available to them, and 15% reporting they already have their booster dose.

If a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine was made available today to all Ontarians over 18, half (52%) would get it as soon as it was made available to them. And, a further 26% would get it within a month of being available to them.

7 Rating of the government's performance for 'creating and protecting jobs' has experienced a 14-point increase over the past two weeks, while 'improving Ontario's finances' increased 10-points over the same time period.

And, while 'managing the re-opening of the economy' was unchanged, there was a decline for 'building the provincial economy'.

Of note, after remaining steady since October, rating of the government's performance for 'making life more affordable' improved 5-points this week.

6 In terms of the economy, the increasing concern about COVID-19 continues to impact Ontarians' views on what the government's focus should be.

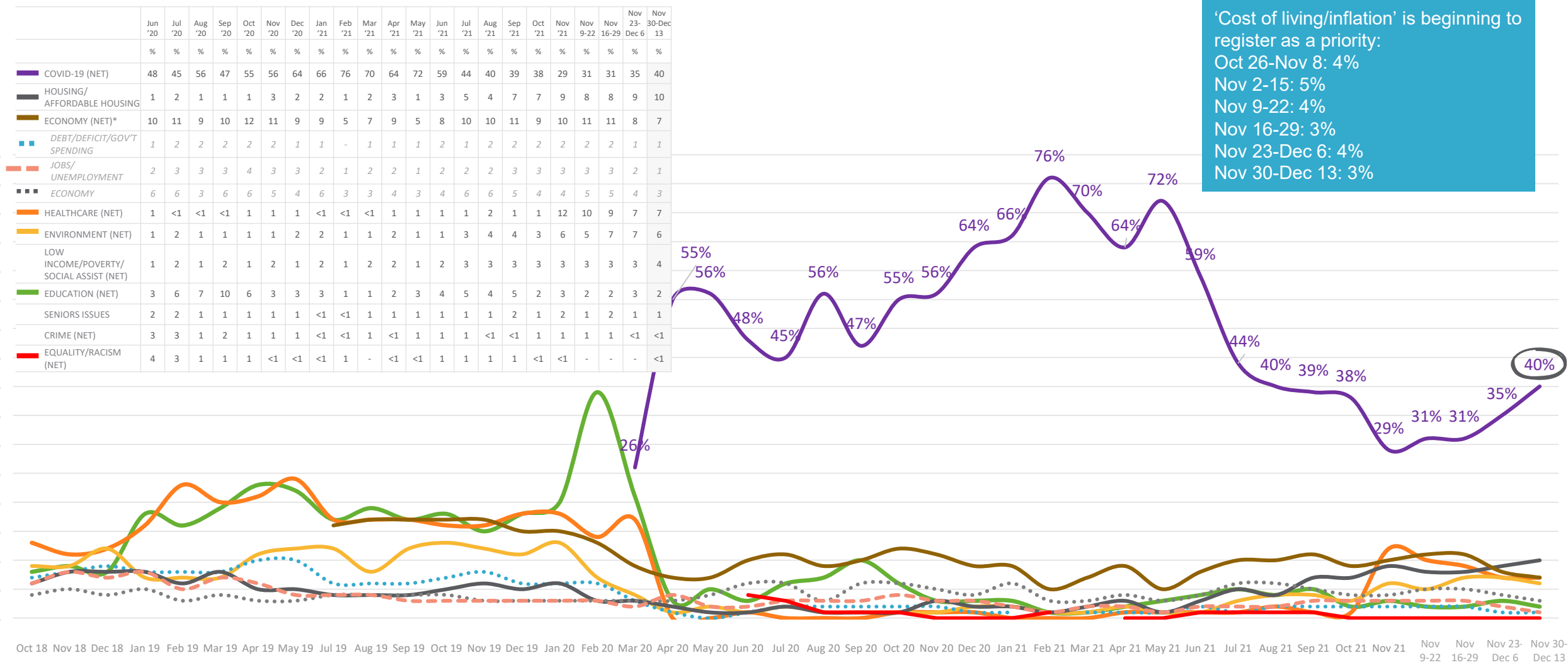
There is now parity in terms of the proportion of Ontarians that believe the Ontario government should focus on economic issues surrounding COVID-19 (45%) and those who believe the focus should be on health-related issues (43%).

8 And, after experiencing increases, rating of the government's performance for 'ensuring excellent public education' had a slight decline this week.

TOP ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES



COVID-19 as the government’s top priority continues to trend upward to 40% this week, while 10% cite affordable housing, 7% for both the economy and healthcare, and 6% the environment.



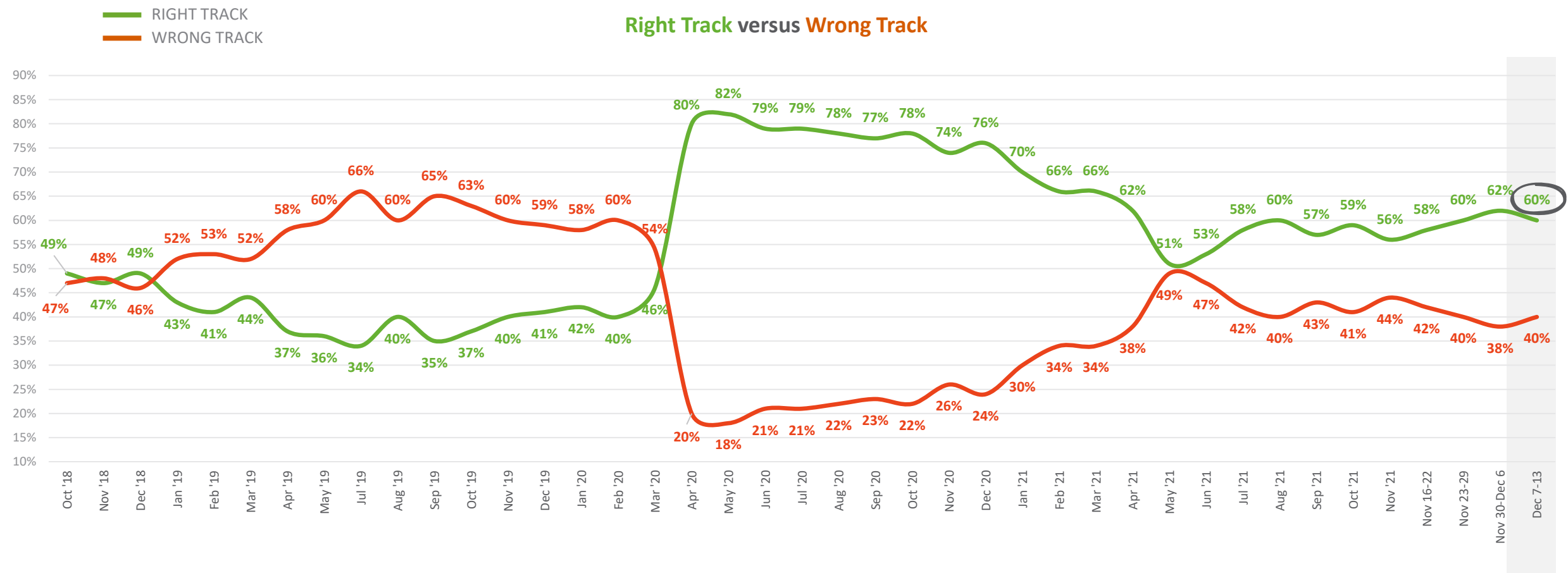
*ECONOMIC (NET) includes: Debt/Deficit/Government spending/Balance budget, Jobs/unemployment, Economy, Taxes

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

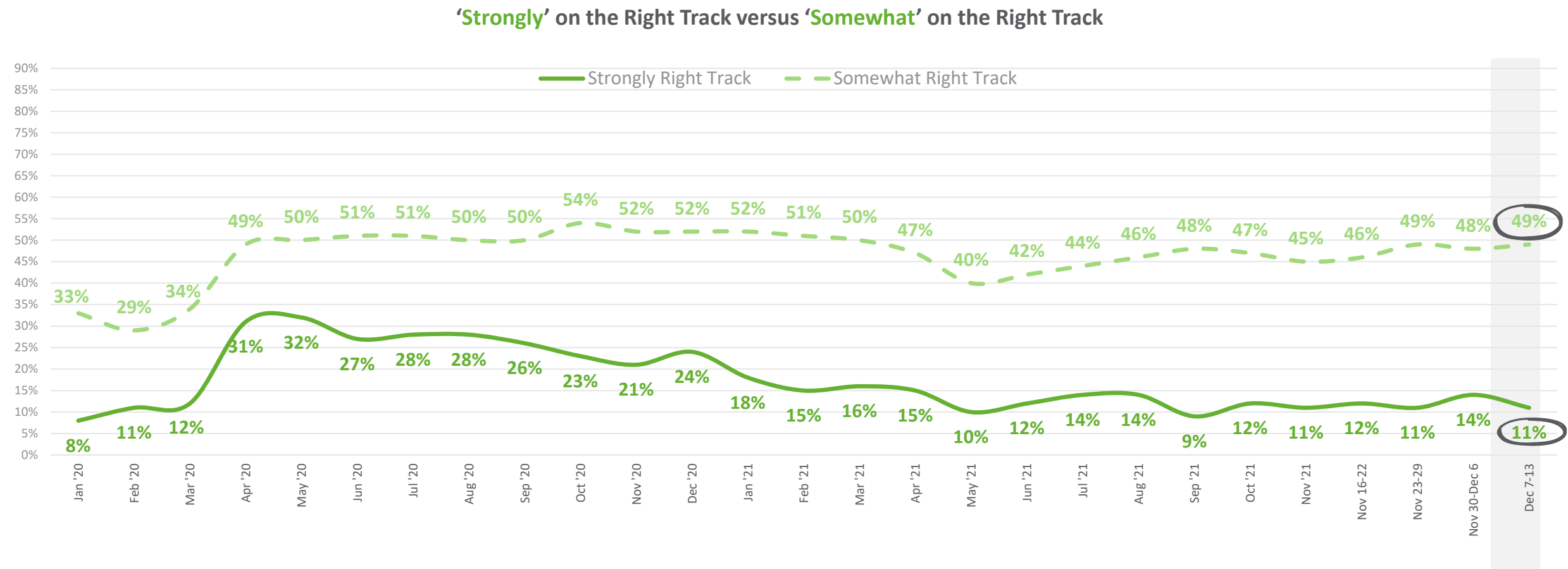


This week, 'right track' remained stable at 60%.



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

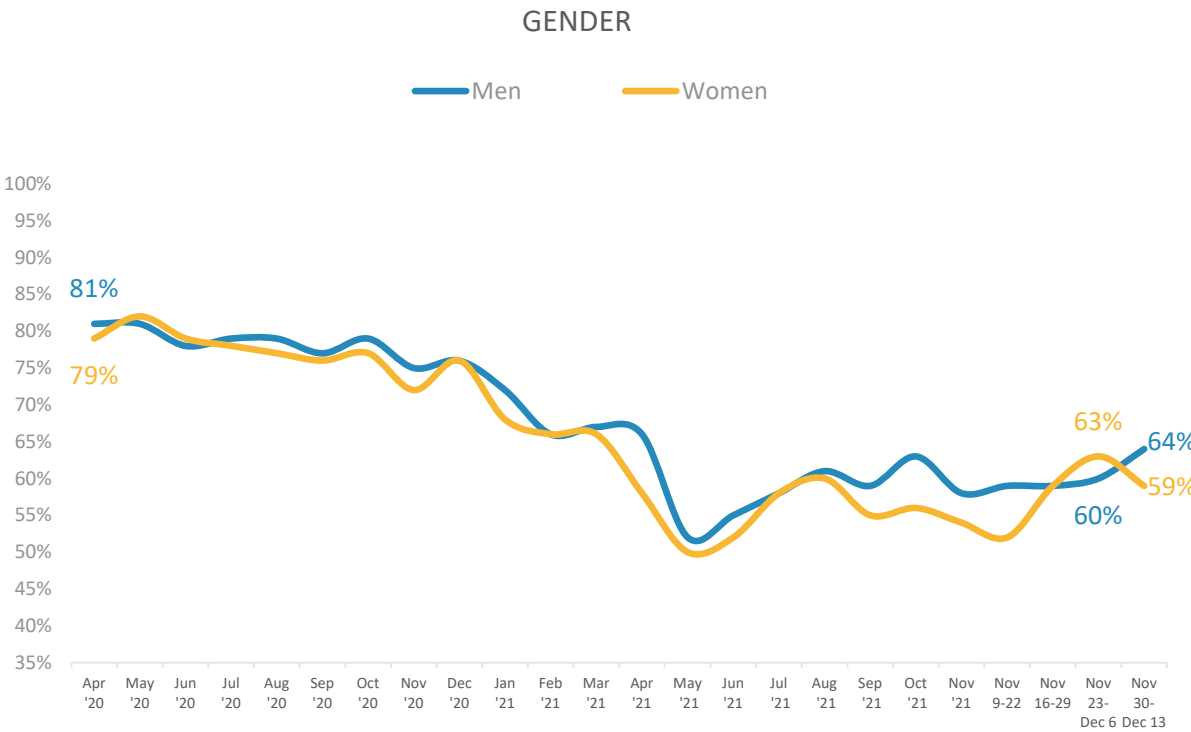
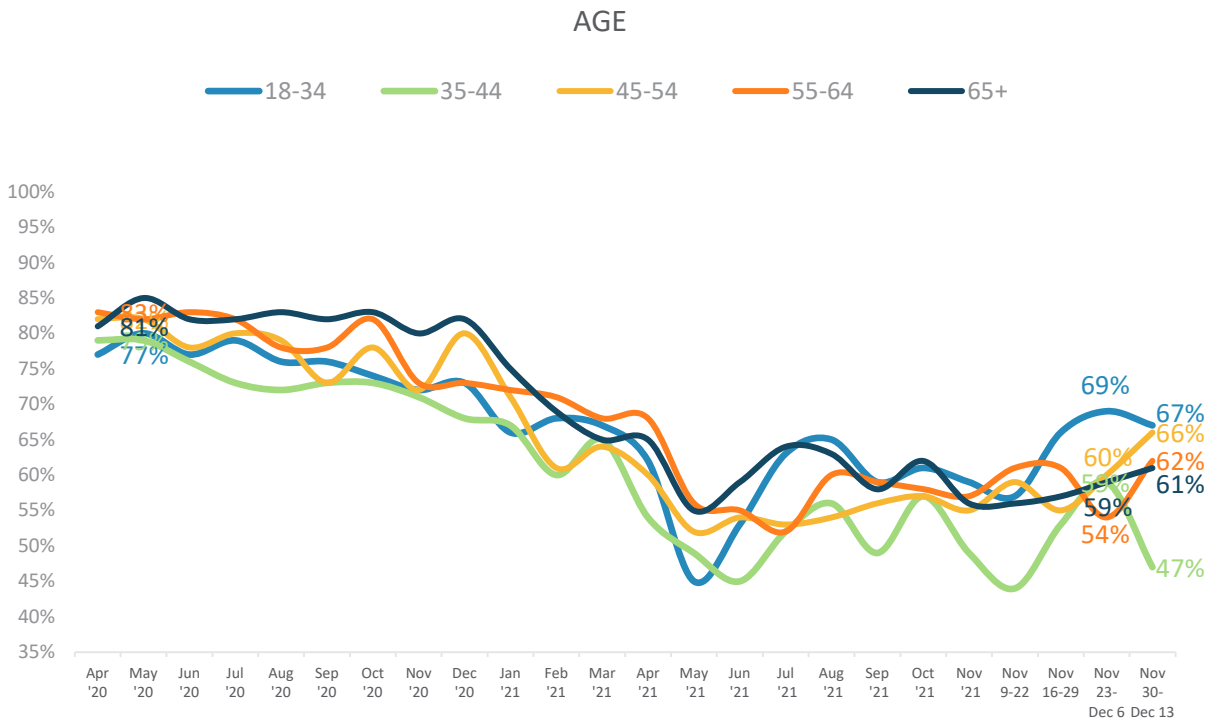
While ‘somewhat on the right track’ has remained steady again this week, there was a slight decline in ‘strongly on the right track’.



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

With increases in the last two weeks, ‘right track’ among 45-54 year olds is now on par with those aged 18-34 – with the highest scores by age. After a decline measured this week, ‘right track’ is lowest among Ontarians aged 35-44. Increases last week among women were reversed, while increases were measured among men this week.

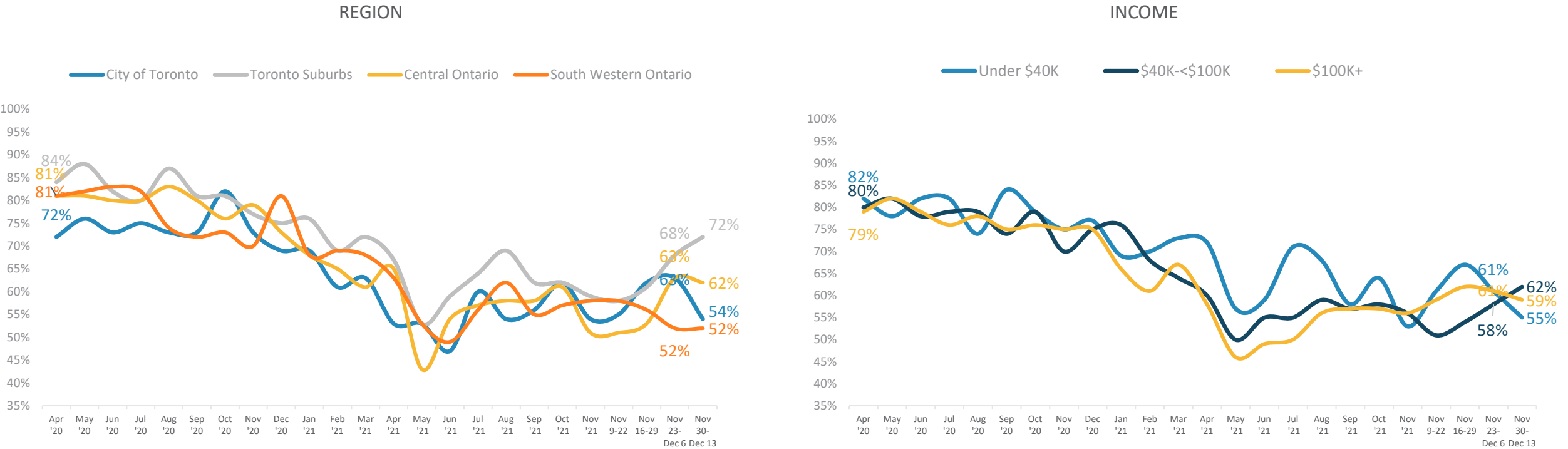
Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



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

Regionally, increases in ‘right track’ in the Toronto suburbs continued again this week – and now has the highest score by 10-points - while declines were measured in the city of Toronto. Central and SW Ontario remained steady. By income, ‘right track’ continued to increase among those making \$40k-<\$100k while the reverse was the case for under \$40k.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

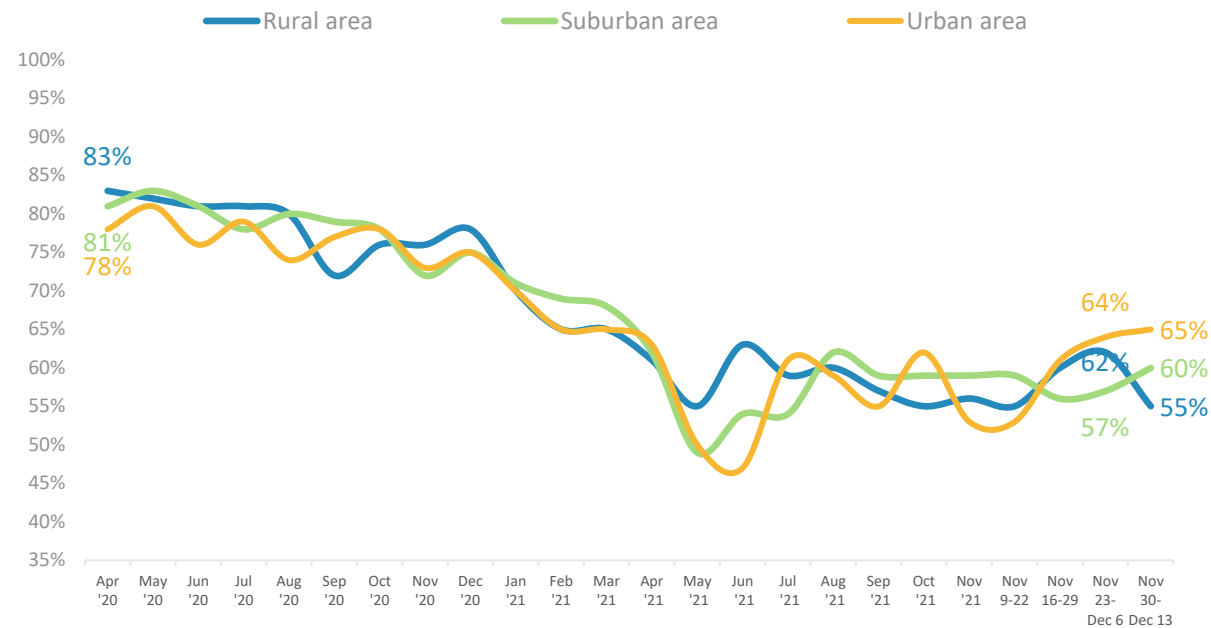


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

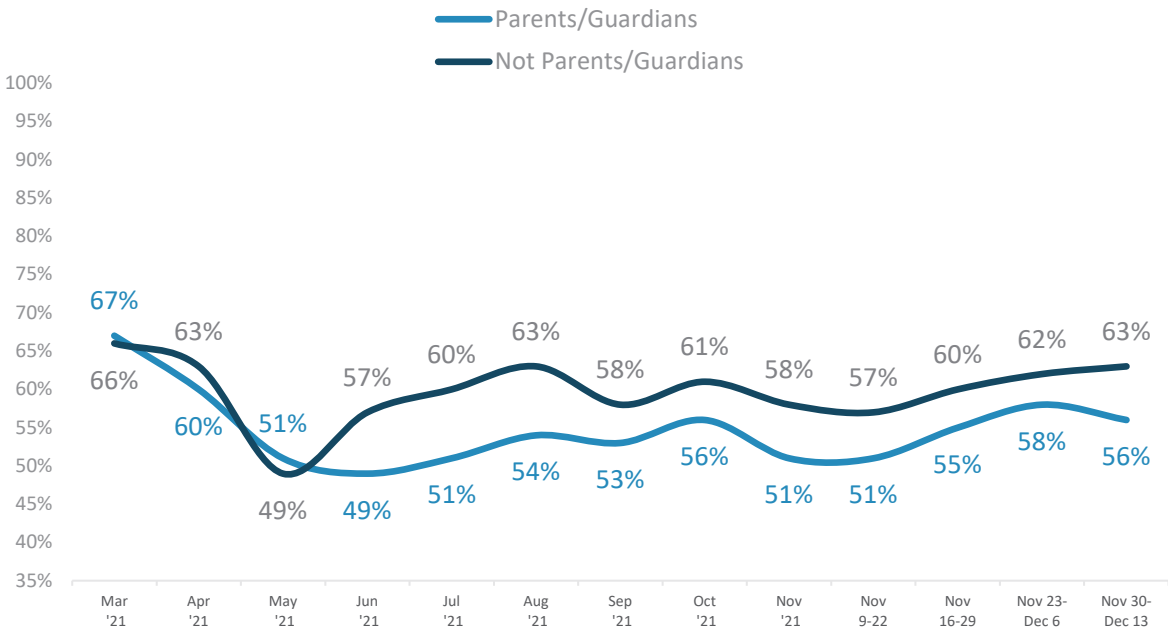
‘Right track’ remains highest in urban areas this week, while there were declines in rural areas. A slight increase was measured in suburban areas.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

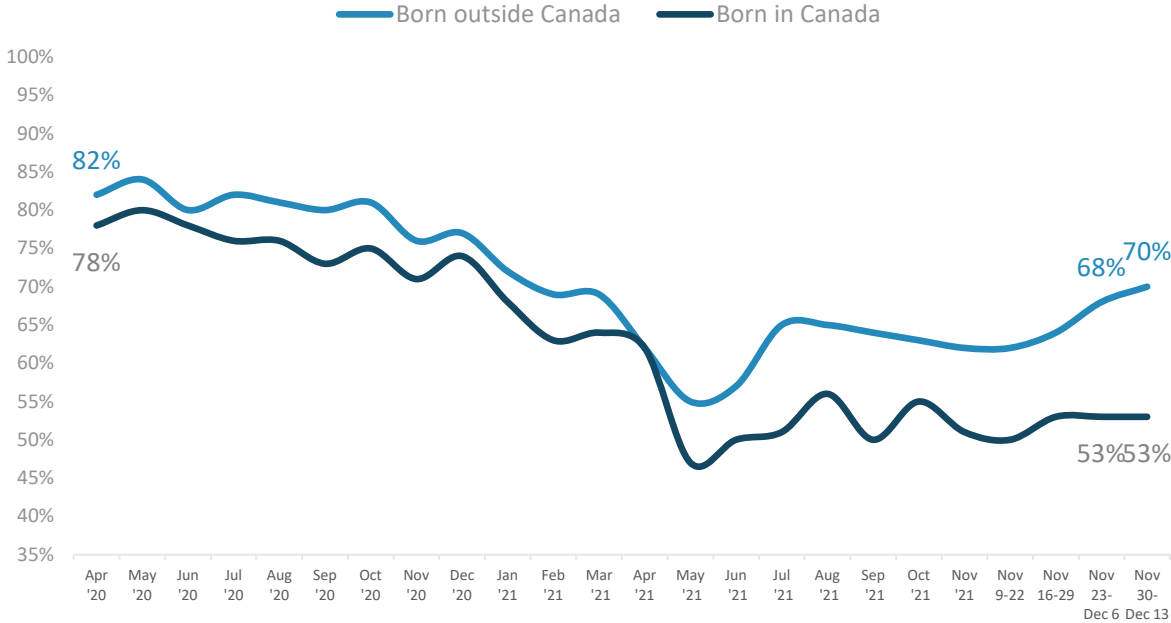


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

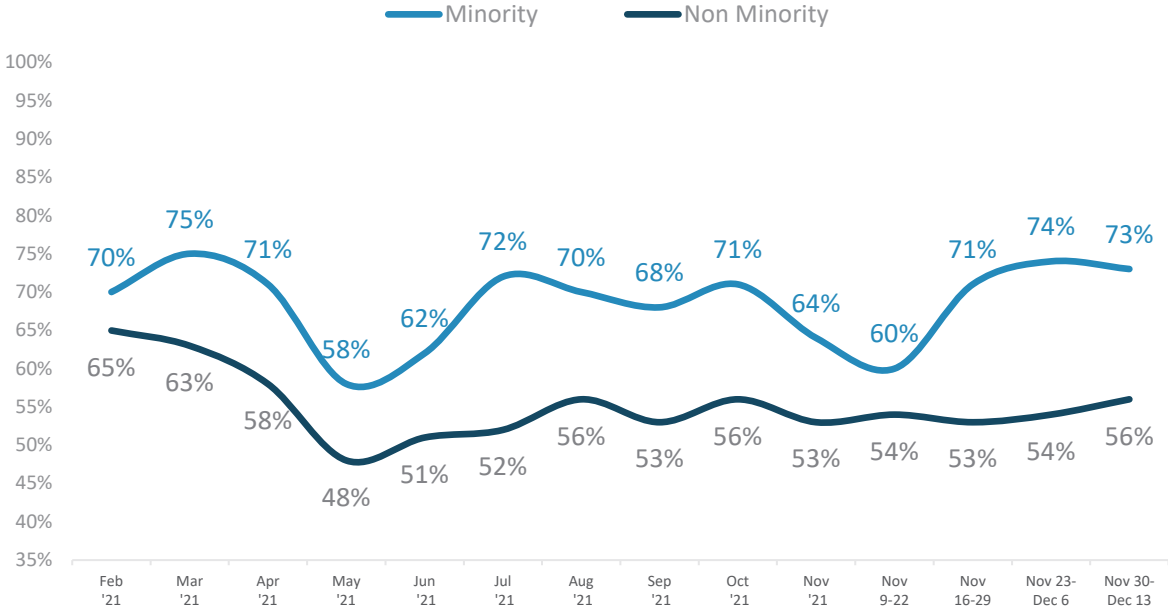
‘Right track’ remained steady among Ontarians born in and outside of Canada and among minorities and non-minorities.

Right Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA

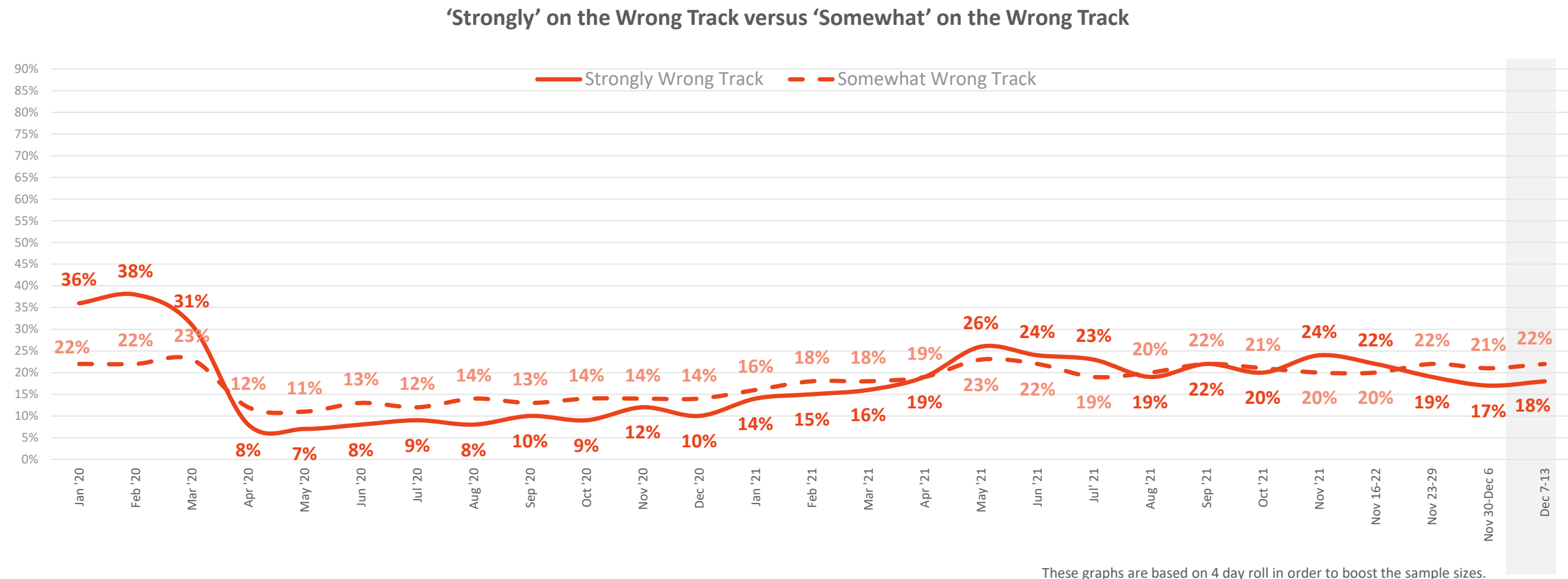


MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



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

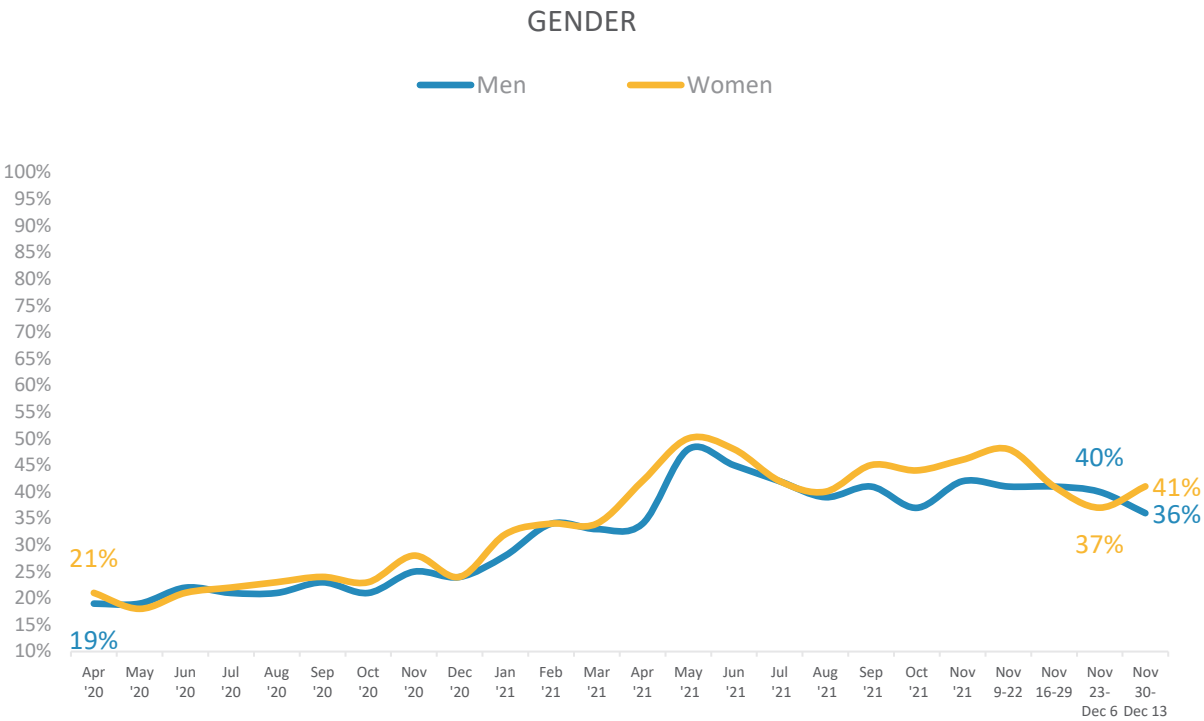
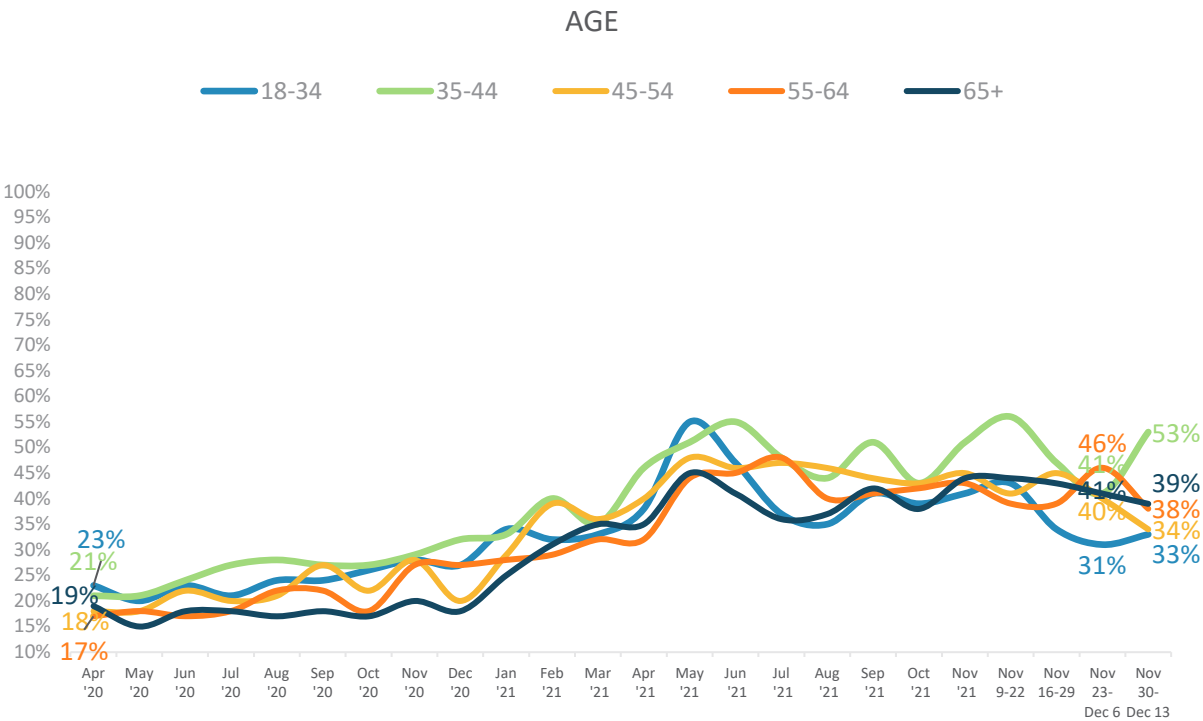
The proportion who believe the government is ‘strongly on the wrong track’ or ‘somewhat on the wrong track’ remained steady this week.



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

‘Wrong track’ is now highest among Ontarians aged 35-44 and is lowest among 18-34 and 45-54 year olds. Declines among women last week were reversed, while there were declines measured among men this week, resulting in ‘wrong track’ again being higher among women.

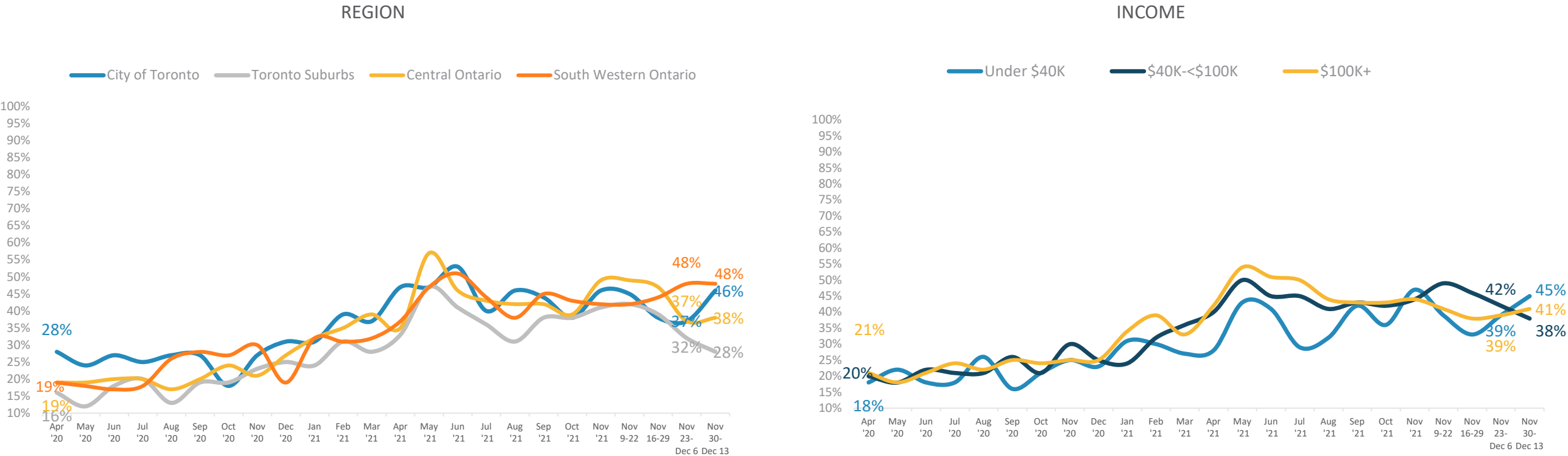
Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll



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

Regionally, declines in ‘wrong track’ continued in the Toronto suburbs, while increases were measured in the City of Toronto. Central and SW Ontario remained stable. By income, ‘wrong track’ declined among Ontarians making \$40k-<\$100k while increasing among those making under \$40k.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

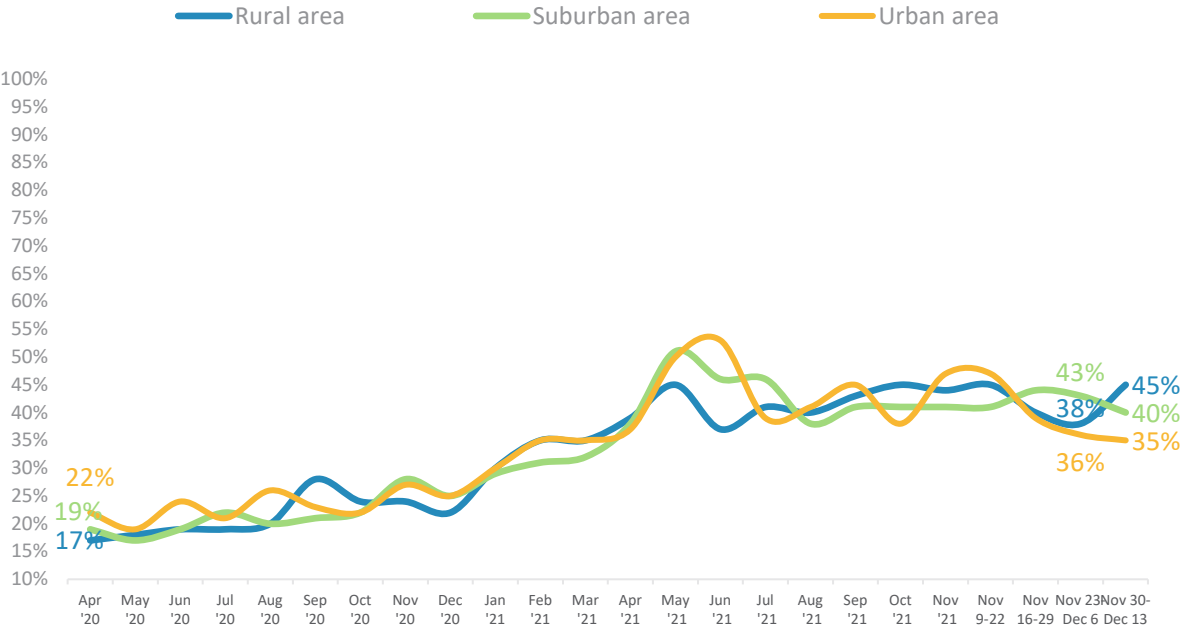


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

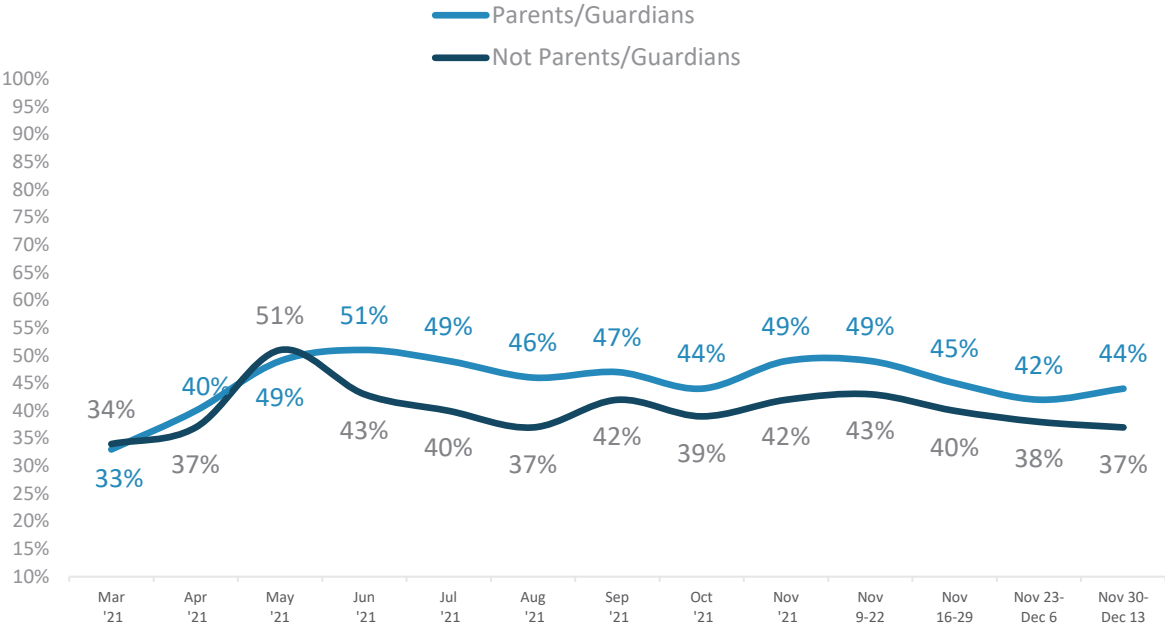
With increases this week, ‘**wrong track**’ is now highest in rural areas while there was a slight decline in suburban areas. Results remained steady, and lowest, in urban areas.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

RURAL/URBAN/SUBURBAN



PARENTS/GUARDIAN JK-G12 VS NOT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

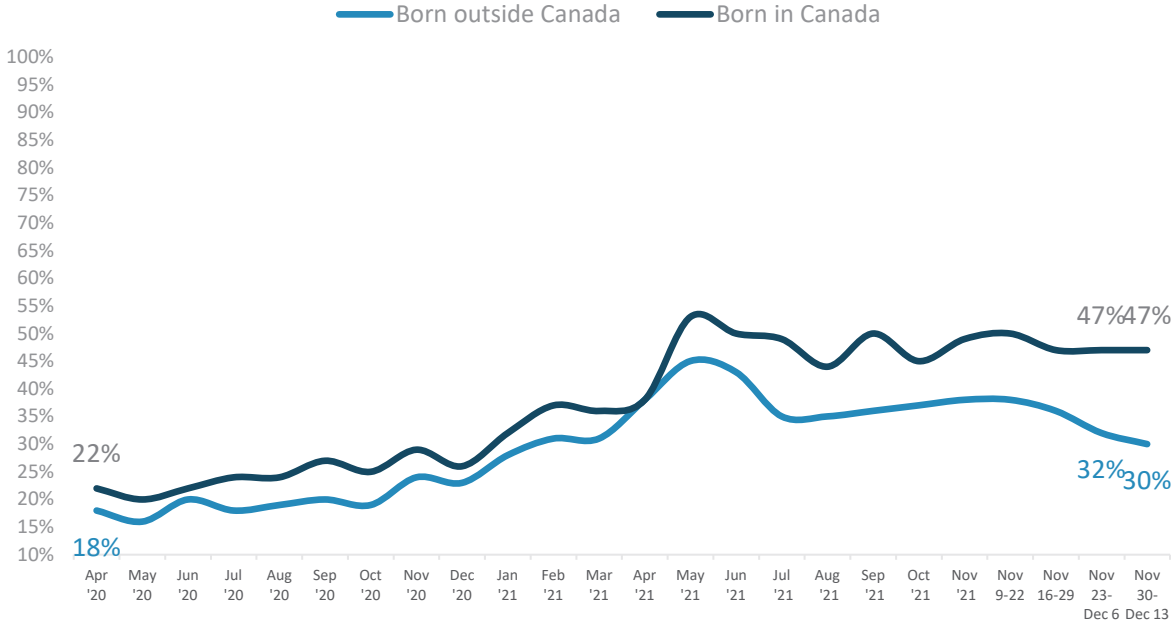


Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

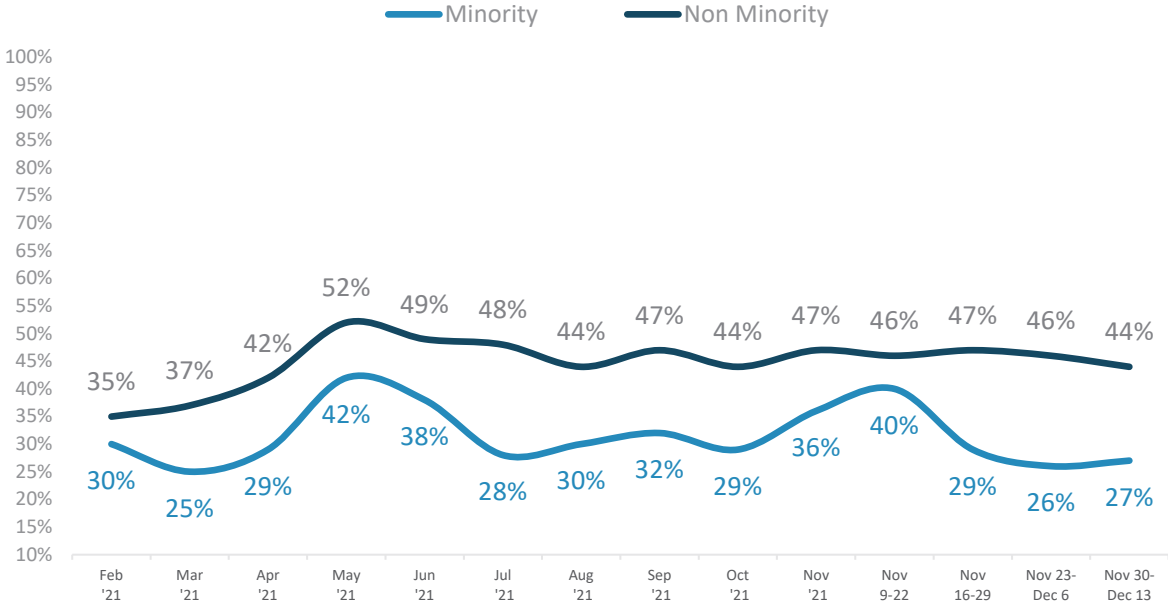
‘Wrong track’ remained steady among Ontarians born in and outside of Canada and among minorities and non-minorities.

Wrong Track Scores – 12-Day Roll

BORN OUTSIDE/WITHIN CANADA



MINORITY VS NON MINORITY



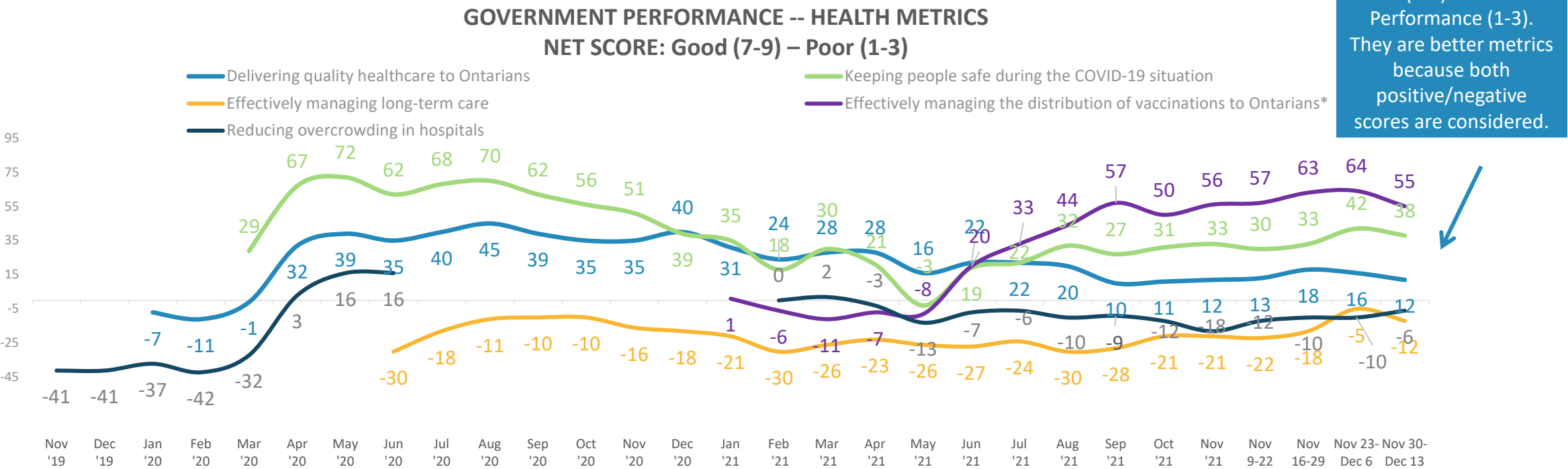
Q2. Overall, do you feel that the Ontario provincial government is on the right track or the wrong track, in terms of how it is governing the province?
Base: Total sample

PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



After hitting its highest point last week, the rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing the distribution of vaccinations’ dropped 9-points this week. There was also a slight decline measured for ‘keeping people safe during the COVID-19 situation’.

- There were also declines for ‘delivering quality healthcare to Ontarians’ (down 6-points in the last two weeks) and ‘effectively managing long-term care’ (down 7-points). However, there was a slight improvement for ‘reducing overcrowding in hospitals’.



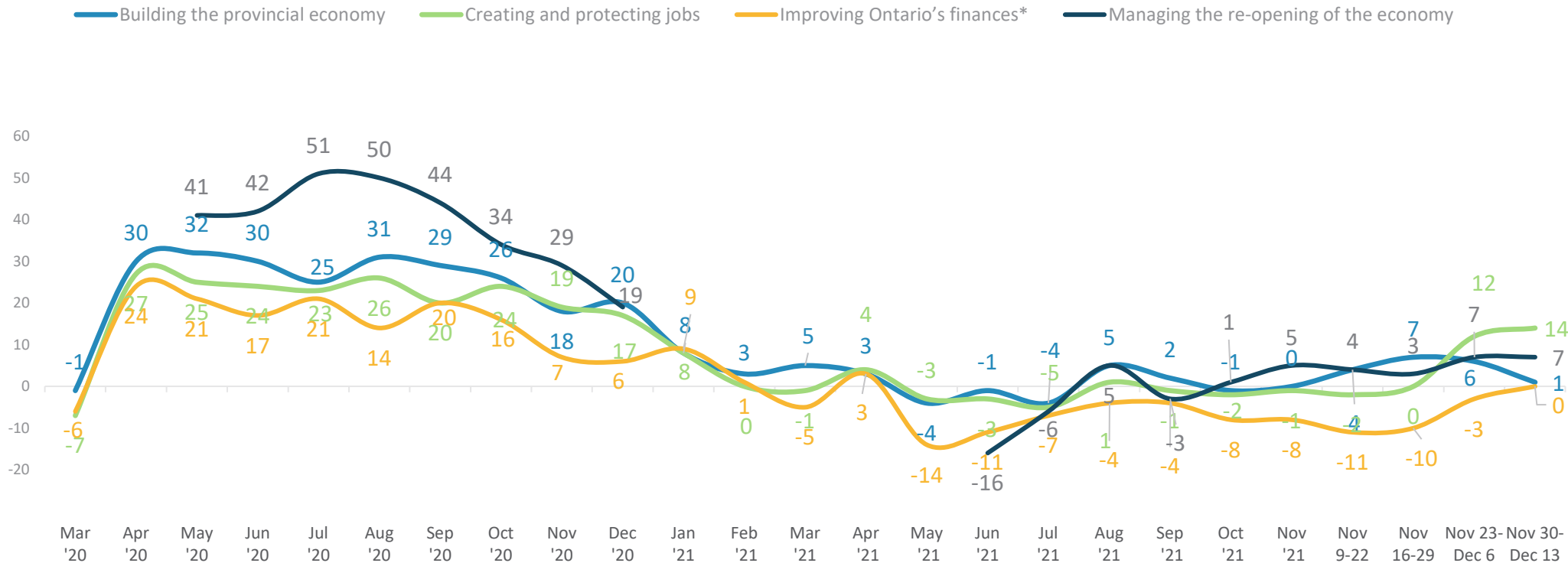
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

PERCEIVED ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE – ECONOMIC/GOVERNMENT SPENDING METRICS

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘creating and protecting jobs’ has experienced a 14-point increase over the past two weeks, while ‘improving Ontario’s finances’ increased 10-points over the same time period. While ‘managing the re-opening of the economy’ was unchanged, there was a decline for ‘building the provincial economy’.

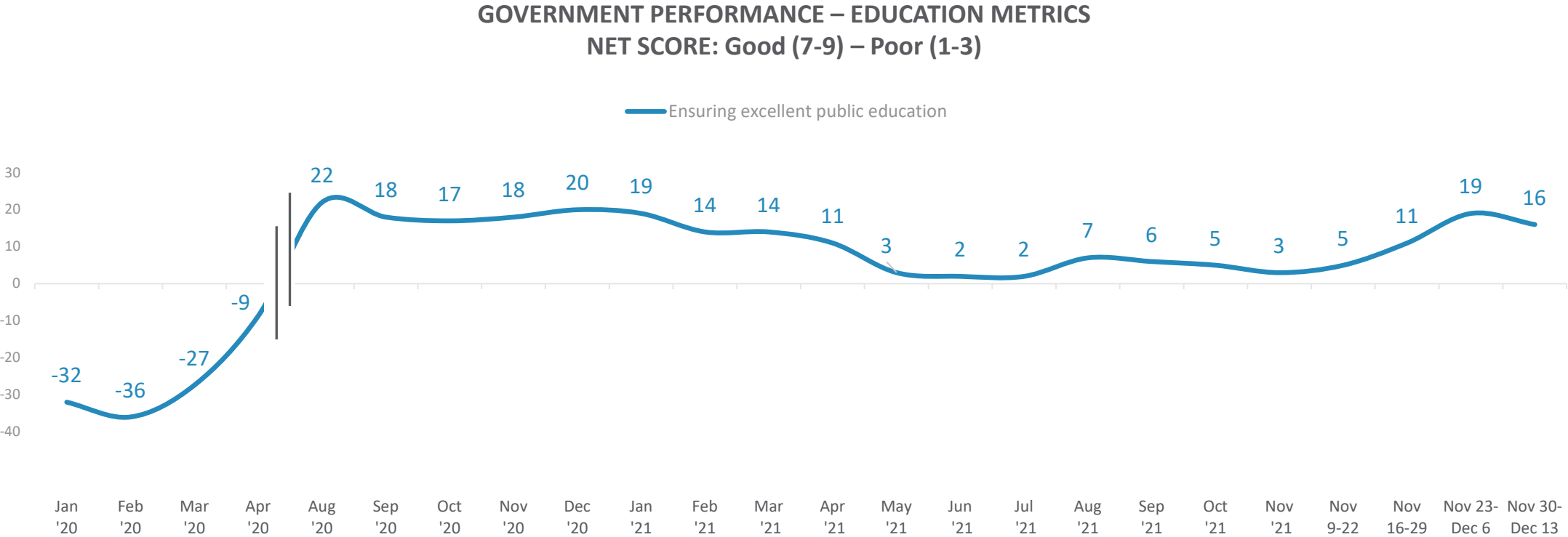
GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE – ECONOMIC/GOVERNMENT SPENDING METRICS

NET SCORE: Good (7-9) – Poor (1-3)



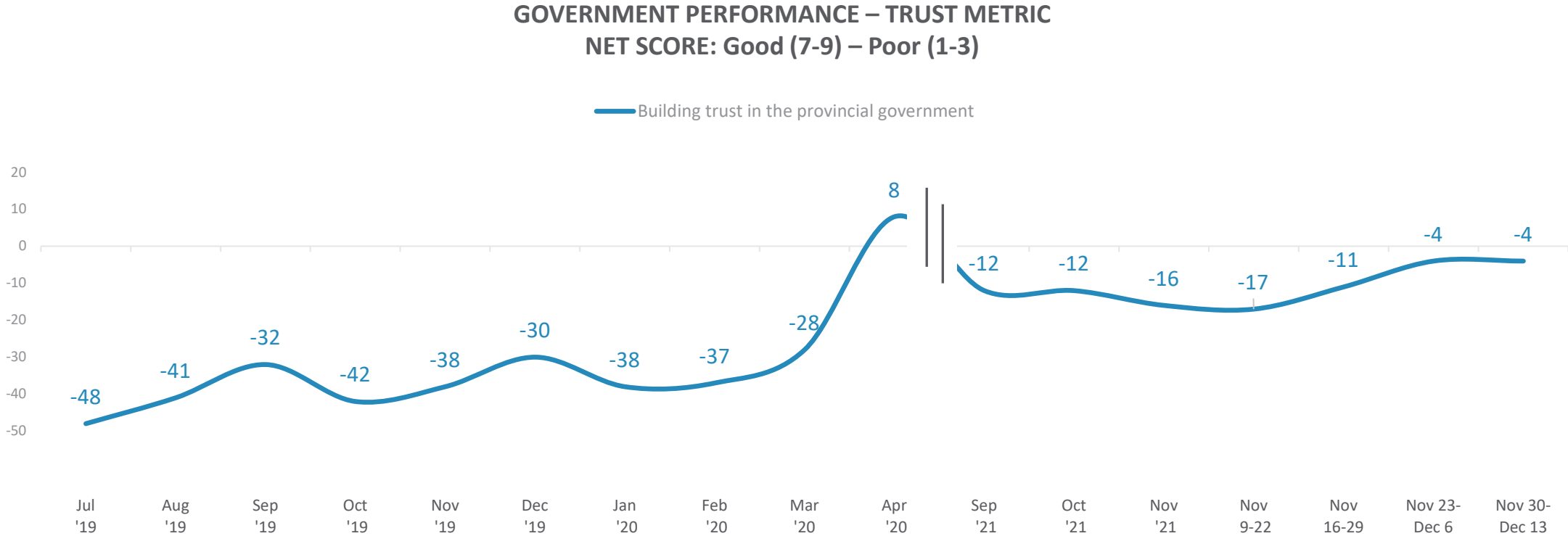
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Improve Ontario’s finances”
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘ensuring excellent public education’ had a slight decline this week.



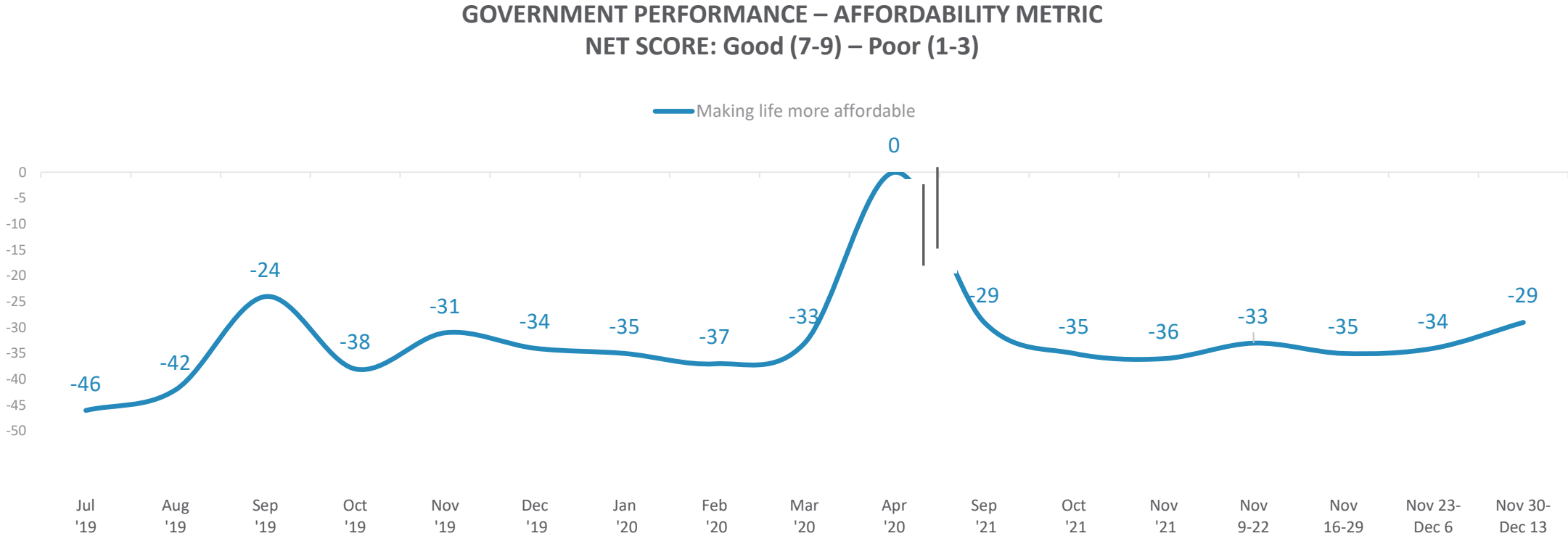
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
Bases vary

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



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

After remaining steady since October, rating of the government’s performance for ‘making life more affordable’ improved 5-points 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

FOCUS ON HEALTH VERSUS ECONOMY



Again this week, less than half (45%) of Ontarians believe the Ontario government should focus on economic issues surrounding COVID-19, while there was an increase to 43% 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	Nov 30-Dec 13
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	43
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	45
Both a health and an economic focus are equally important.	8	8	7	13	12	5	8	10	11	11

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



Almost eight-in-ten (77%) Ontarians register concern about Ontario experiencing a fifth wave of the pandemic, with 41% saying they are ‘very’ concerned.

How concerned are you that Ontario will experience a fourth 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

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

Nov 30-Dec 6	Dec 7-13
varies	
%	%
71	77
39	41
31	36
19	16
9	6
28	23

And, seven-in-ten (68%) 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	Dec 7-13
varies	
%	%
74	68
22	18
52	51
15	17
9	11
24	29
2	3

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...

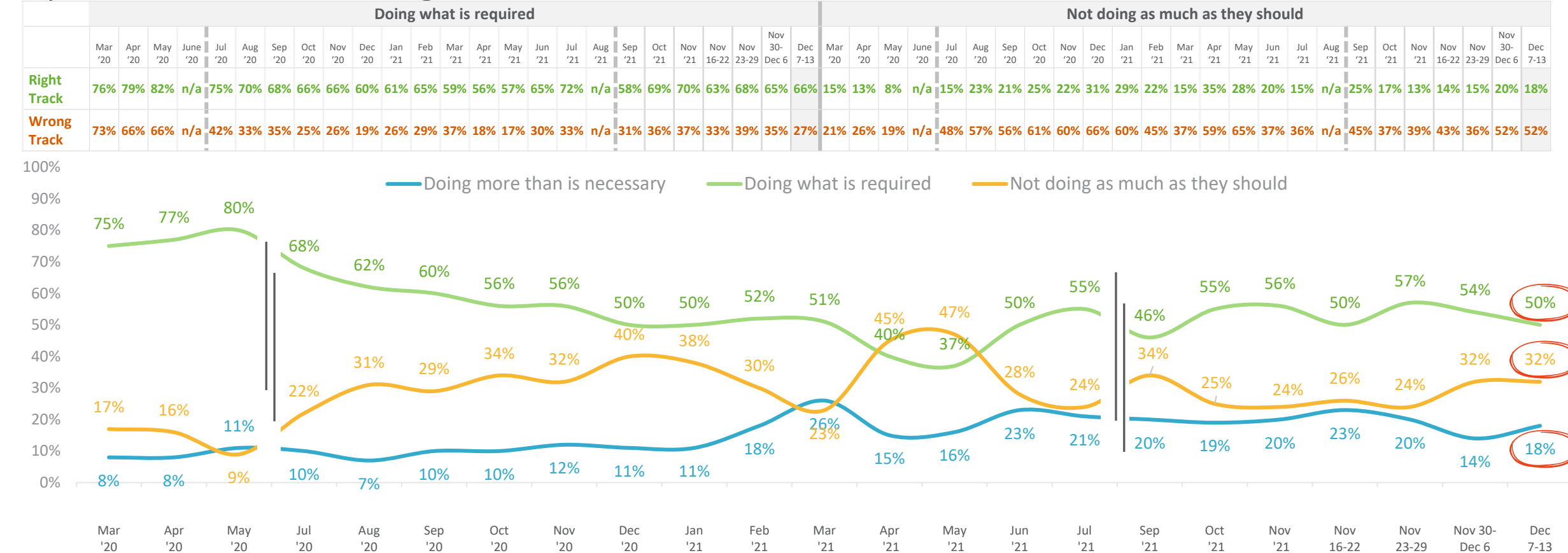
Base: Total sample

TAKING ACTION TO DEAL WITH THE 4TH WAVE



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MEASURES

There has been a 7-point decline over the past two weeks to half (50%) of Ontarians that believe the government is ‘doing what is required’ to reduce the spread of the virus. The proportions saying they are ‘not doing as much as they should’ remained unchanged at 32%.



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 ...

ADDITIONAL ACTION NECESSARY TO REDUCE TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19

This week, 15% of Ontarians supporting international travel into Canada being restricted, and 17% 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	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies													
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Requiring international travelers to be tested upon arrival in Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	17
Restricting international travel into Canada	23	21	19	13	19	19	23	17	18	19	18	16	26	15
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	8
Requiring domestic air travelers who enter Ontario to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	8
Regional approach to increasing COVID-19 restrictions in areas with higher COVID-19 cases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	7
Extending the pause on the next step of Ontario's re-opening plan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
Requiring international air travelers who enter Ontario to quarantine in a hotel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5
Lockdowns / closing businesses	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	2
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	13
No additional action is needed	6	3	9	9	11	5	5	13	13	12	15	10	8	10
Don't know/unsure	7	4	6	5	4	5	4	5	11	9	6	6	12	7

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

Base: Total sample

CONFIDENTIAL

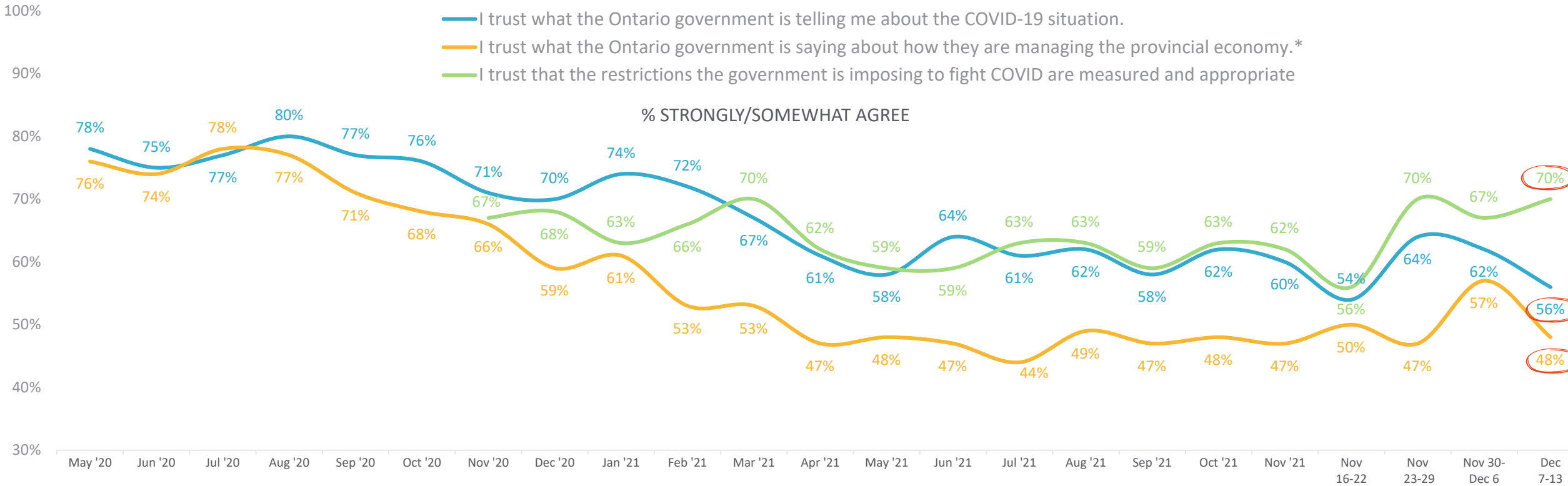
CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT COVID-19 MESSAGING



TRUST IN THE GOVERNMENT’S COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COVID-19

While 70% have trust in the government’s communications about ‘the restrictions the government is imposing to fight COVID are measured/appropriate’, trust has been declining in the past two weeks regarding ‘what the government is telling me about the COVID-19 situation’.

- Improvements for ‘how they are managing the provincial economy’ were reversed 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?

Since mid-November, there has been a 16-point drop to now less than half (46%) of Ontarians who feel optimistic that we are over the worst of the pandemic. This compares to 74% in July.

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	Dec 7-13
n=	varies									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	62	74	59	48	58	67	62	60	50	46
Strongly agree	24	37	27	18	27	30	29	33	19	23
Somewhat agree	38	38	33	30	32	38	32	27	30	24
Neither agree nor disagree	8	6	7	8	7	7	9	7	8	10
Somewhat disagree	17	9	16	18	14	12	13	11	18	17
Strongly disagree	10	8	15	22	17	11	13	19	20	23
TOTAL DISAGREE	28	17	31	39	32	23	26	30	38	41

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

While just over half (54%) report their level of concern stayed the same over the last week, 30% say it has increased.

	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
Increased	25	38	30
Stayed about the same	57	51	54
Decreased	17	9	15
Don't know/not sure	1	2	1

AWARENESS OF AND CONCERN ABOUT OMICRON VARIANT



There is very high awareness of the Omicron variant, with 98% saying they have heard about the new COVID-19 mutation.

	Nov 30- Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies	
	%	%
Yes	96	98
No	4	2

And, about seven-in-ten (68%) Ontarians are concerned about this new COVID-19 variant.

	Nov 30- Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies	
	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	67	68
Very concerned	35	27
Somewhat concerned	32	41
Not too concerned	19	16
Not at all concerned	11	15
TOTAL NOT CONCERNED	30	31
Don't know/not sure	3	1

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

Most (85%) Ontarians report they are wearing a mask or face covering ‘all/most of the time’, with 59% 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	Dec 7-13
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	85
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	59
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	27
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	9
Rarely	14	7	4	3	3	3	2	2	4	3	5	6	6	3	7	6	4	4	3	2	4	4	5
Never	3	1	1	1	1	1	<1	<1	2	2	1	1	<1	-	1	1	1	<1	<1	2	2	<1	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	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 2-8	Nov 9-15	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30-Dec 6	Dec 7-13	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	Dec 7-13
TOTAL ALL/MOST OF THE TIME	90%	92%	94%	94%	84%	82%	85%	86%	85%	85%	89%	83%	86%	84%	90%	90%	90%	93%	87%	82%	83%	86%	85%	76%	79%	81%	73%	76%	77%	77%	76%	76%	82%	84%	77%	76%	84%	83%

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 (89%) Ontarians support the need for public health measures. The majority (55%) want public health measures such as mask wearing and social distancing in public places to continue while 34% 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	Dec 7-13
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	9
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	55
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	34

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

Ontarians are paying more attention to the daily number of cases and other statistics about the pandemic in Ontario, with increases measured this week regarding the number of people in hospitals and in their intensive care units.

	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	Dec 7-13	Oct 26- Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30- Dec 6	Dec 7-13	Oct 26- Nov 1	Nov 2-8	Nov 9-15	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Nov 30- Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies																				
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
The number of daily new cases	12	14	14	12	21	28	29	39	40	37	40	36	37	31	48	44	46	45	38	31	37
The number of daily deaths	10	10	12	10	17	22	22	36	42	36	39	34	40	33	53	46	51	50	44	34	42
The number of people in hospitals	12	15	15	13	18	22	27	37	39	33	42	37	41	33	51	43	49	43	40	33	36
The number of people in intensive care units	14	14	14	13	19	22	30	36	36	35	45	37	41	30	49	46	47	39	39	34	37
Percentage of Ontarians fully vaccinated	24	23	21	24	27	29	28	40	38	35	40	30	37	32	34	35	41	35	38	31	36

LEVEL OF FATIGUE WITH COVID-19 MITIGATION MEASURES

This week, 43% of Ontarians indicate they are 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	Nov 16-22	Nov 23-29	Dec 7-13
n=	varies													
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL AGREE	32	27	34	36	43	45	45	49	44	43	40	50	45	43
Strongly agree	19	14	18	24	24	25	26	26	26	26	24	35	29	28
Somewhat agree	13	12	16	12	19	21	19	23	18	18	15	16	16	15
Neither agree nor disagree	3	5	7	3	6	7	8	11	7	4	6	6	5	9
Somewhat disagree	18	19	15	12	14	16	19	13	17	20	20	13	16	15
Strongly disagree	46	49	44	48	36	30	26	26	32	31	32	30	33	31
TOTAL DISAGREE	64	68	59	60	50	47	46	39	49	52	52	43	49	47

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

COVID-19 VACCINE



Less than half (46%) of Ontarians are confident the end of COVID-19 is nearer now that vaccines are being administered, down 11-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	Dec 7-13
varies														
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
52	49	49	58	56	72	70	63	47	52	58	57	52	42	46
16	18	18	22	20	33	33	24	15	21	25	25	20	16	16
35	31	31	36	36	39	37	39	32	30	33	32	31	26	31
6	7	6	6	7	6	6	5	6	6	6	5	7	7	8
19	20	18	16	16	13	11	15	19	18	18	16	14	21	10
22	23	24	17	19	7	12	15	25	22	17	19	24	28	34
41	43	42	34	35	21	23	30	44	40	34	36	38	49	44

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 65% indicating they would take it if it was available to them, and 15% reporting they already have their booster dose.

	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	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL WILLING	79	82	79	85	79	80	77	76	82	78	65
Very willing	54	69	61	69	60	58	57	63	66	66	55
Somewhat willing	25	14	18	16	19	22	20	13	15	12	10
Not too willing	7	6	9	6	8	8	10	11	3	4	6
Not at all willing	9	7	10	6	9	7	10	7	10	6	11
TOTAL NOT WILLING	16	14	19	12	17	15	20	18	14	11	17
I have already had my booster dose	2	1	1	2	3	3	2	4	4	10	15
Don't know/not sure	4	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	3

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 already have two doses and that is enough (21%), a lack of confidence in the effectiveness of the vaccine (21%), and they don't want to/not comfortable with it (20%).

	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	Nov 30- Dec 13
n=	69	84	73	60	69	76	81	68	48	68
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
I already got two doses (that is enough)	-	10	19	13	10	19	22	17	12	21
Not confident in the effectiveness of the vaccine	-	2	10	14	5	5	9	8	12	21
Do not want to/am not comfortable with	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
I got sick when taking previous doses of the COVID-19 vaccine	-	10	7	4	2	6	8	5	8	12
Not necessary	28	13	8	17	22	19	19	24	23	11
Concerned about long term effects	9	5	4	5	4	3	9	9	6	10
Research/need more information	11	11	9	17	20	10	3	5	9	6
They originally said two doses were enough (and were wrong)	13	8	5	8	9	3	-	2	2	5
Should be my choice to decide if I want a booster shot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4
Just a ploy to give money to big pharma	-	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	5	3
I never wanted to get the first two doses/was forced to get first two doses	-	6	4	7	5	4	4	2	-	3
Do not trust the government	6	5	3	2	4	7	4	6	9	2
It is not mandatory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	2
I am not high risk/my exposure is low	10	6	8	5	4	1	-	1	2	2
Concerned about too much vaccine in the body	3	-	16	2	2	2	5	4	-	2
They should focus on getting everyone vaccinated with the first two doses	-	4	6	7	4	-	1	2	2	1
How many boosters are going to be needed (e.g., every six months)	10	4	3	8	10	6	7	5	-	1
Heard negative things about the vaccine (e.g., in the media)	-	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	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	4
Don't know/not sure	1	5	8	2	9	11	9	9	8	3

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 (51%), public health vaccination clinic (43%), a pop-up clinic (39%) or at a doctor’s office (38%).

	Nov 30-Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies	
	%	%
At a pharmacy	54	51
Public Health vaccination clinic	44	43
At a mass vaccination or pop-up clinic	41	39
At doctor's office	38	38
At a hospital	33	28
In a grocery store	14	18
At public transportation hub	15	16
In a mall, while shopping	16	15
Anywhere/everywhere/all of the above	5	3
At another location	2	<1
Unsure / don't know	4	5
Prefer not to answer	2	7

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

	Nov 30-Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies	
	%	%
At a pharmacy	33	33
Public Health vaccination clinic	18	17
At a mass vaccination or pop-up clinic	13	13
At doctor's office	10	13
At another location	6	7
At a hospital	7	5
At public transportation hub	1	1
In a grocery store	<1	1
In a mall, while shopping	1	-
Unsure / don't know	8	5
Prefer not to answer	2	5

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

If a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine was made available today to all Ontarians over 18, half (52%) would get it as soon as it was made available to them. And, a further 26% would get it within a month of being available to them.

	Nov 30-Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies	
	%	%
As soon as it is made available to me	60	52
In the next week	7	7
Within the next two weeks	6	11
Within the next month	8	8
Within the next two months	6	6
Sometime later	6	10
Never	2	2
Don't know/not sure	4	5

STATE OF THE ICU IN ONTARIO



Overall, 45% of Ontarians indicate they have seen, read, or heard anything lately about Ontario’s Intensive Care Units and COVID-19, an increase of 7-points over the week.

	Nov 23-29	Nov 30- Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
Yes	39	38	45
No	61	62	55

WHAT THEY HAVE HEARD ABOUT ONTARIO’S ICUs

Among those who are aware, there has been an increase to over half (54%) saying they have heard that the number of COVID-19 patient’s in Ontario’s ICUs has been increasing. And, there has been a decline to 11% that say they have heard the number has been going down.

	Nov 23-29	Nov 30- Dec 6	Dec 7-13
n=	Varies		
	%	%	%
Going down	33	28	11
Staying about the same	17	21	25
Increasing	38	45	54
Fluctuating	-	1	-
Some other news	8	2	-
Don’t trust the news/fake news	-	-	1
Other	-	-	1
Don’t know/not sure	4	3	8

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

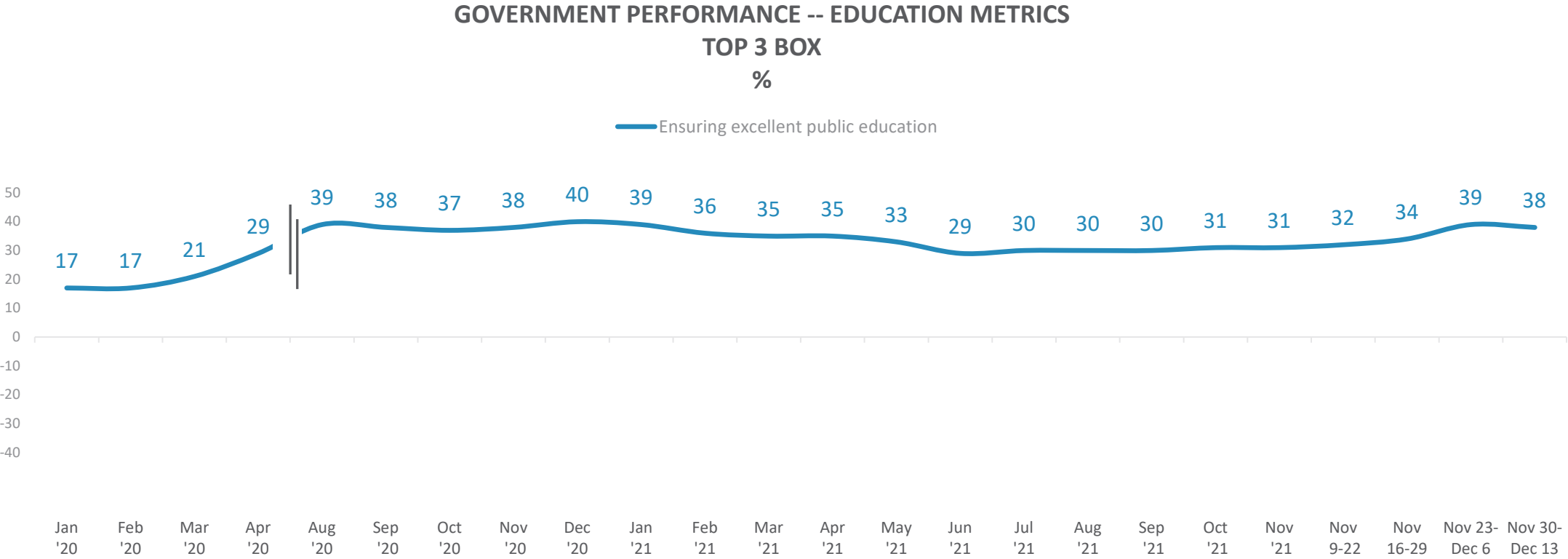
Among those who have heard the number of patients in Ontario’s ICUs is increasing, most (93%) say they are concerned and intensity is high with 62% ‘very’ concerned.

	Nov 23-Dec 6	Nov 30-Dec 13
n=	80	115
	%	%
TOTAL CONCERNED	82	93
Very concerned	52	62
Somewhat concerned	30	31
Not too concerned	16	6
Don’t know/not sure	2	1

APPENDIX – PERCEPTIONS OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

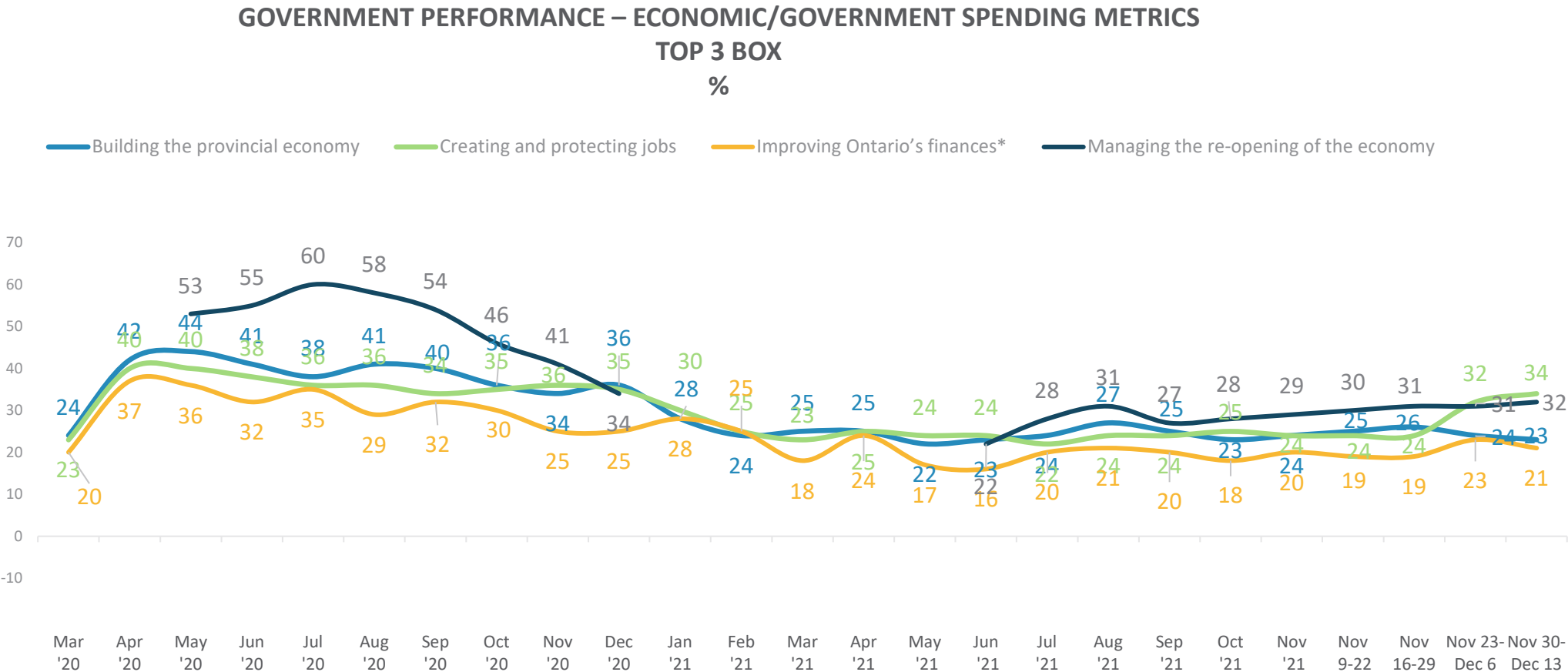


Positive perceptions on ‘ensuring excellent public education’ remained steady this week.



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

Positive perceptions toward the government’s performance for the economic and government spending metrics were stable this week.

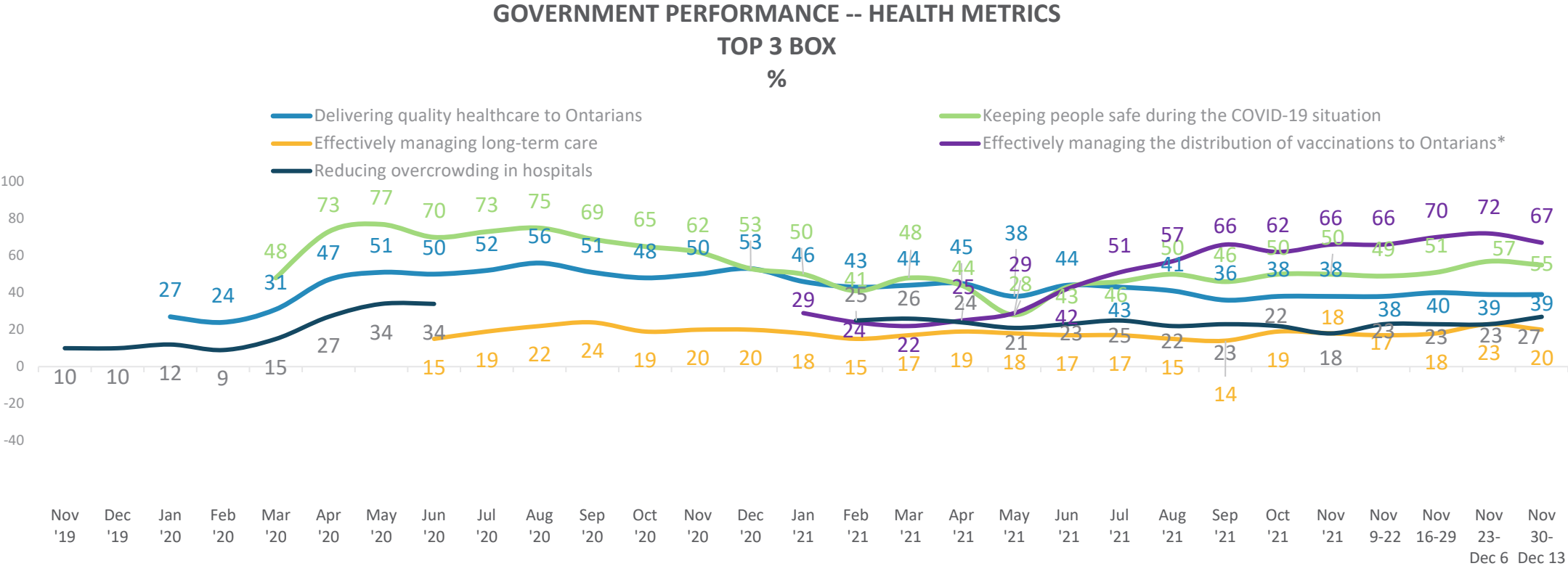


Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?

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

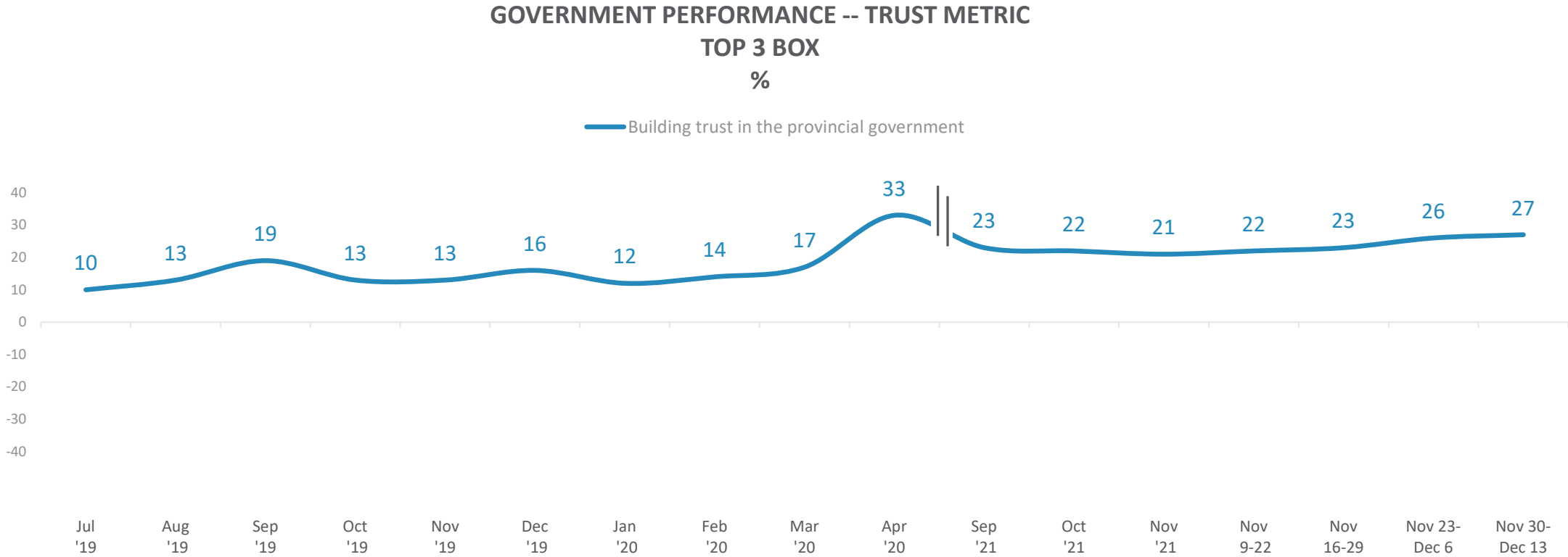
Bases vary

Rating of the government’s performance for ‘effectively managing the distribution of vaccines’ was down 5-points this week, while there was a slight increase for ‘reducing overcrowding in hospitals’. The other health metrics were stable.



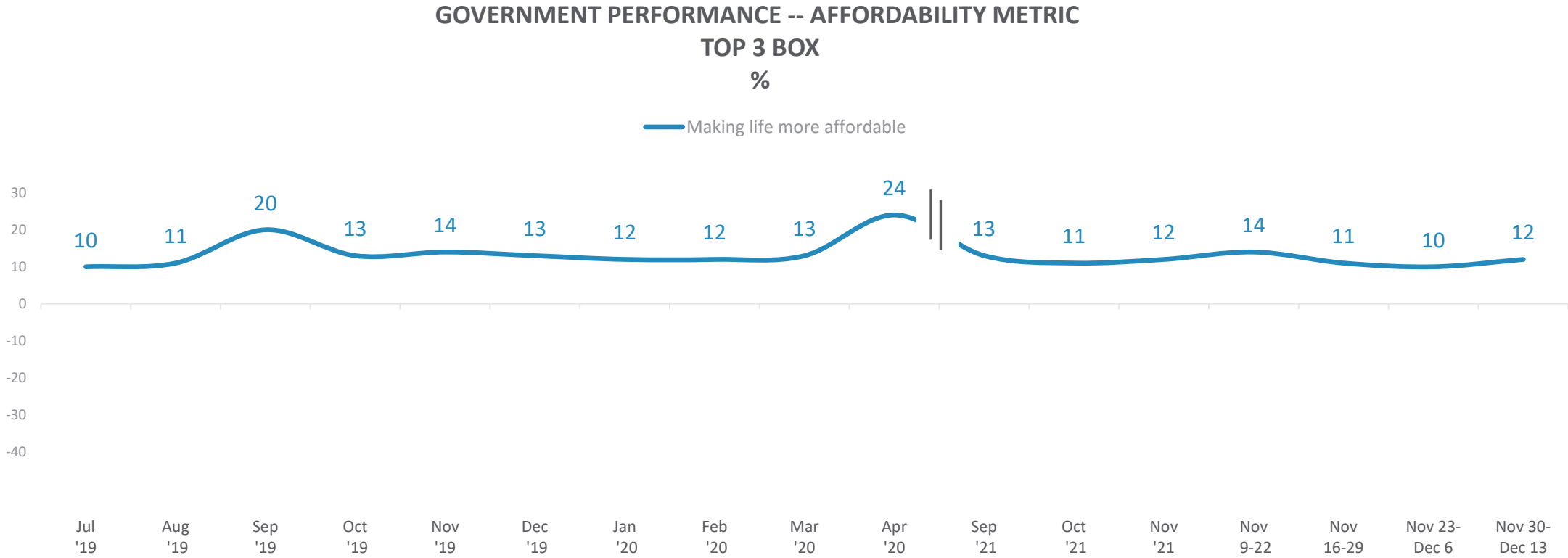
Q5. Using a scale where 1 means “poor” and nine is “excellent”, how would you rate the performance of Ontario government at managing each of the following?
*Former phrasing: “Effectively managing the vaccinations of Ontarians”
Bases vary

The rating of the government’s performance for ‘building trust in the provincial government’ continues to be 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’ 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