



Canada This Month Political Landscape

Public Opinion Research
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Field Dates: November 5 to 16, 2020

Political Landscape

The COVID-19 outbreak has set off a series of changes in the Canadian political landscape. Approval of provincial government's handling of the pandemic has started to fall off in Ontario, but has remained high in all provinces. In addition, the number of residents who say their provinces restrictions are currently too loose. Both BC and Ontario there has been an increase

Today, INNOVATIVE is releasing results from our November 2020 Canada This Month survey. This online survey was in field from November 5th to 16th with a weighted sample size of 1,000. Detailed methodology is provided in the appendix.

This report covers key results on how Canadians are rating their government's handling of COVID-19, whether they think provincial and federal governments have a plan to handle the pandemic, and whether they believe current restrictions are too tight or too loose.

Government Approval

Federal satisfaction has been largely steady since the summer, but approval of Ontario's and Alberta's handling of the COVID-19 outbreak has dropped since October

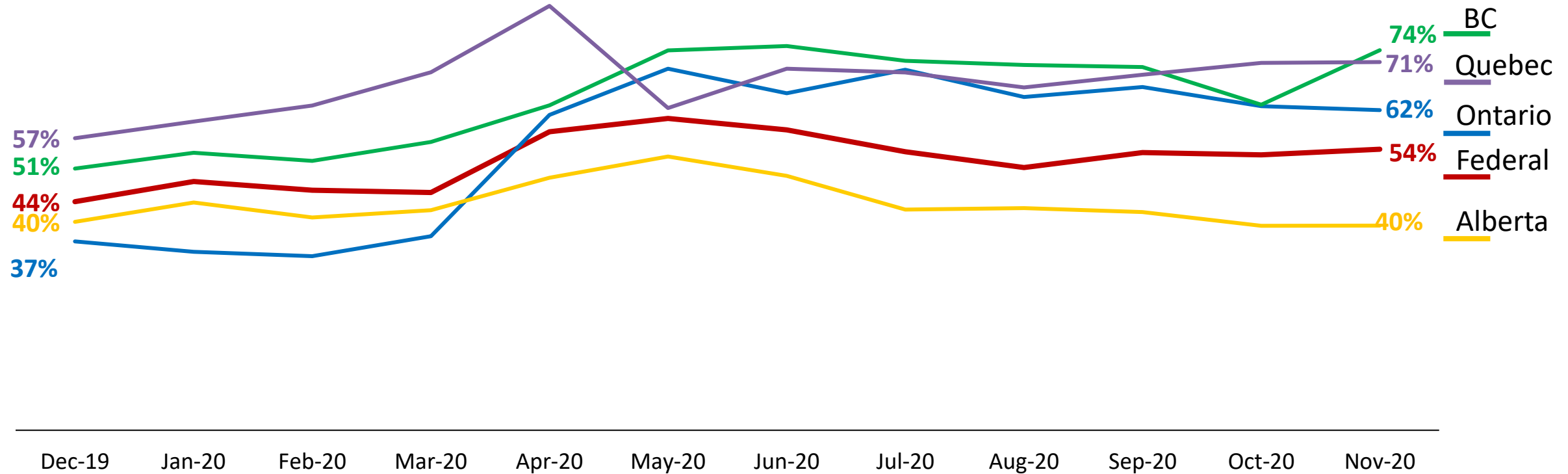
Overall Approval: Overall approval in BC is up 11 points since October, other provinces hold steady



[Federal government] Generally speaking, how satisfied are you with the performance of the FEDERAL government in Canada? Would you say you are...?
[Provincial governments] Generally speaking, how satisfied are you with the performance of the PROVINCIAL government in [PROV]? Would you say you are...?

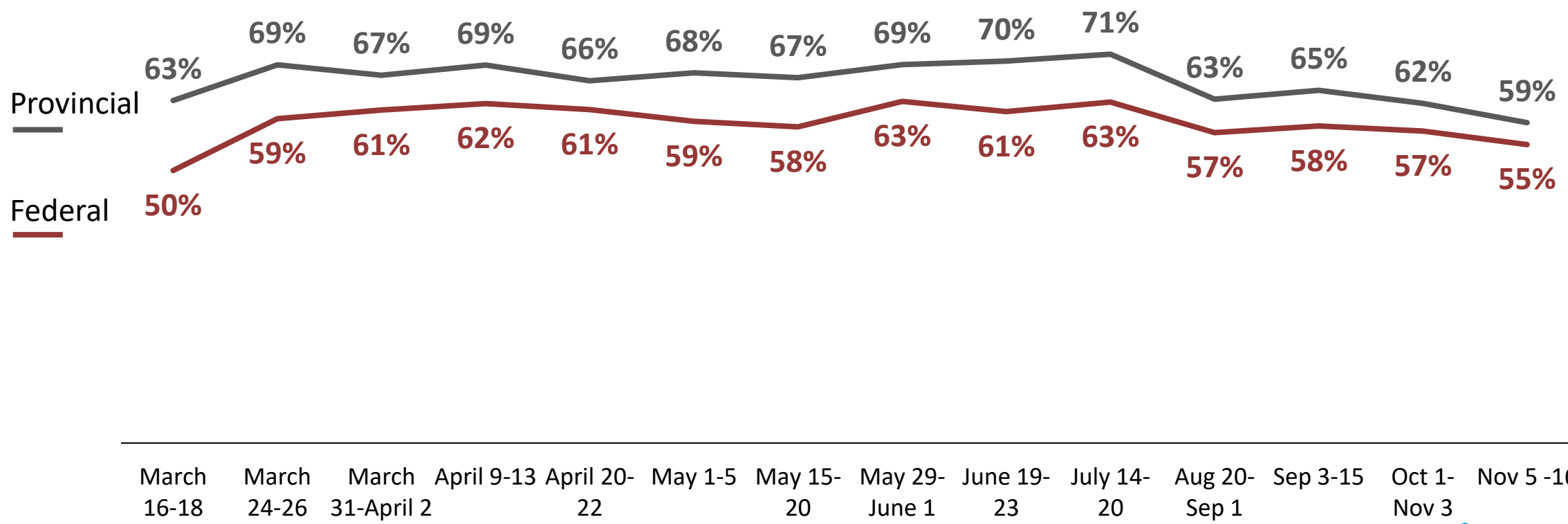
[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

% who say they are "very/somewhat satisfied"



COVID-19 Handling Tracking: Approval of the federal government and provincial governments has been steady since August

% who approve of government's handling of COVID-19 outbreak: Federal Vs. Provincial
[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

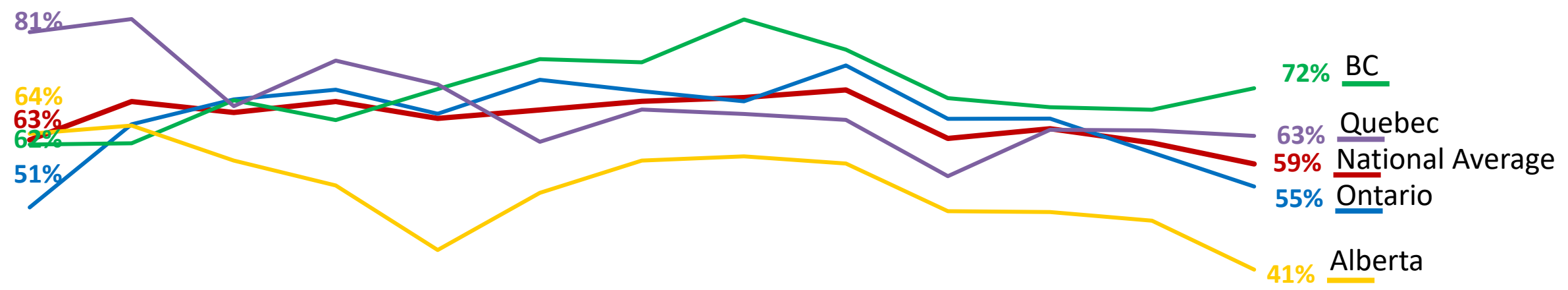


COVID-19 Provincial Handling Tracking: Approval of Ontario's handling of COVID-19 has hit its lowest point since March



Do you approve or disapprove of the way the [PROV] Government has handled the outbreak of COVID-19?
[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

% Approve



March 16-18 March 24-26 March 31-April 2 April 9-13 April 20-22 May 1-5 May 29-June 1 June 19-23 July 14-20 Aug 20-Sep 1 Sep 3-15 Oct 1-Nov 3 Nov 5-16



Restrictions

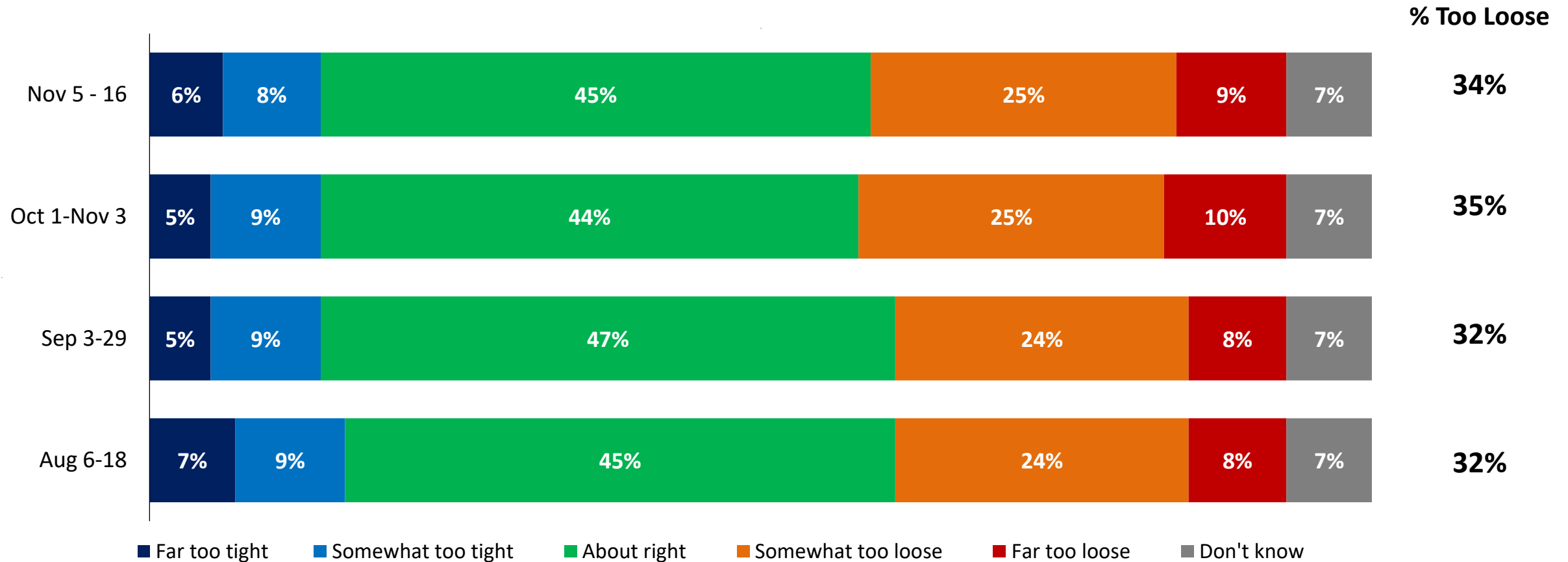
Nationally, there has been little change to the share of Canadians who think restrictions should be made tighter or looser. However, in Ontario and Alberta more now say restrictions are too loose than in October.

Federal Restrictions: The plurality of respondents say that federal restrictions are about right, steady from October



Now, thinking about the restrictions the federal government currently has in place to reduce social contacts and combat the spread of COVID-19, do you think the restrictions are too tight, too loose, or are they about right?

[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

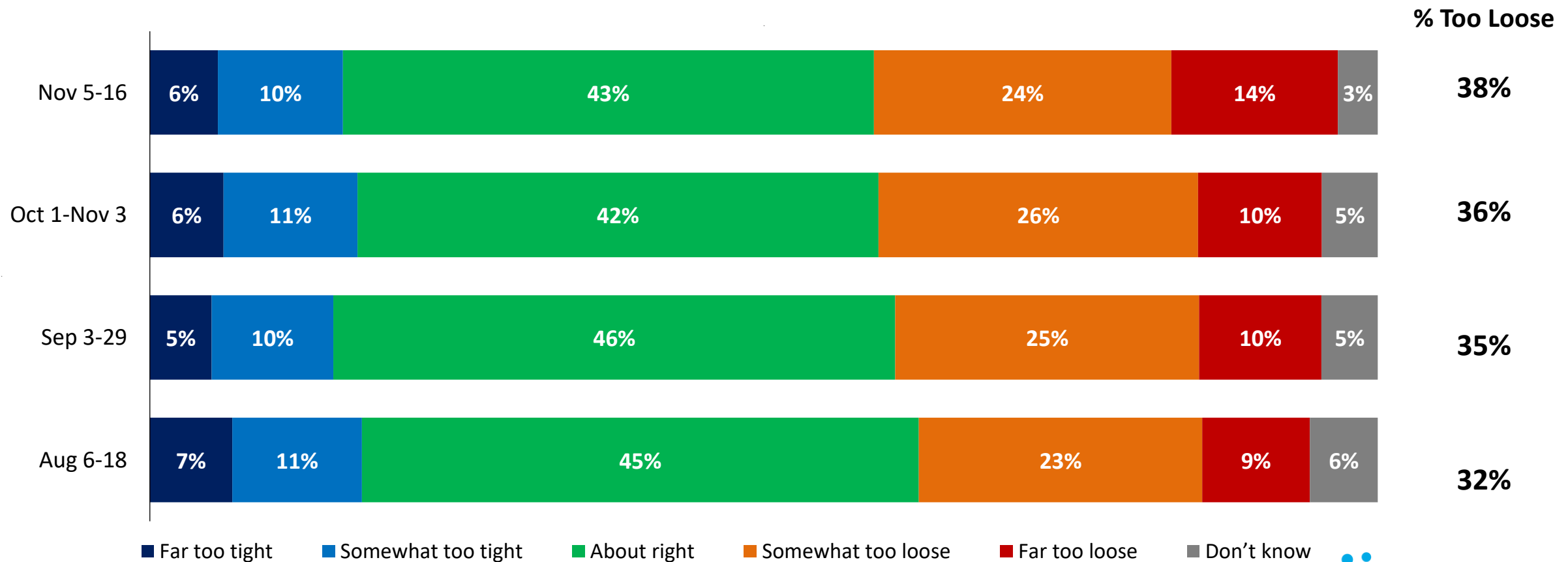


Provincial Restrictions: A plurality say their provinces restrictions are about right, while 38% say they are too loose



Now, thinking about the restrictions the provincial government in [PROV] currently has in place to reduce social contacts and combat the spread of COVID-19, do you think the restrictions are too tight, too loose, or are they about right?

[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

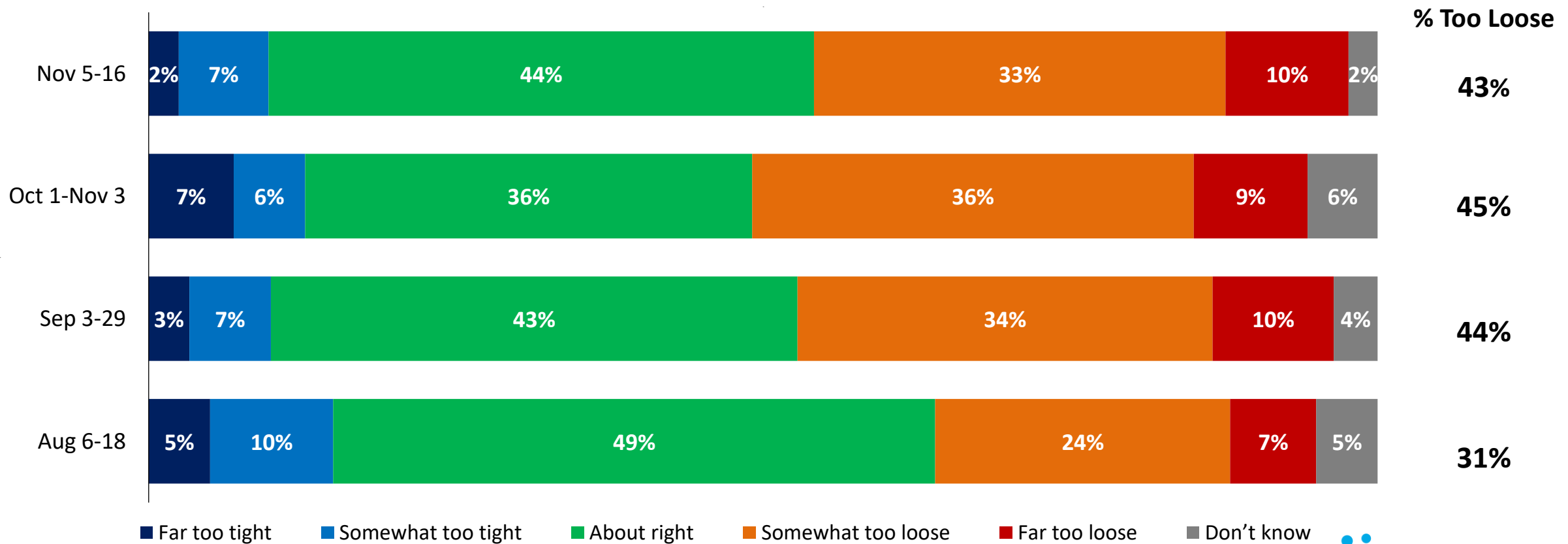


Provincial Restrictions - BC: In BC, the plurality now say restrictions are about right (44%), up 8pts since October



Now, thinking about the restrictions the provincial government in [PROV] currently has in place to reduce social contacts and combat the spread of COVID-19, do you think the restrictions are too tight, too loose, or are they about right?

[asked of all respondents; n=150]

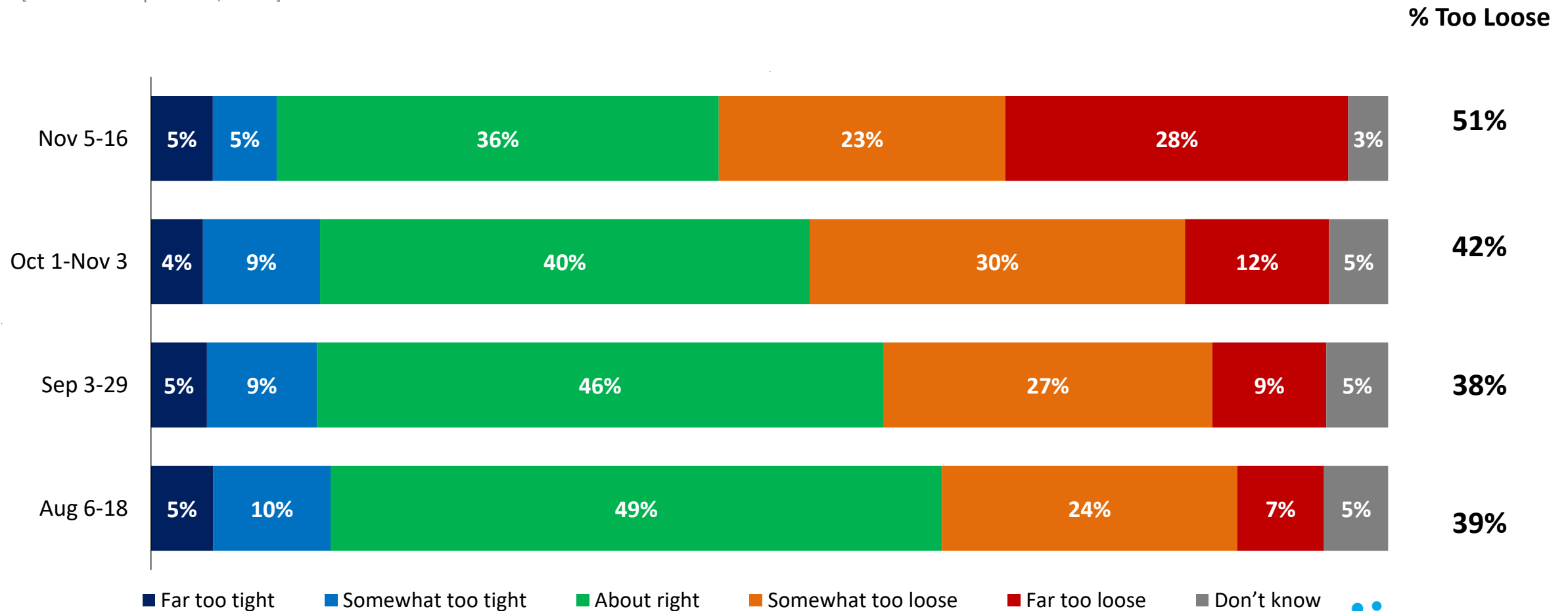


Provincial Restrictions - Alberta: The majority now say restrictions are too loose (51%), up 9 points since October



Now, thinking about the restrictions the provincial government in [PROV] currently has in place to reduce social contacts and combat the spread of COVID-19, do you think the restrictions are too tight, too loose, or are they about right?

[asked of all respondents; n=150]

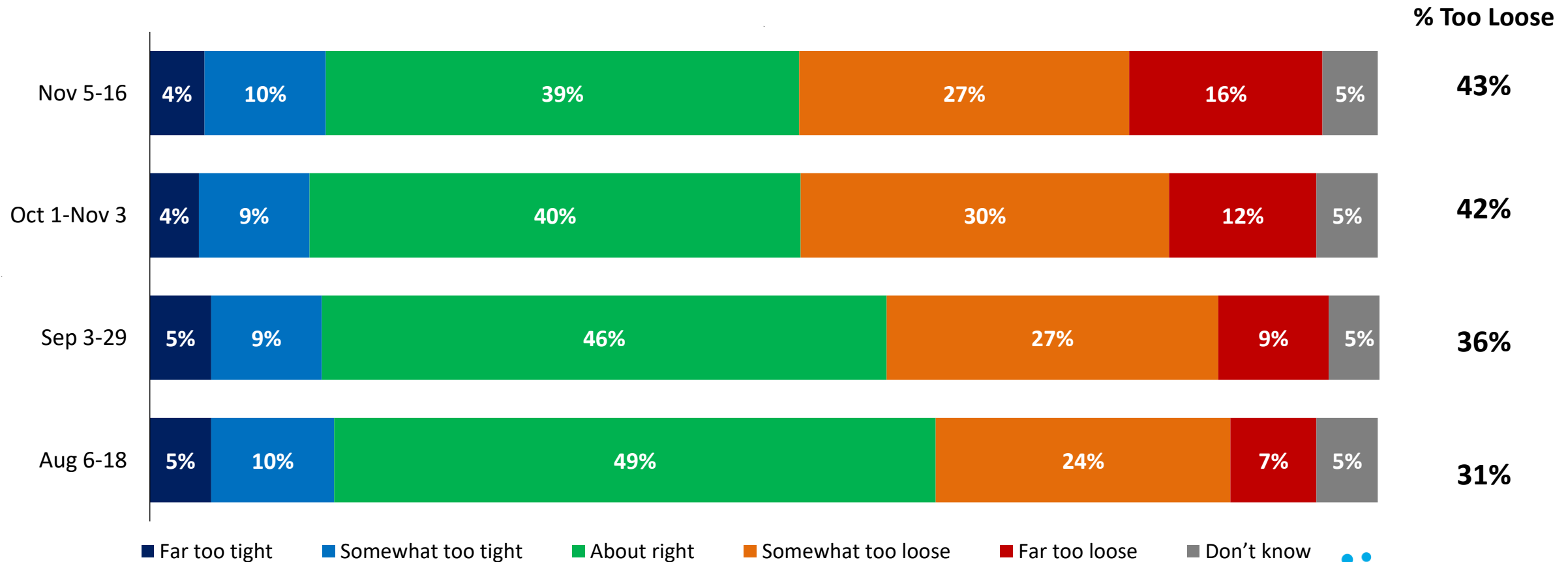


Provincial Restrictions - Ontario: More Ontarians think restrictions are too loose than ever before (43%)



Now, thinking about the restrictions the provincial government in [PROV] currently has in place to reduce social contacts and combat the spread of COVID-19, do you think the restrictions are too tight, too loose, or are they about right?

[asked of all respondents; n=1,200]

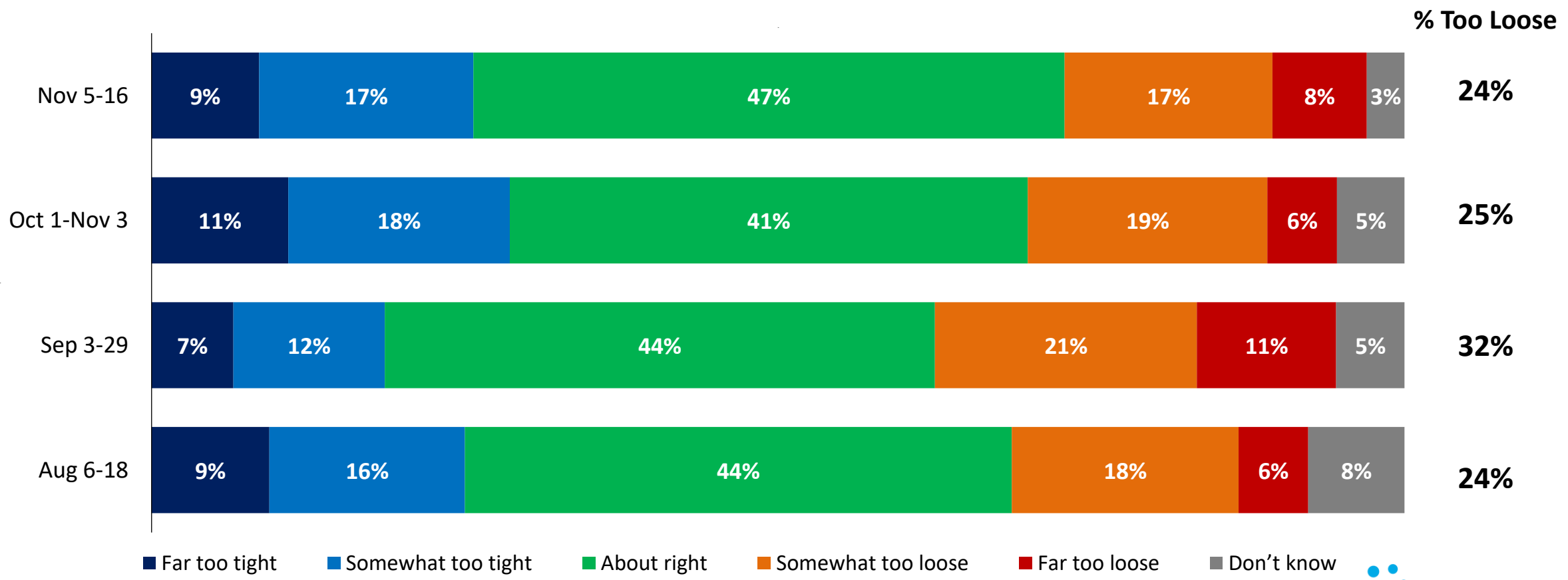


Provincial Restrictions - Quebec: The share who say restrictions are too loose has stayed steady since October



Now, thinking about the restrictions the provincial government in [PROV] currently has in place to reduce social contacts and combat the spread of COVID-19, do you think the restrictions are too tight, too loose, or are they about right?

[asked of all respondents; n=237]



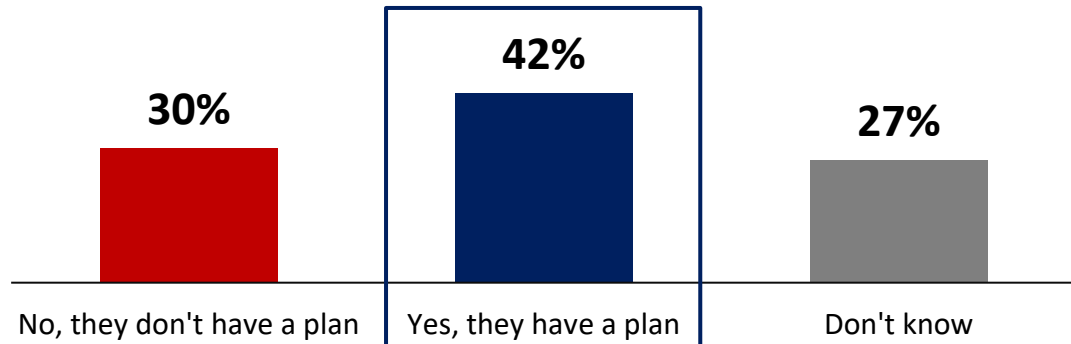
Note: Current data: November 2020

Plans

While views of the federal government's plan have been steady since the summer, in Ontario and Alberta more now say their province doesn't have a plan.

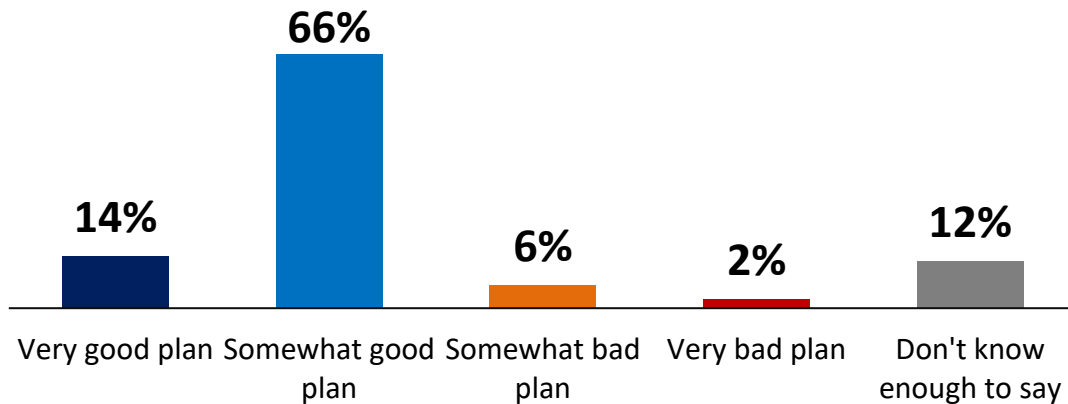
Plan to Deal with COVID | Federal: Most (57%) either don't know or say they don't have a plan but most who think they have a plan say it's good

Q From what you know, do you think the federal government has a plan to deal with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak?
[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

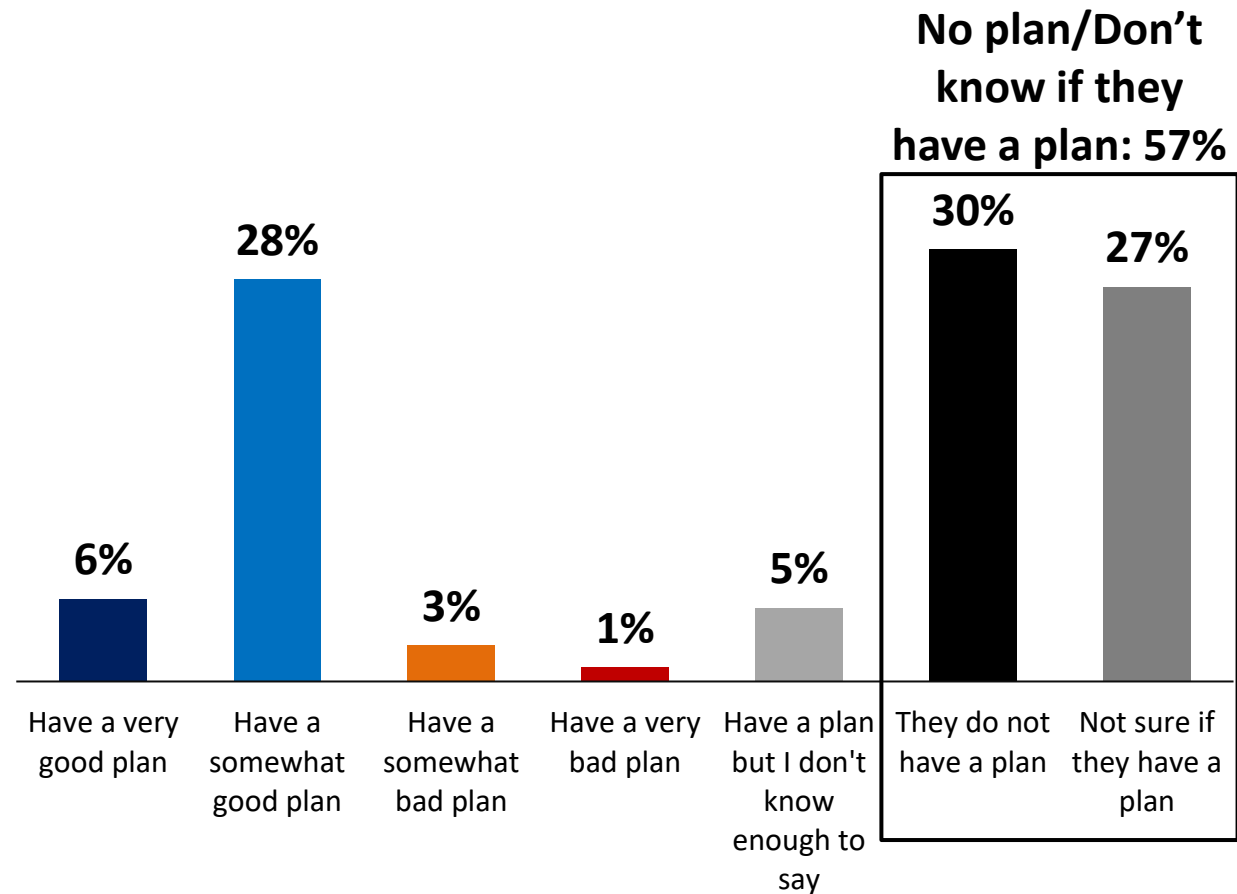


Q And do you think that it is a good or a bad plan?
[asked only of respondents who say the federal government has a plan; n=424]

Among those who say the federal gov't has a plan



We combine responses to these two questions in order to create one single measure of perceptions of the gov't's plan among all respondents to deal with ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak

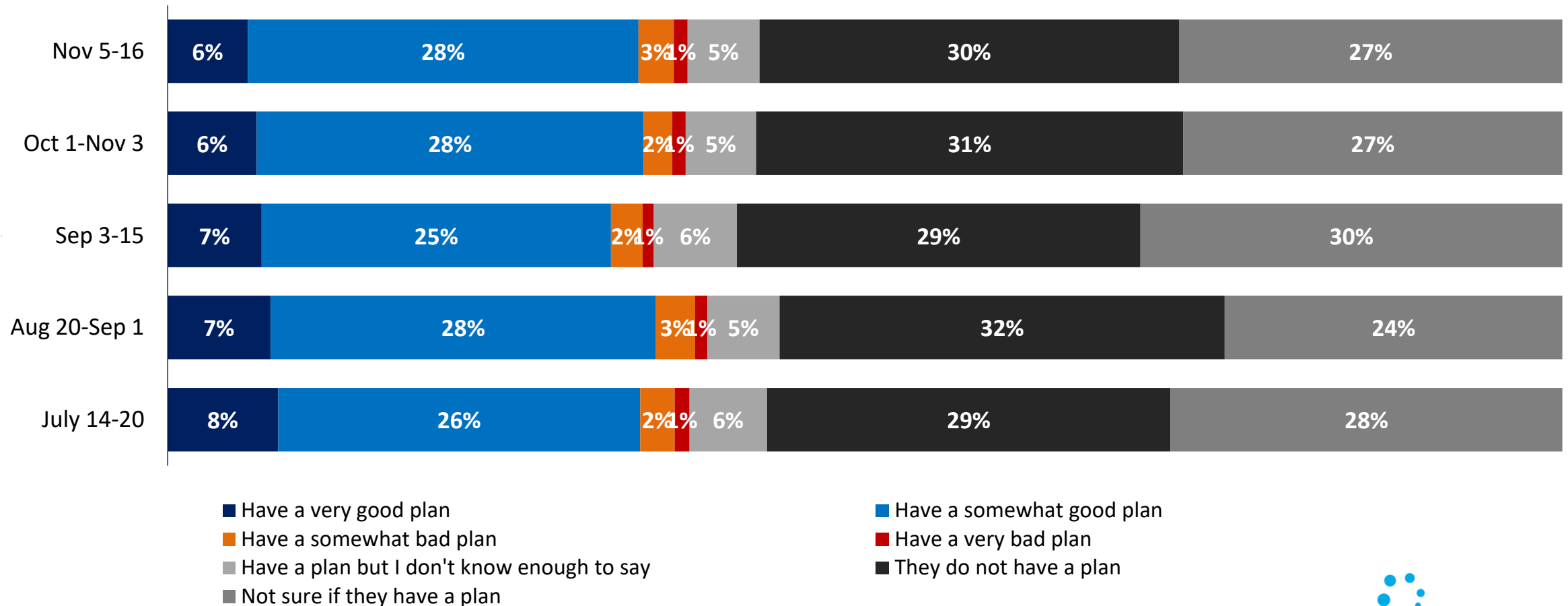


Federal plan to deal with COVID-19: A majority continue to say the federal government doesn't have a plan or are unsure if it does



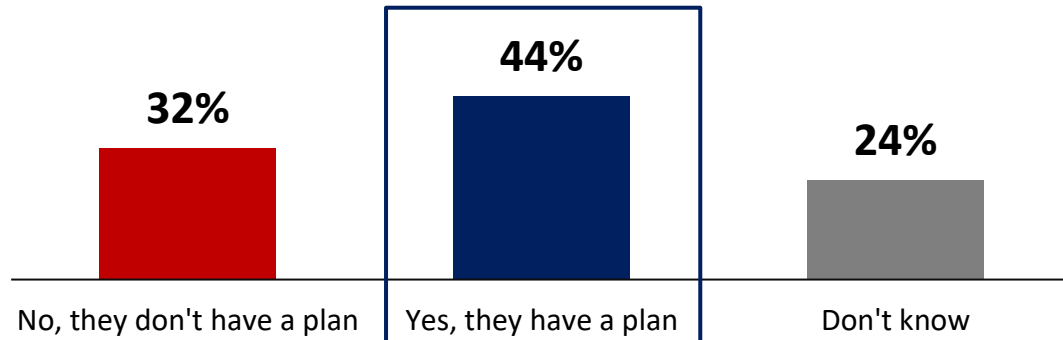
From what you know, do you think the federal government has a plan to deal with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak? And do you think that it is a good or a bad plan?

[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]



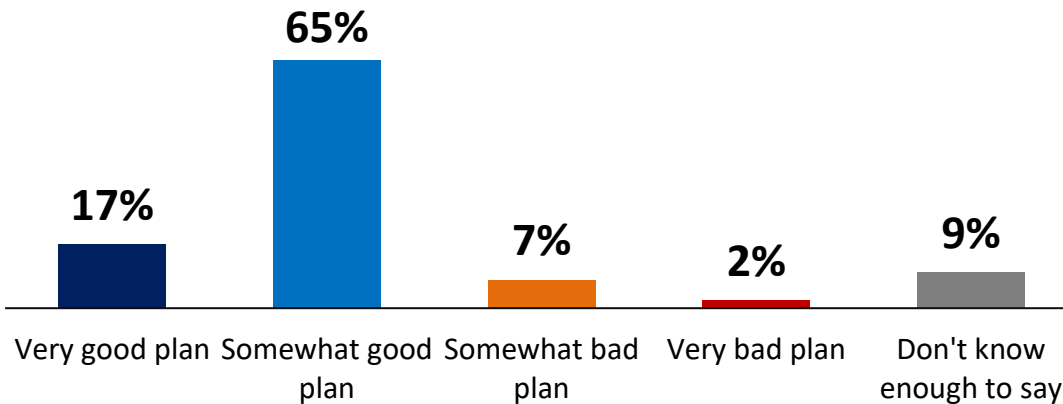
Plan to Deal with COVID | Provincial: More than half don't know if their government has a plan (24%), or think it doesn't (32%)¹⁷

Q From what you know, do you think the provincial government in [PROV] has a plan to deal with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak?
[asked of all respondents; n=1,000]

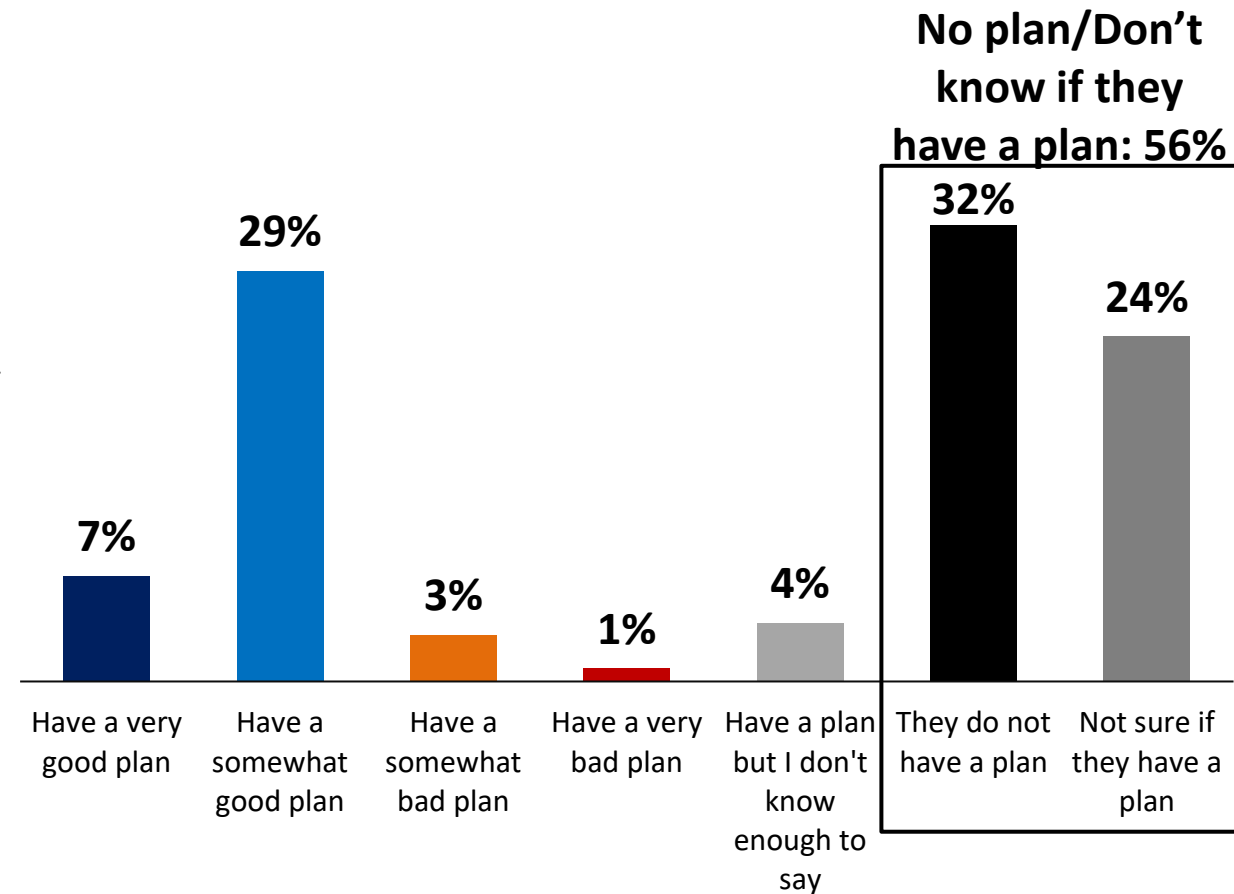


Q And do you think that it is a good or a bad plan?
[asked only of respondents who say their provincial government has a plan; n=442]

Among those who say their provincial gov't has a plan



We combine responses to these two questions in order to create one single measure of perceptions of the gov't's plan among all respondents to deal with ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak

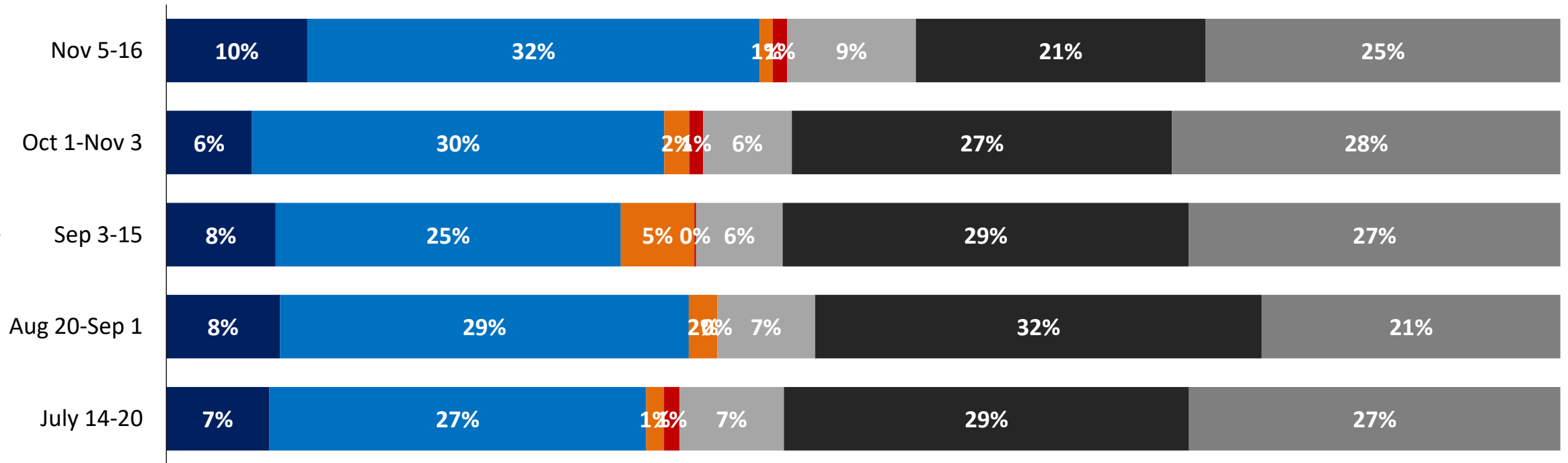


Plan to deal with COVID-19 - BC: In BC, the share of respondents who say the government has a plan has increased to its highest level



From what you know, do you think the provincial government in BC has a plan to deal with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak? And do you think that it is a good or a bad plan?

[asked of all respondents; n=150]



- Have a very good plan
- Have a somewhat good plan
- Have a somewhat bad plan
- Have a very bad plan
- Have a plan but I don't know enough to say
- They do not have a plan
- Not sure if they have a plan

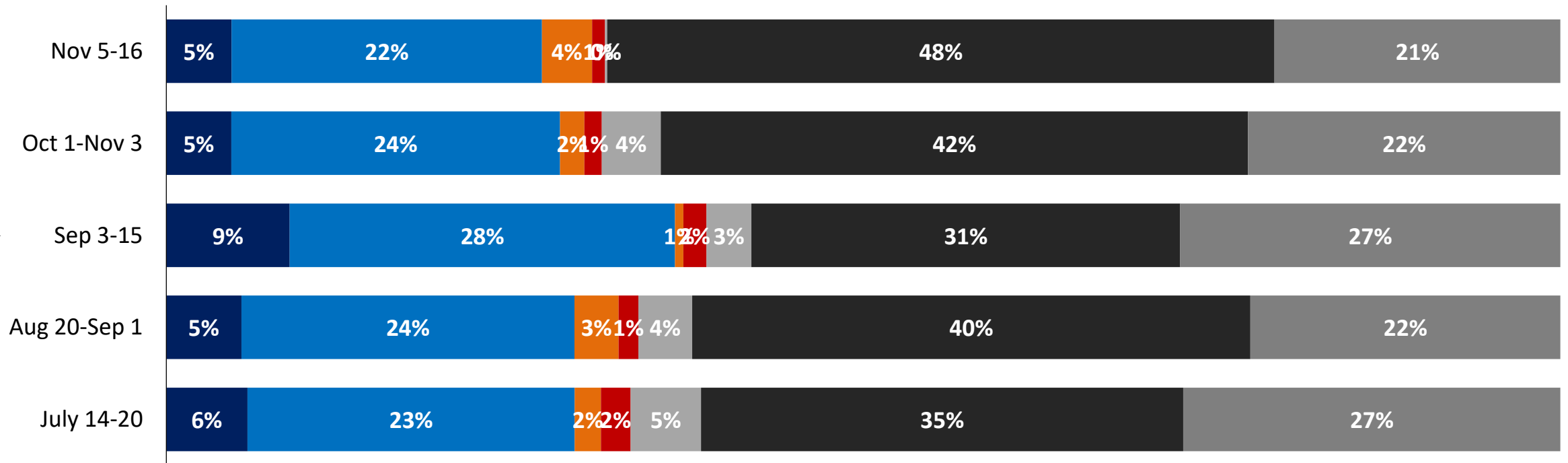


Plan to deal with COVID-19 - Alberta: The share of Albertans who say their government has no plan is up another 6pts since October



From what you know, do you think the provincial government in Alberta has a plan to deal with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak? And do you think that it is a good or a bad plan?

[asked of all respondents; n=150]



- Have a very good plan
- Have a somewhat good plan
- Have a somewhat bad plan
- Have a very bad plan
- Have a plan but I don't know enough to say
- They do not have a plan
- Not sure if they have a plan

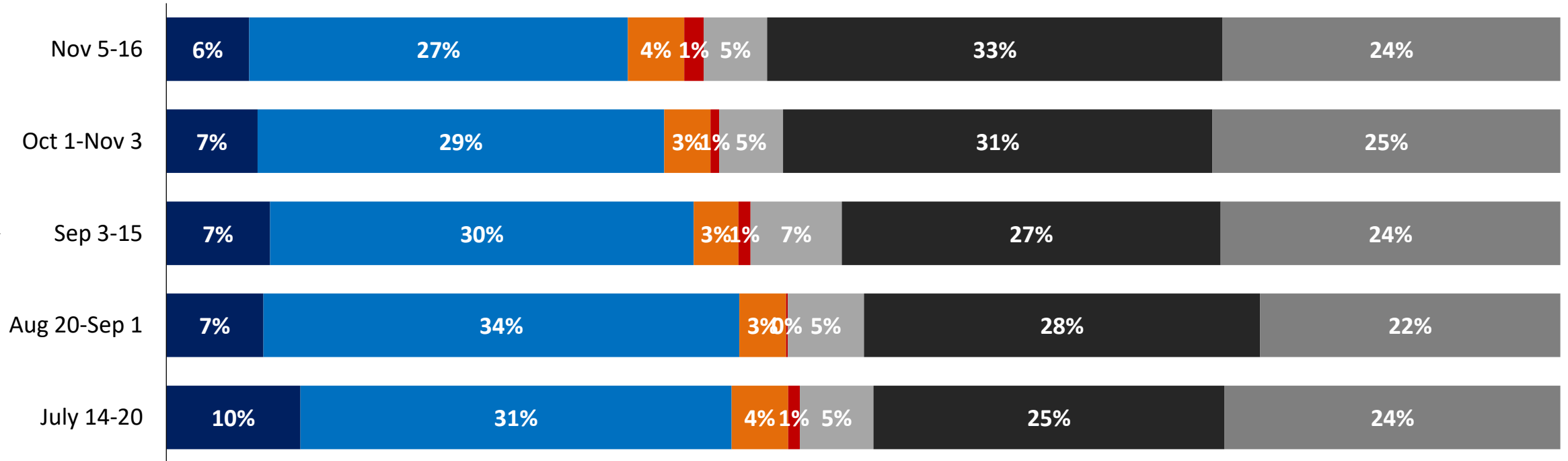


Plan to deal with COVID-19 - Ontario: The share of respondents who say Ontario doesn't have a plan is up 2 points since October



From what you know, do you think the provincial government in Ontario has a plan to deal with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak? And do you think that it is a good or a bad plan?

[asked of all respondents; n=1,200]



- Have a very good plan
- Have a somewhat good plan
- Have a somewhat bad plan
- Have a very bad plan
- Have a plan but I don't know enough to say
- They do not have a plan
- Not sure if they have a plan



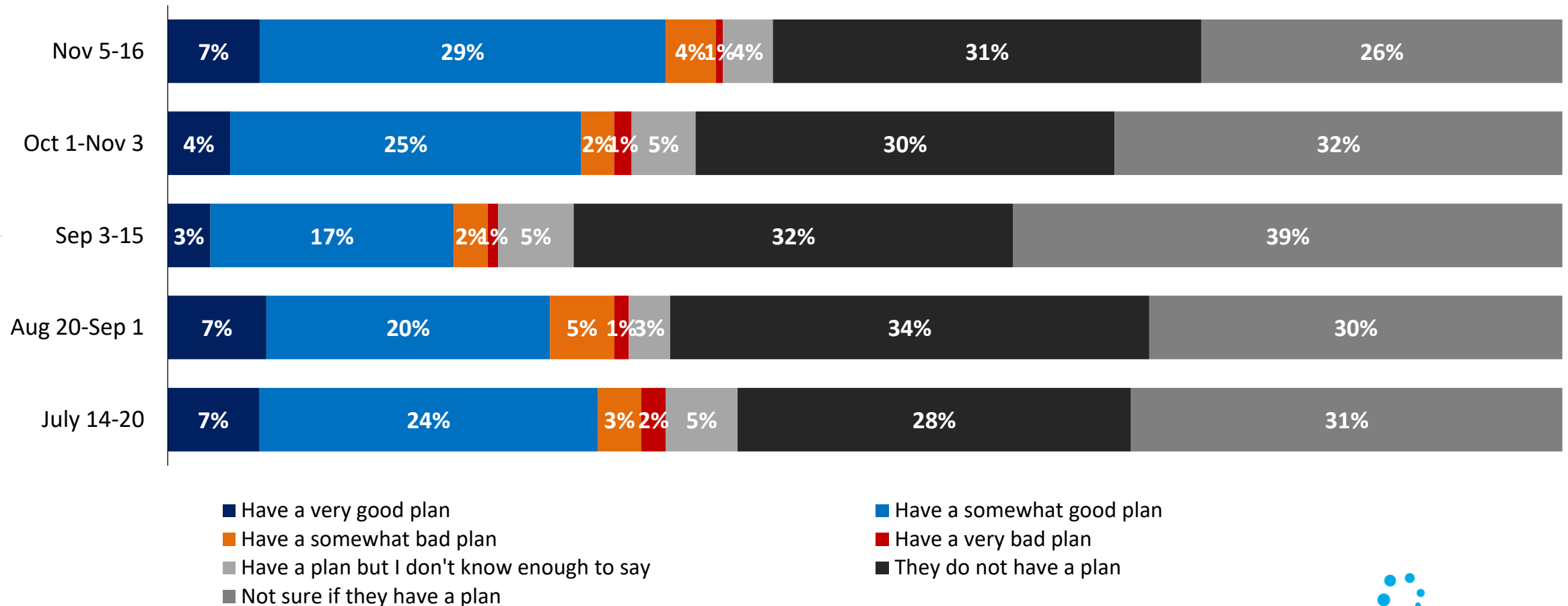
Note: Current data: November 2020

Plan to deal with COVID-19 - Quebec: In Quebec, more say their government has a plan now than in October



From what you know, do you think the provincial government in Quebec has a plan to deal with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 outbreak? And do you think that it is a good or a bad plan?

[asked of all respondents; n=237]



Methodology



Survey Methodology

These are the results of an online survey conducted between November 5th and 16th, 2020.

Method: This online survey was conducted using INNOVATIVE's Canada 20/20 national research panel with additional respondents from Dynata, a leading provider of online sample. Each survey is administered to a series of randomly selected samples from the panel and weighted to ensure that the overall sample's composition reflects that of the actual Canadian population according to Census data to provide results that are intended to approximate a probability sample.

Sample Size: n=2,717 Canadian citizens, 18 years or older. An oversamples in Ontario was used in order to adequately capture regional results. The results are nationally weighted to n=1,000 based on Census data from Statistics Canada.

Field Dates: November 5th to 16th, 2020.

Weighting: Results for Canada are weighted by age, gender, and region to ensure that the overall sample's composition reflects that of the actual population according to Census data; in order to provide results that are intended to approximate a probability sample. Weighted and unweighted frequencies are reported in the table.

Margin of Error: This is a representative sample. However, since the online survey was not a random probability based sample, a margin of error cannot be calculated. Statements about margins of sampling error or population estimates do not apply to most online panels.

Note: Graphs may not always total 100% due to rounding values rather than any error in data. Sums are added before rounding numbers.

	Unweighted (n)	Unweighted (%)	Weighted (n)	Weighted (%)
Men 18-34	231	8.5%	139	13.9%
Men 35-54	439	16.2%	164	16.4%
Men 55+	631	23.2%	184	18.4%
Women 18-34	291	10.7%	133	13.3%
Women 35-54	521	19.2%	172	17.2%
Women 55+	604	22.2%	208	20.8%
Region				
BC	308	11.3%	129	12.9%
AB	240	8.8%	110	11.0%
Prairies	195	7.2%	66	6.6%
ON	1267	46.6%	389	38.9%
QC	480	17.7%	237	23.7%
Atlantic	227	8.4%	69	6.9%

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