



Canada This Month Political Landscape

Public Opinion Research
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Field Dates: January 07 to February 01, 2021

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 dropped sharply in Alberta (29%) and dipped in Ontario (46%), with a decrease in those who approve in Quebec (68%) and BC (61%), although a majority still approve. Despite the Albertan provincial government putting in place a strong set of new restrictions in last December, there was an increase of those who think the restriction are too loose (42%).

Today, INNOVATIVE is releasing results from our December 2020 *Canada This Month* survey. This online survey was in field from January 7th to February 1st, 2021 with a weighted sample size of 2,000. 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

Both approval of the federal and provincial governments handling of the COVID-19 outbreak is down to its lowest level since the beginning of the outbreak.

Satisfaction with provincial handling of COVID-19 has seen a decrease in all major provinces, most significantly in BC (72% in December to 61% now).

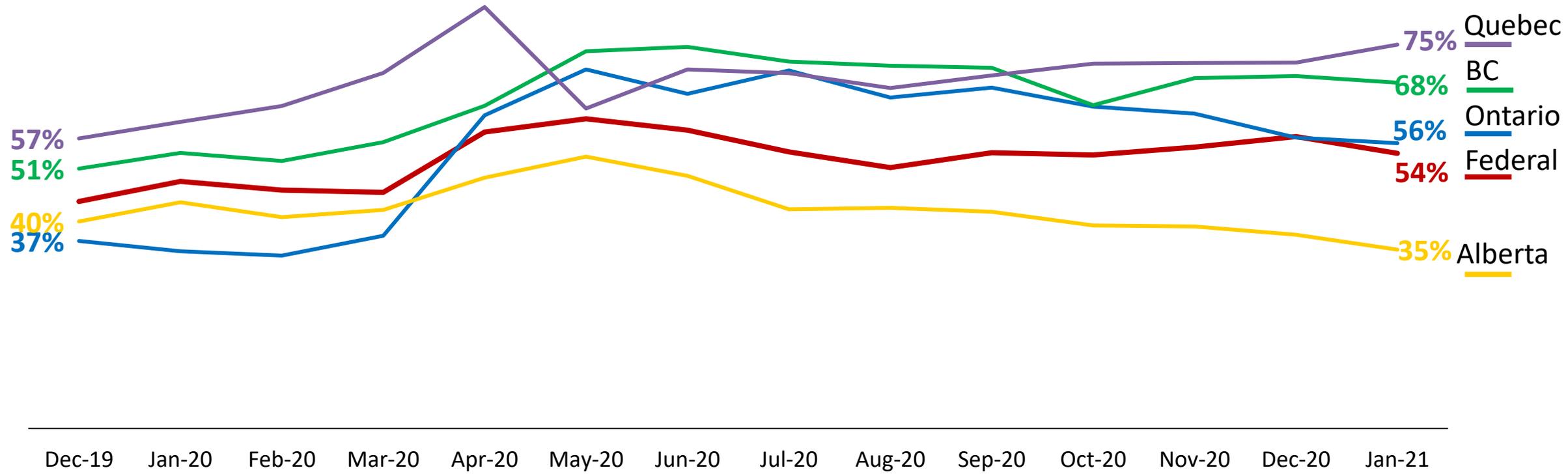
Overall Approval: Approval of the Alberta gov't remains the lowest while approval of the BC and Quebec gov'ts are the highest



[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=2,000]

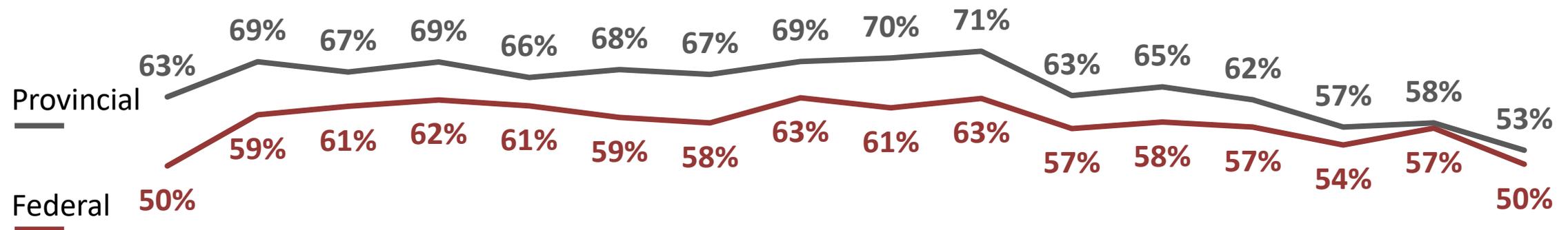
% who say they are "very/somewhat satisfied"



COVID-19 Handling Tracking: Approval of both federal and provincial handling is at its lowest level since the beginning of the outbreak

% who approve of government's handling of the COVID-19 outbreak: Federal Vs. Provincial

[asked of all respondents; n=2,000]



March 16-18 March 24-26 March 31-April 2 April 9-13 April 20-22 May 1-5 May 15-20 May 29-June 1 June 19-23 July 14-20 Aug 20-Sep 1 Sep 3-15 Oct 1-3 Nov 5-2 Dec 17-5 Jan 7-1

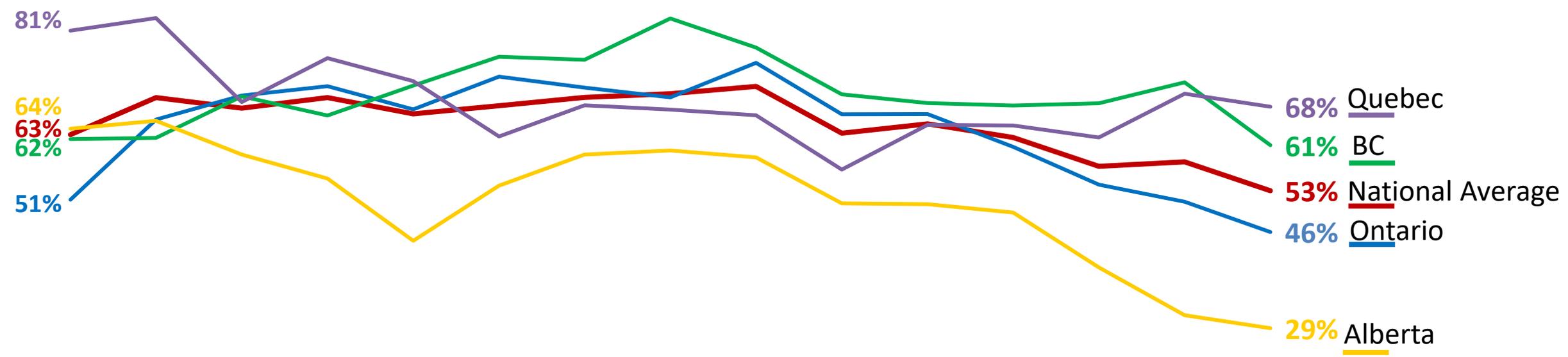
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COVID-19 Provincial Handling Tracking: All provinces see a decrease in approval, bringing down the national average to 53%



Do you approve or disapprove of the way the [PROV] Government has handled the outbreak of COVID-19?
[asked of all respondents; n=2,000]

% 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 15 Oct 1-3 Nov 5 Dec 2 Jan 5 Jan 7-Feb 1



Restrictions

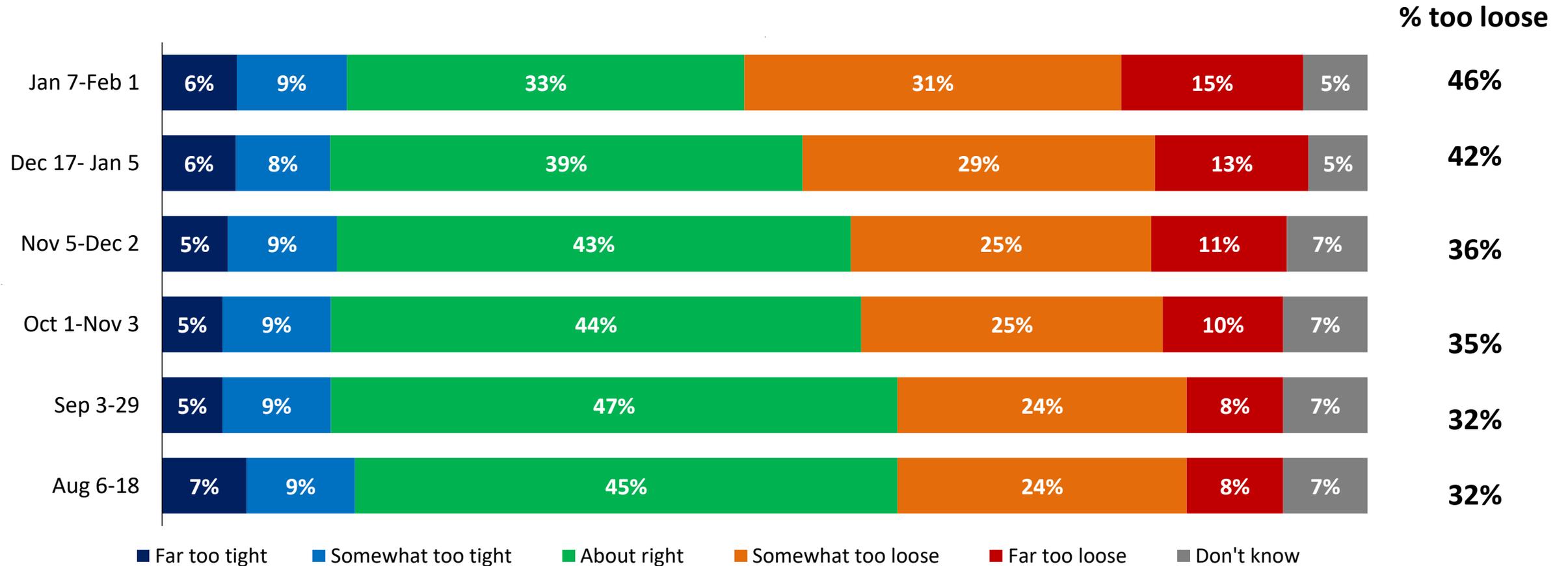
Nationally, there has been an increase (+4%) in the share of Canadians who think the restrictions put in place are 'too loose'. Those in Alberta and Ontario are also up this month on saying restrictions put in place by their provincial government are 'too loose'.

Federal Restrictions: Nearly half (46%) say that restrictions put in place by the federal gov't are 'too loose'; at highest point across tracking



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=2,000]

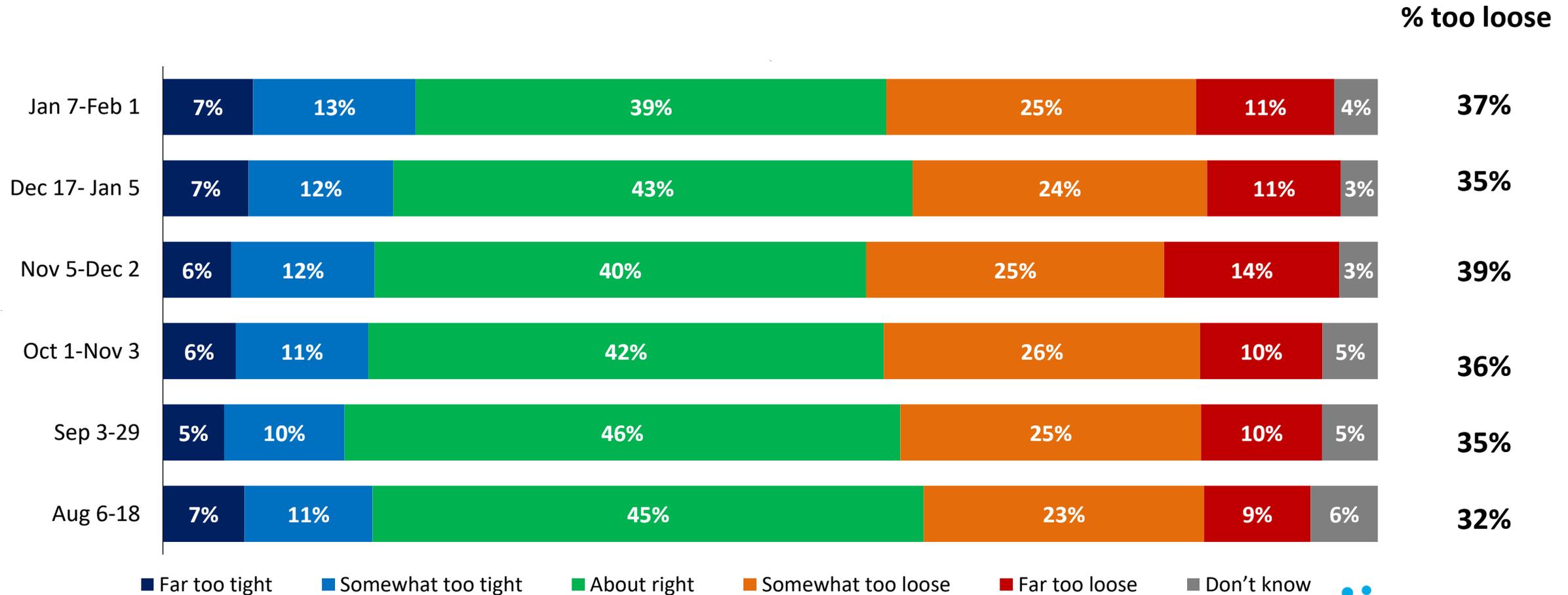


Provincial Restrictions: Close to 2-in-5 (37%) say their province's restrictions are too loose



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=2,000]

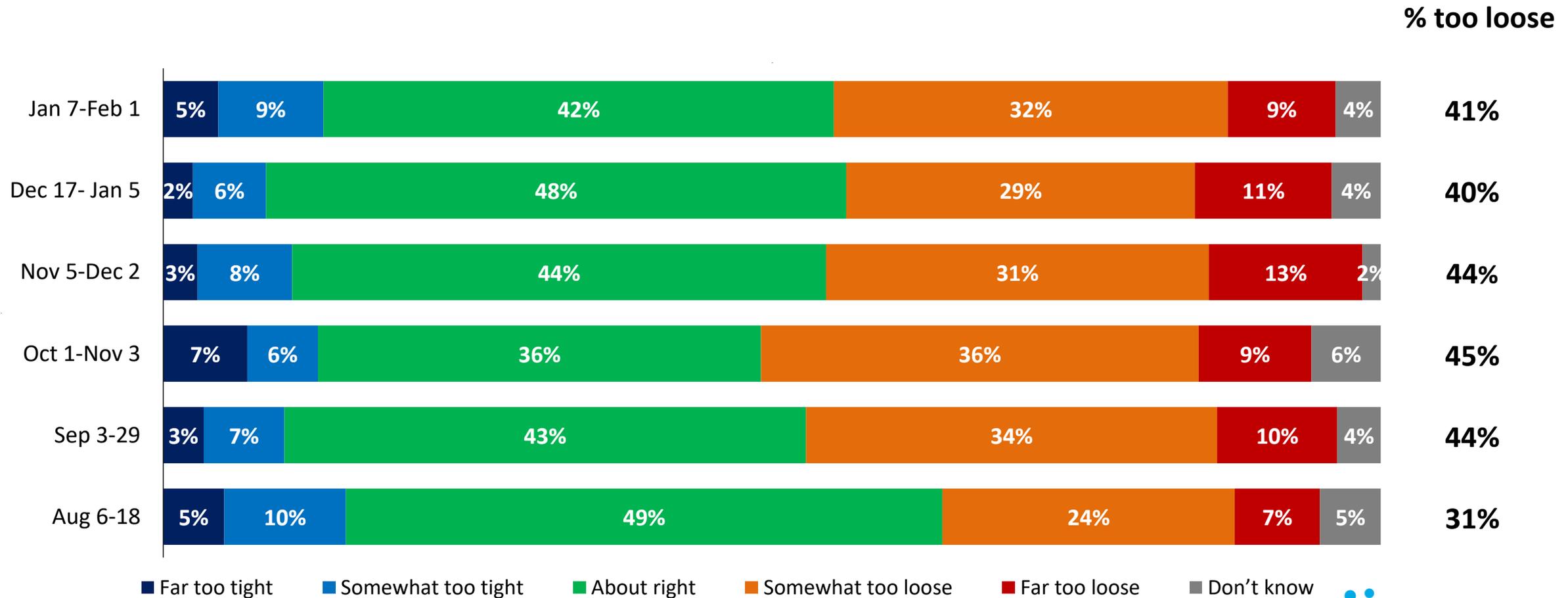


Provincial Restrictions - BC: In BC, 2-in-5 (42%) say the restrictions are 'about right' while 41% say they are 'too loose'



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 BC respondents; n=270]

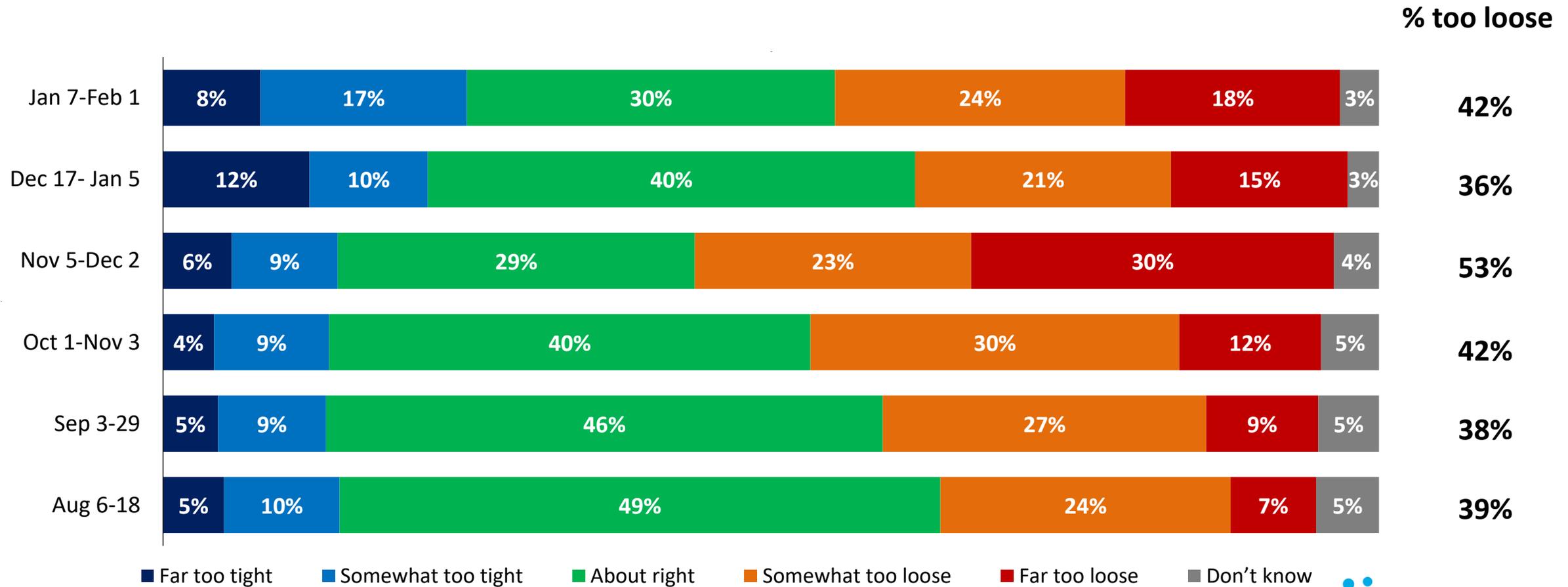


Provincial Restrictions - Alberta: The share of Albertans who say restrictions are too loose is up 6 points since December



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 AB respondents; n=226]

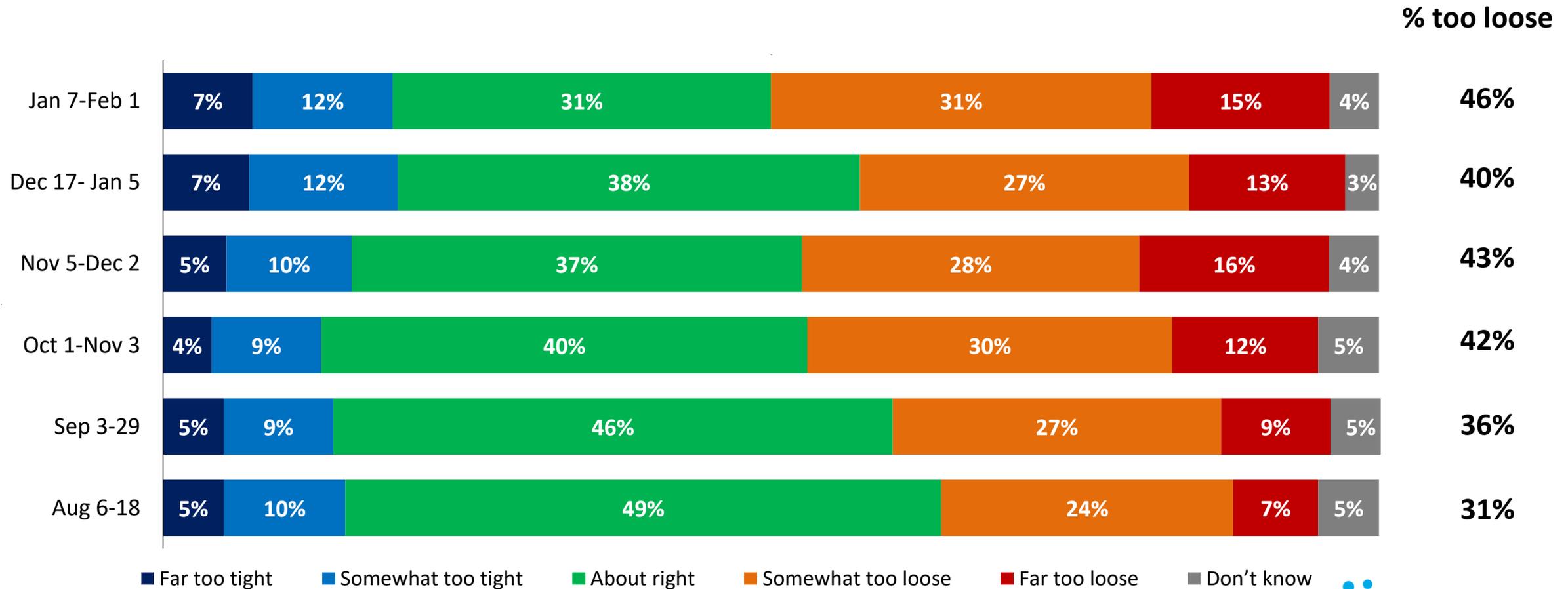


Provincial Restrictions - Ontario: Ontarians saying restrictions are 'too loose' is up since late December from 40% to 46%



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 ON respondents; n=771]

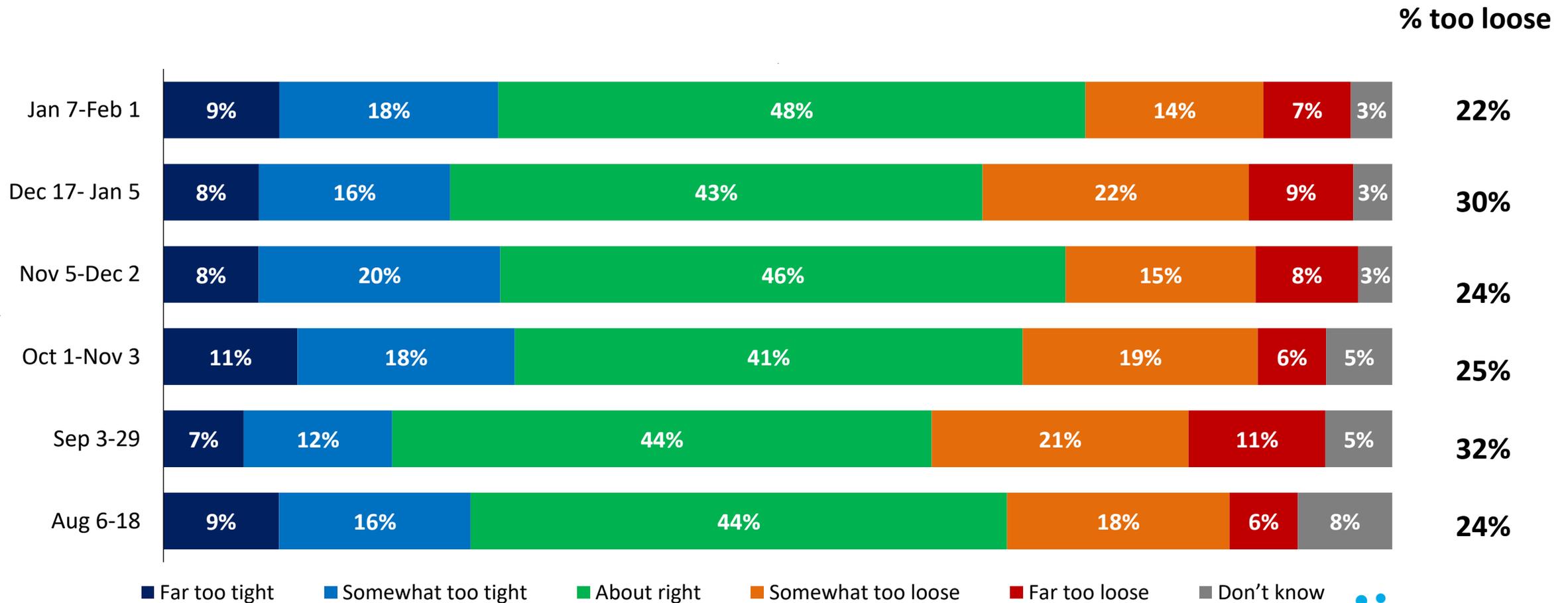


Provincial Restrictions - Quebec: Unlike other provinces, those saying restrictions are 'too loose' is down this month from 30% to 22%



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 QC respondents; n=465]



Methodology



Survey Methodology

These are the results of an online survey conducted between January 7th and February 1st, 2021.

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=4,449 Canadian citizens, 18 years or older. The results are nationally weighted to n=2,000 based on Census data from Statistics Canada.

Field Dates: January 7th to February 1st, 2021

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	577	13.0%	277	13.9%
Men 35-54	660	14.8%	333	16.7%
Men 55+	921	20.7%	363	18.2%
Women 18-34	724	16.3%	271	13.5%
Women 35-54	734	16.5%	345	17.3%
Women 55+	833	18.7%	411	20.5%
Region				
BC	424	9.5%	270	13.5%
AB	578	13.0%	226	11.3%
Prairies	509	11.4%	131	6.5%
ON	1401	31.5%	771	38.6%
QC	689	15.5%	465	23.2%
Atlantic	848	19.1%	137	6.9%

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