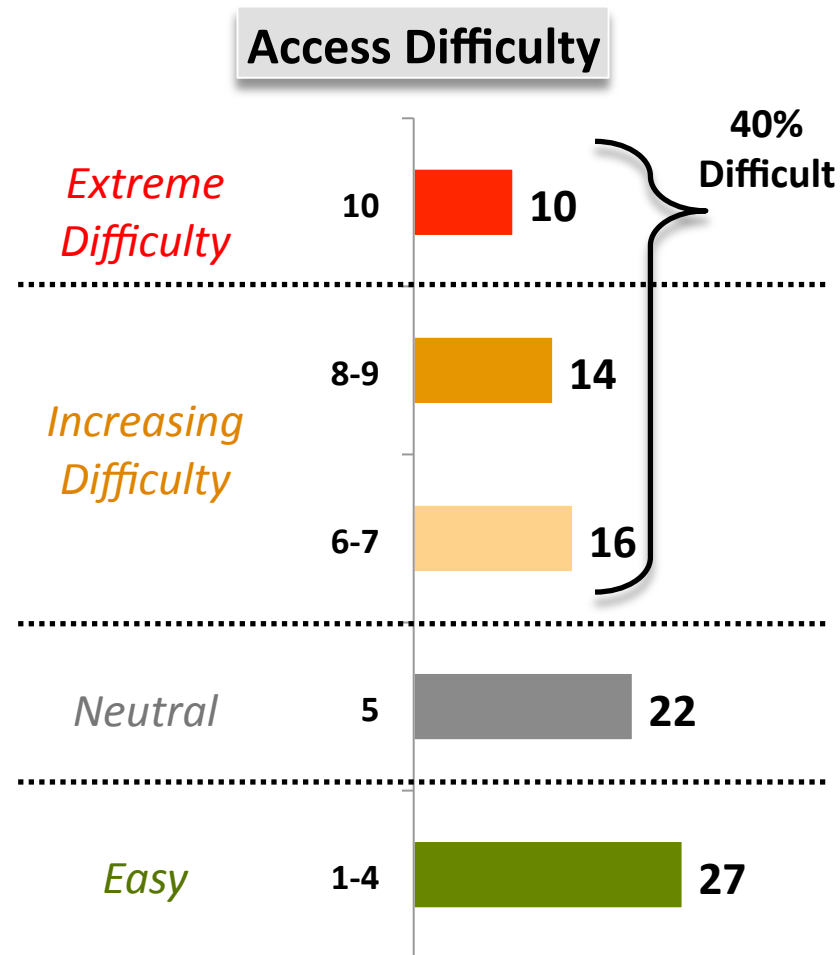
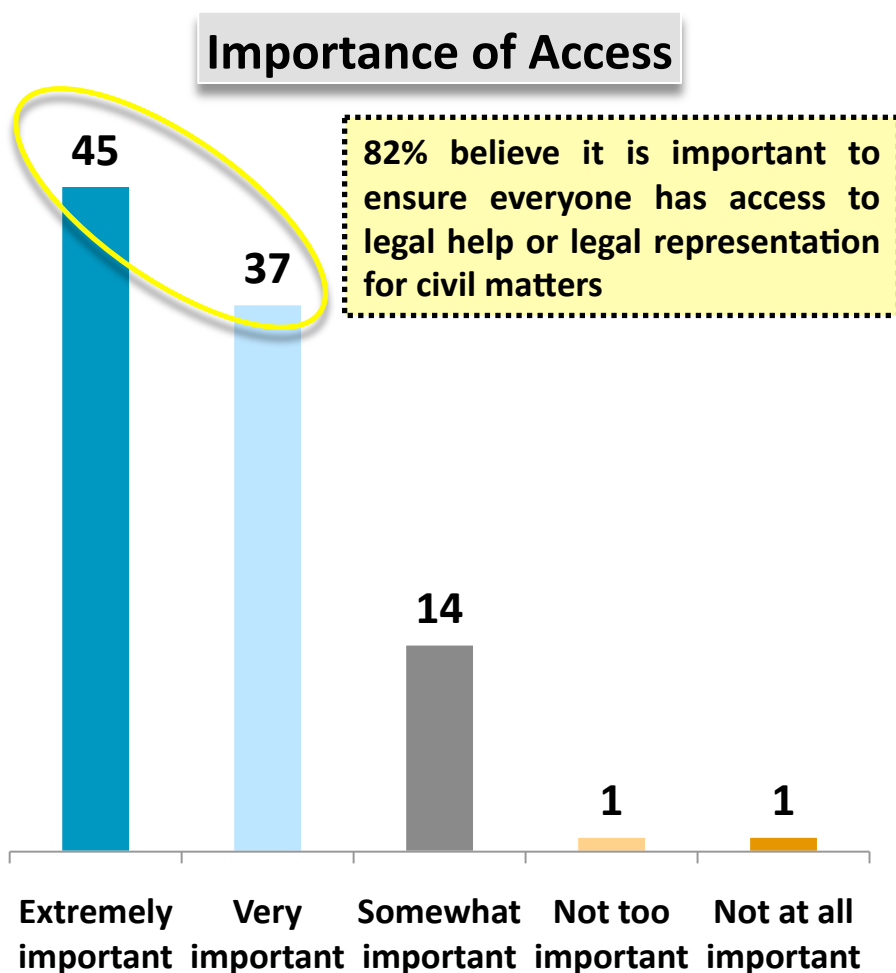


# Two Polling Perspectives on Access to Justice

Note: During this polling, conducted by the Tarrance Group and Lake Research Associates, for Voices for Civil Justice, the term “civil legal aid” was used. These slides add the phrase “access to justice” to emphasize that the conclusions deal with a system which is broader than the traditional community based program and includes court services for litigants and other initiatives.

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There is a large discrepancy between the perceptions of the importance of access to justice/Civil Legal Aid and one's actual ability to access such aid. More than eight-in-ten voters believe it is important that everyone have access to legal help in civil matters, but only 27% believe that access is easy to obtain. Democrats and people of color tend to think access is more difficult than Republicans and whites.



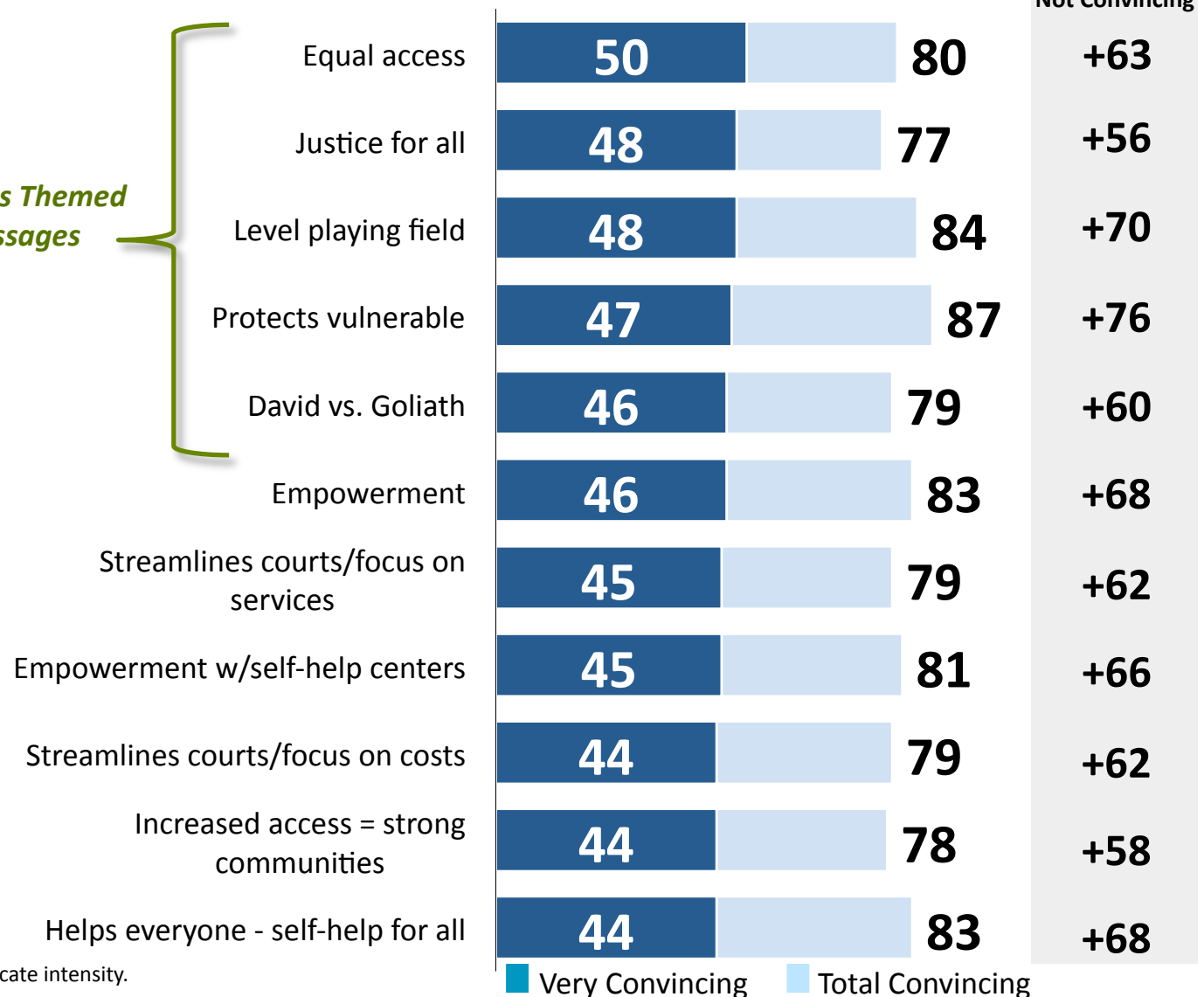
How important is it to ensure everyone has access to legal help or legal representation for civil legal matters? Is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important, a little important, or not at all important?

On a scale from 1 to 10 with 1 being extremely easy and 10 being extremely difficult, how easy or difficult do you think it is to obtain legal help or legal representation for civil legal matters?

The most persuasive messages are values based and all tend to operate around a central theme of fair treatment—ensuring all Americans receive justice regardless of how much money they have.

*Fairness Themed Messages*

**Supporter Messages – Tier 1**



Each asked of ½ the sample. Darker colors indicate intensity.

Now I am going to read you messages in support of increasing funding for civil legal aid. Please tell me whether the statement I read is a very convincing, somewhat convincing, not too convincing, or not at all convincing reason to support this. If you are not sure how you feel about a particular item, please say so. PROMPT: Is that a VERY convincing, SOMEWHAT convincing, NOT TOO convincing, or not AT ALL convincing reason to support increasing funding for civil legal aid?