

# California's Electric Vehicle Rebates: Exploring Impact

BECC, 17 October 2017, Sacramento

Brett Williams, M.Phil. (cantab), Ph.D. – Principal Advisor, Clean Transportation

Kipp Searles – Analyst

Thanks to Nick Pallonetti, Michelle Jones, Jamie Orose, John Anderson, and others at CSE



Center for  
Sustainable Energy™

# Outline

- Objectives
- Introduction
- **Impact:**
  - Outputs: Vehicles and Consumers Rebated
  - Outcomes: Behaviors Influenced
  - Implications: Market and Emissions
- Summary and Next Steps
- Additional Online Resources

# Objectives

- To explore the impact of a statewide rebate program for clean-vehicle adoption
- CARB (Sep 2017)<sup>1</sup>
  - “...conservatively estimates the emission reductions...”
  - “anticipates updating and revising... as new data becomes available and methodologies are refined.”
- This work
  - aims to inform that process and causal studies by assessing the use of program-specific data
  - is not an official CARB position



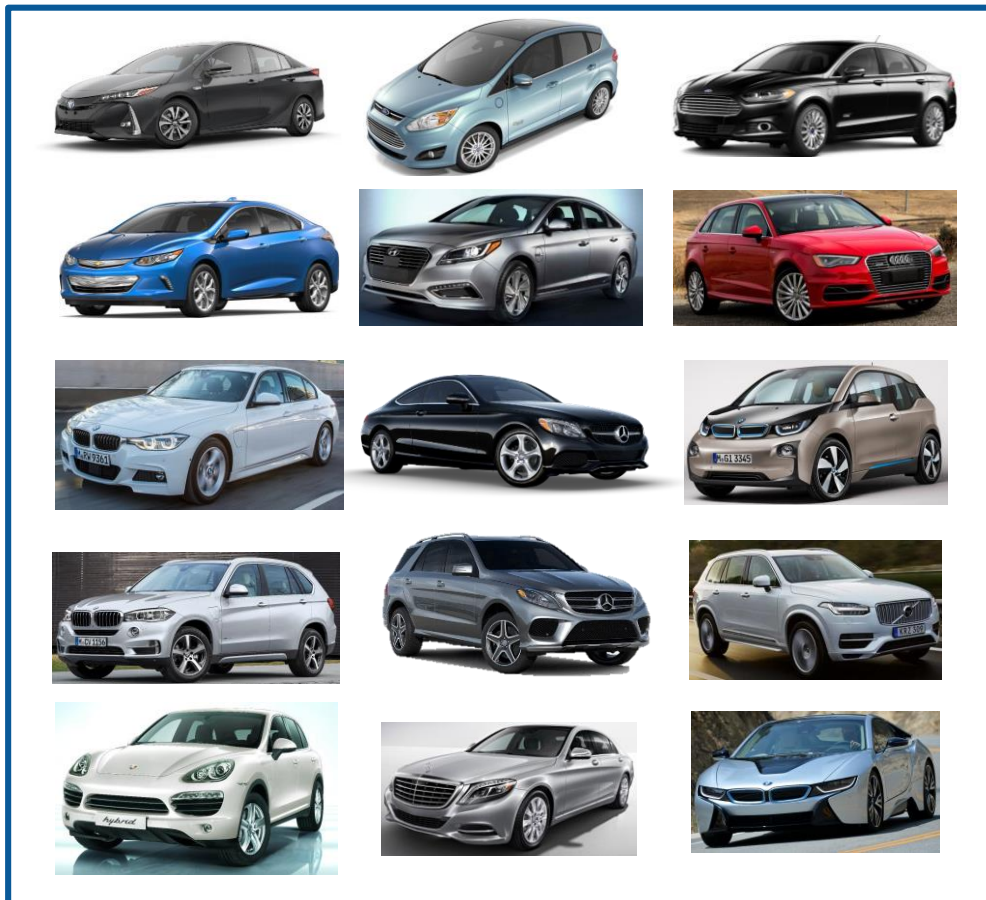
A close-up photograph of a person's hand plugging a charging cable into the port of an electric vehicle. The scene is set outdoors at sunset, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow and lens flare effects. The background is slightly blurred, showing a city street with buildings and other vehicles. The overall mood is clean, modern, and sustainable.

# **Introduction: Electric Vehicles & Rebates**

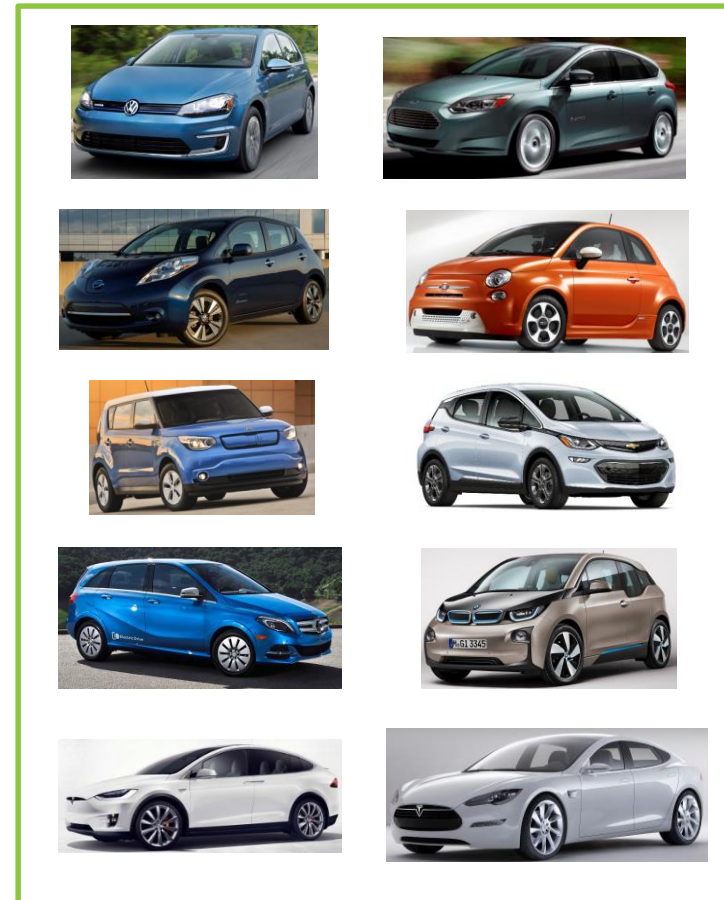


# Getting Up to Speed: More Choice

## Plug-in hybrid EVs



## All-battery EVs



## Fuel-cell EVs



# EV Incentive Programs: Rebate Design



**Fuel-Cell EVs**



\$5,000

\$2,500

\$5,000

e-miles

**All-Battery EVs**



\$2,500

\$2,500

e-miles

≥ 175 \$3,000  
 ≥ 100 \$2,000  
 < 100 \$500

≥ 120 \$2,000

≥ 40 \$1,700

**Plug-in Hybrid EVs**



\$2,500 (i3 REx)  
 \$1,500

≥10 kWh \$2,500  
 <10 kWh \$1,500

≥ 40 \$2,000  
 < 40 \$500

≥ 20 \$1,100

< 20 \$500

**Zero-Emission Motorcycles**



\$900

\$750

e-miles ≥ 20 only;  
 Consumer income cap and increased rebates

MSRP ≥ \$60k =  
 \$1,000 max.

MSRP ≤ \$60k only; dealer assignment; \$300 dealer incentive

MSRP > \$60k = \$500 max.; point-of-sale

# Data Summary (Rebates to Individuals Only)

## CVRP Consumer Survey

	<b>2013–2015 Edition</b>	<b>2015–2016 Edition</b>	<b>Total</b>
Responses	n = 19,460	n = 11,611	n = 31,071
Vehicle Purchase/Leases	Sep 2012 – May 2015	April 2015 – May 2016	Sep 2012 – May 2016

## CVRP Program Population (Application Data)

Participants survey was weighted to represent*	N = 91,081	N = 45,698	N = 136,779
------------------------------------------------	------------	------------	-------------

**Note: Before Income Cap. These results are conservative.**



A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a charging cable connected to an electric vehicle. The scene is set in a city street during sunset, with a bright sun in the upper right corner creating a lens flare. In the background, a bicycle is parked on the sidewalk, and a building is visible. The overall atmosphere is warm and urban.

# Program Outputs

Rebated Vehicles and Consumers



# Majority Characteristics of CVRP Participants

	CVRP 2015–2016 Survey
40–59 years old	53%
\$50–200k/y household income	58%
White/Caucasian	65%
Male	74%

# Majority Characteristics of Car Buyers

	CVRP 2015–2016 Survey	New- vehicle “intenders” (CHTS 2012)
40–59 years old	53%	52%
\$50–200k/y household income	58%	58%
White/Caucasian	65%	76%
Male	74%	49%

# Majority Characteristics: Comparison

	CVRP 2015–2016 Survey	New- vehicle “intenders” (CHTS 2012)
40–59 years old	53%	52%
\$50–200k/y household income	58%	58%
White/Caucasian	65%	76%
Male	74%	49%
≥ Bachelor’s	83%	66%
≥ Postgraduate	50%	34%
Detached homes	80%	75%

# How can consumer research help us grow markets for electric vehicles?



- **Disadvantaged Communities**

- [\(AEA pres 2016\)](#)
- [\(CVRP DAC infographic, 2017\)](#)

- **Information Channels**

- [\(EV Roadmap pres, 2016\)](#)



- **Target Segments**

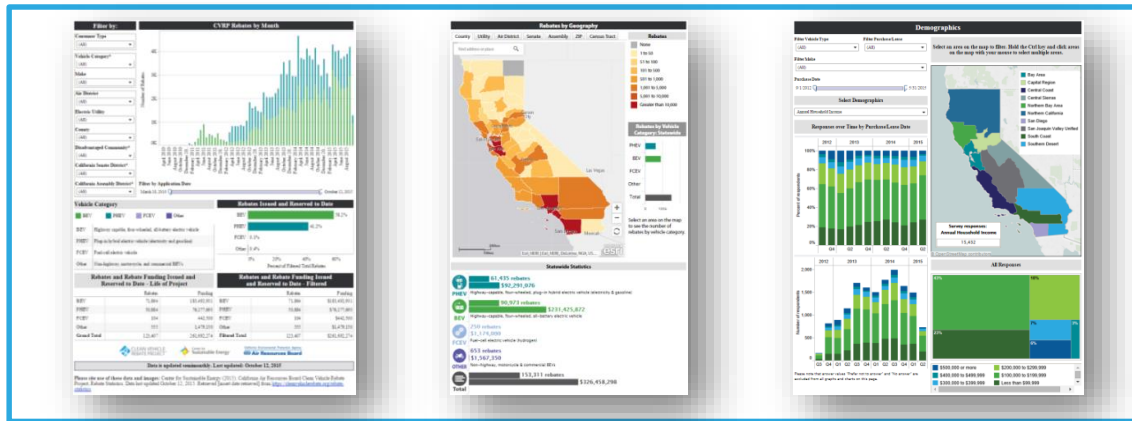
- [\(TRR 2016 research paper\)](#)
- [\(AEA 2016 pres\)](#)
- [\(TRB 2017 poster\)](#)



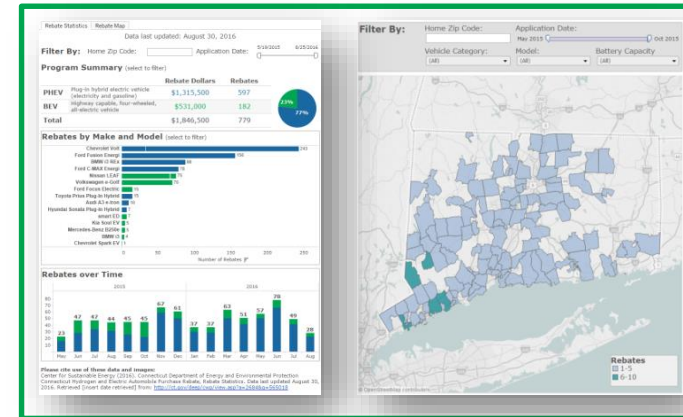
# Where can I get the data?: Transparency Tools

## Public dashboards facilitate informed action

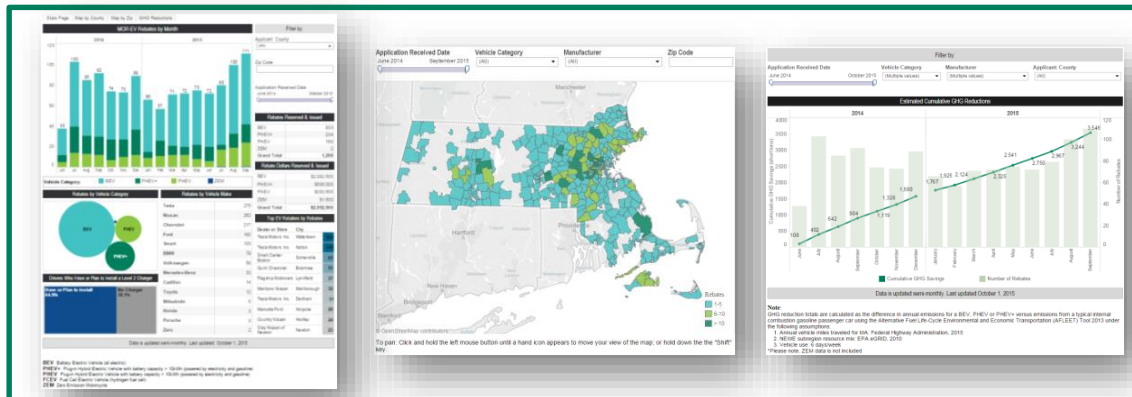
- >215,000 EVs and consumers
- >19,000 survey responses statistically represent >91,000 consumers
- >\$470M in rebates processed



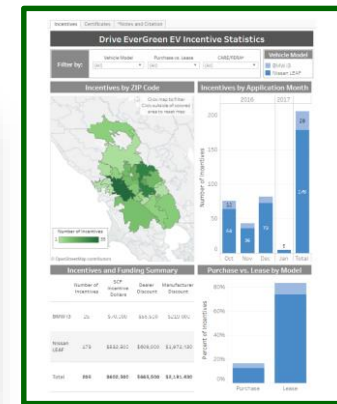
cleanvehiclerebate.org



ct.gov/deep



mor-ev.org

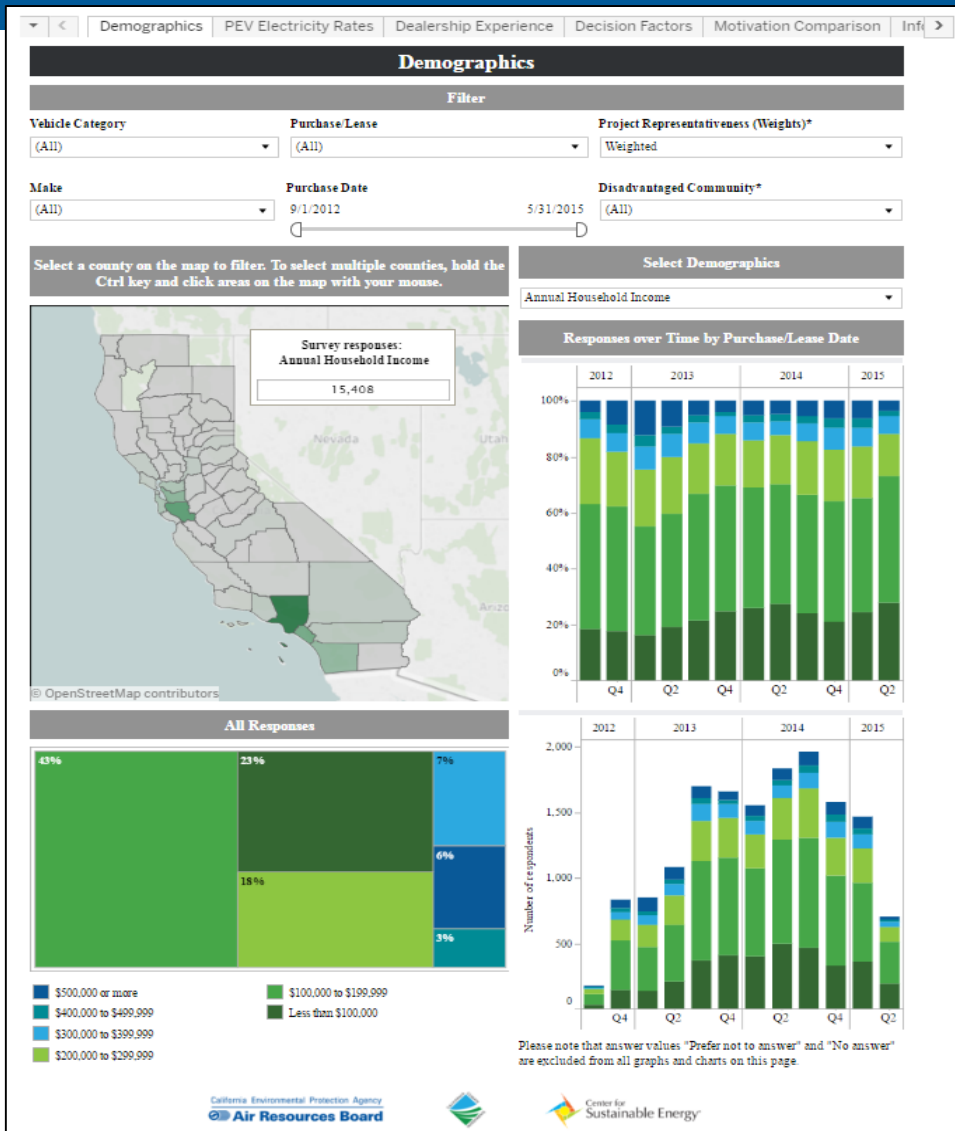


sonomacleanpower.org



zevfacts.com

# 2013–2015 Survey: Dashboard and Summary Documentation



## The Clean Vehicle Rebate Project Summary Documentation of the Electric Vehicle Consumer Survey, 2013–2015 Edition

June 2017

Prepared for  
California Air Resources Board

Prepared by  
Center for Sustainable Energy®



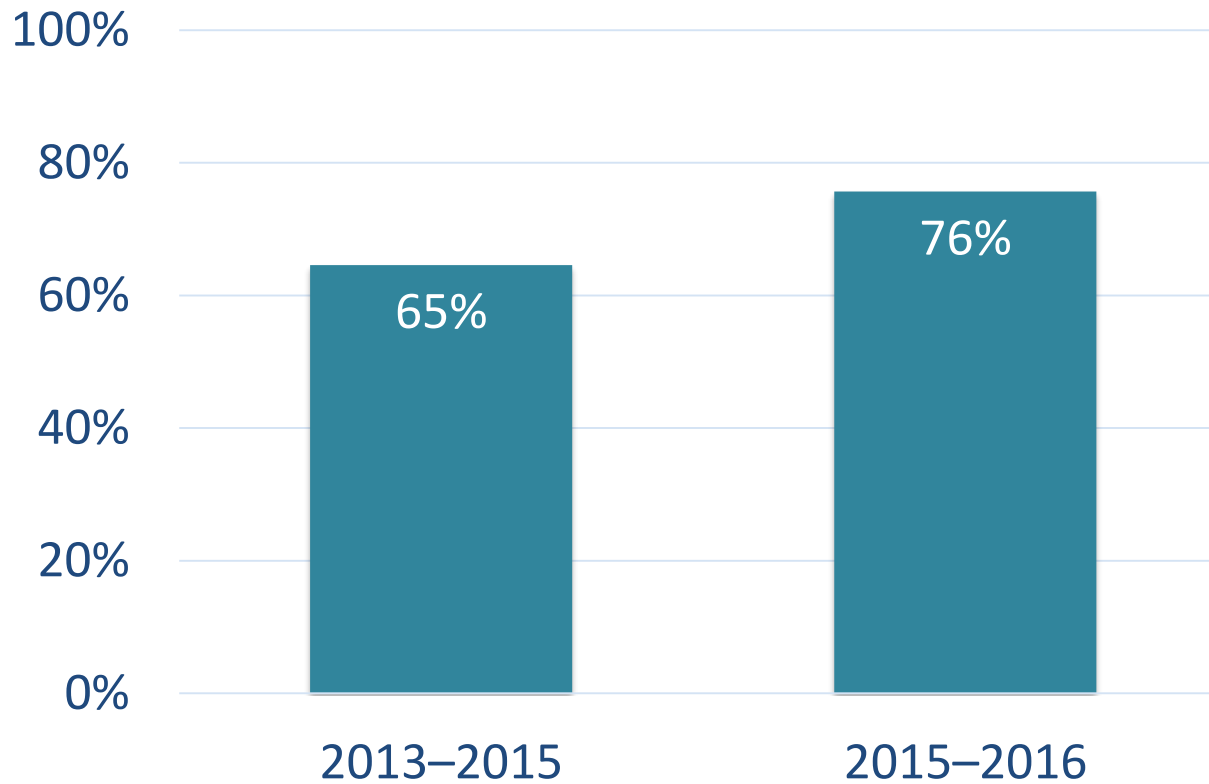
A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a charging cable connected to an electric vehicle. The scene is set in a city street during sunset, with a bright sun in the upper right corner creating a lens flare. In the background, a bicycle is parked on the sidewalk, and a building is visible. The overall atmosphere is warm and urban.

## Program Outcomes

Influenced Behaviors

# Do EVs get used?

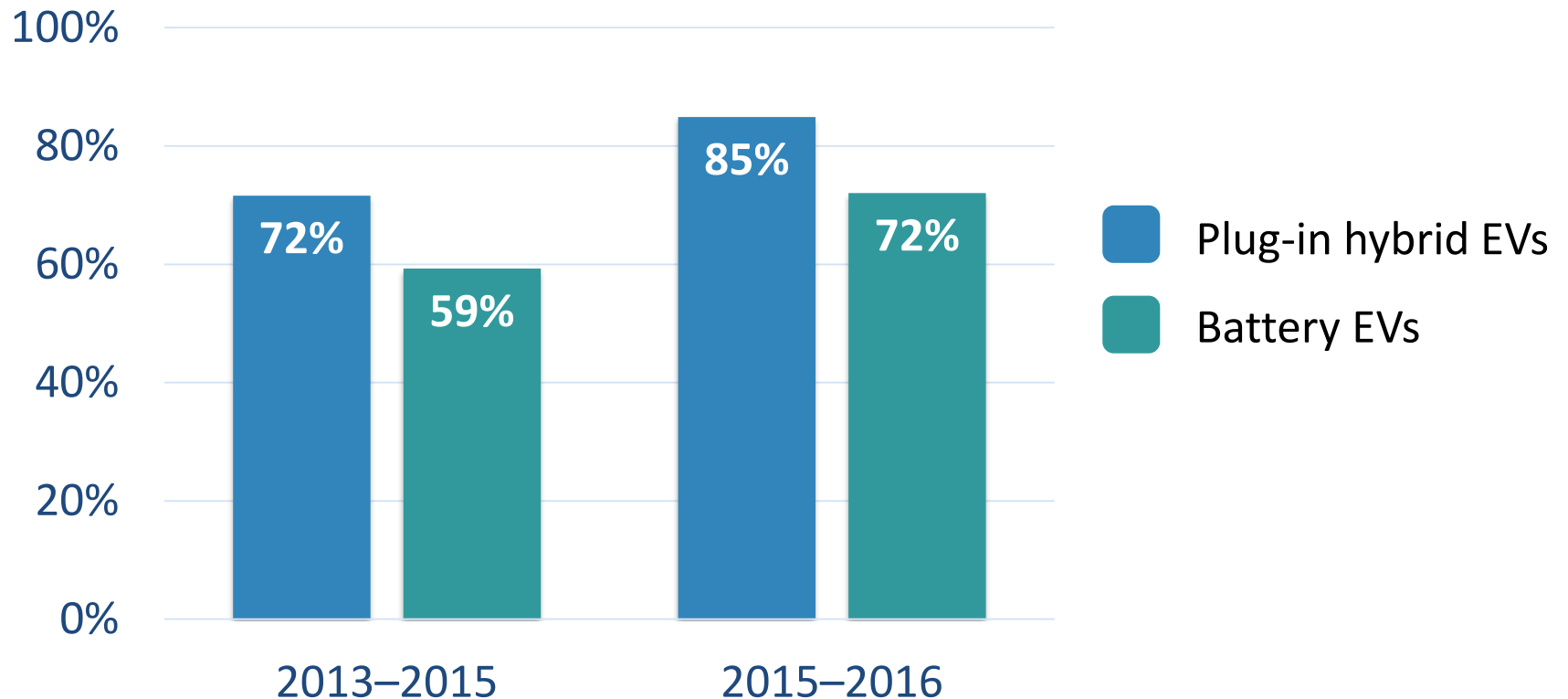
## Replaced a vehicle with their rebated EV



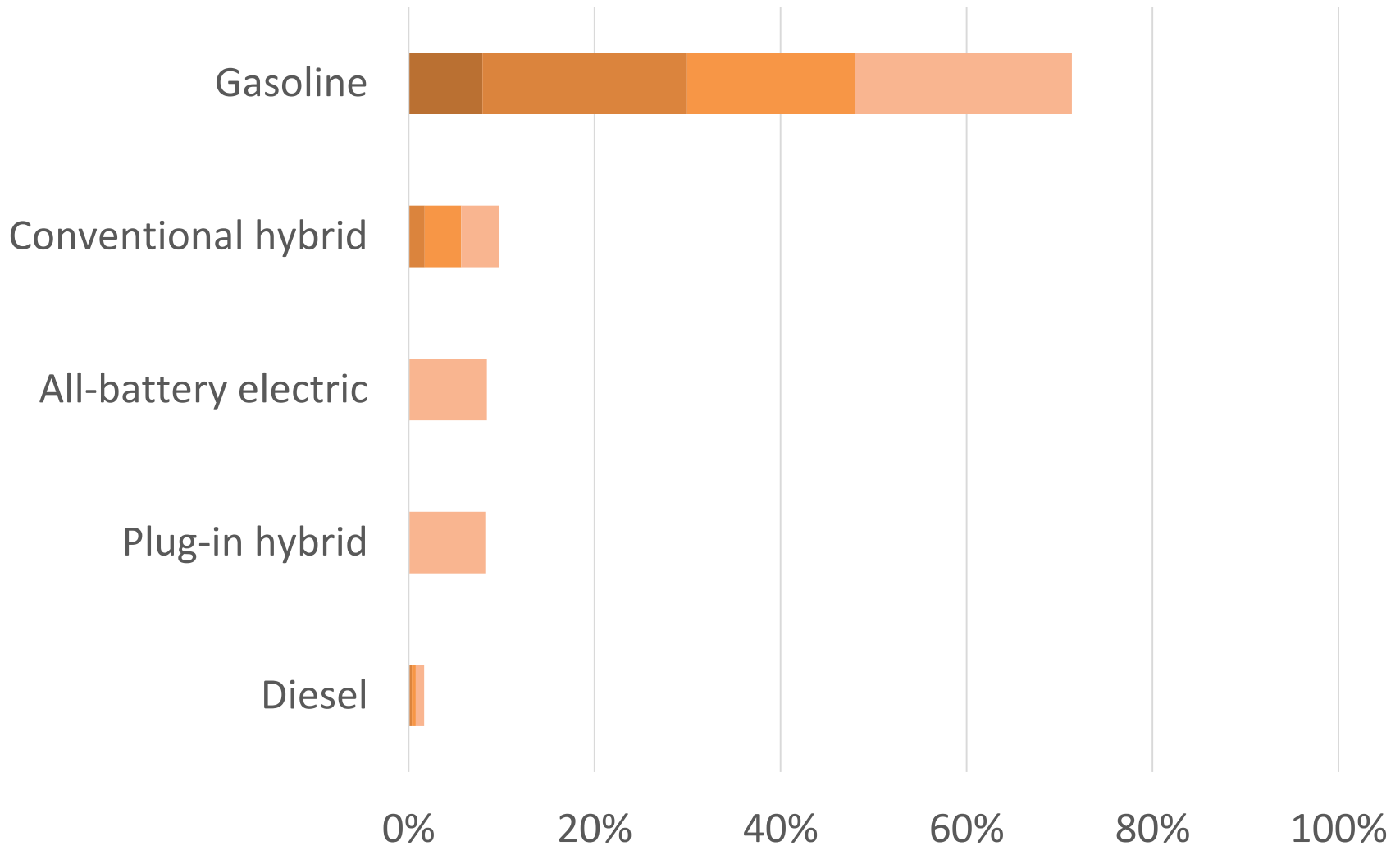


# Do EVs get used?

## Replaced a vehicle with their rebated EV

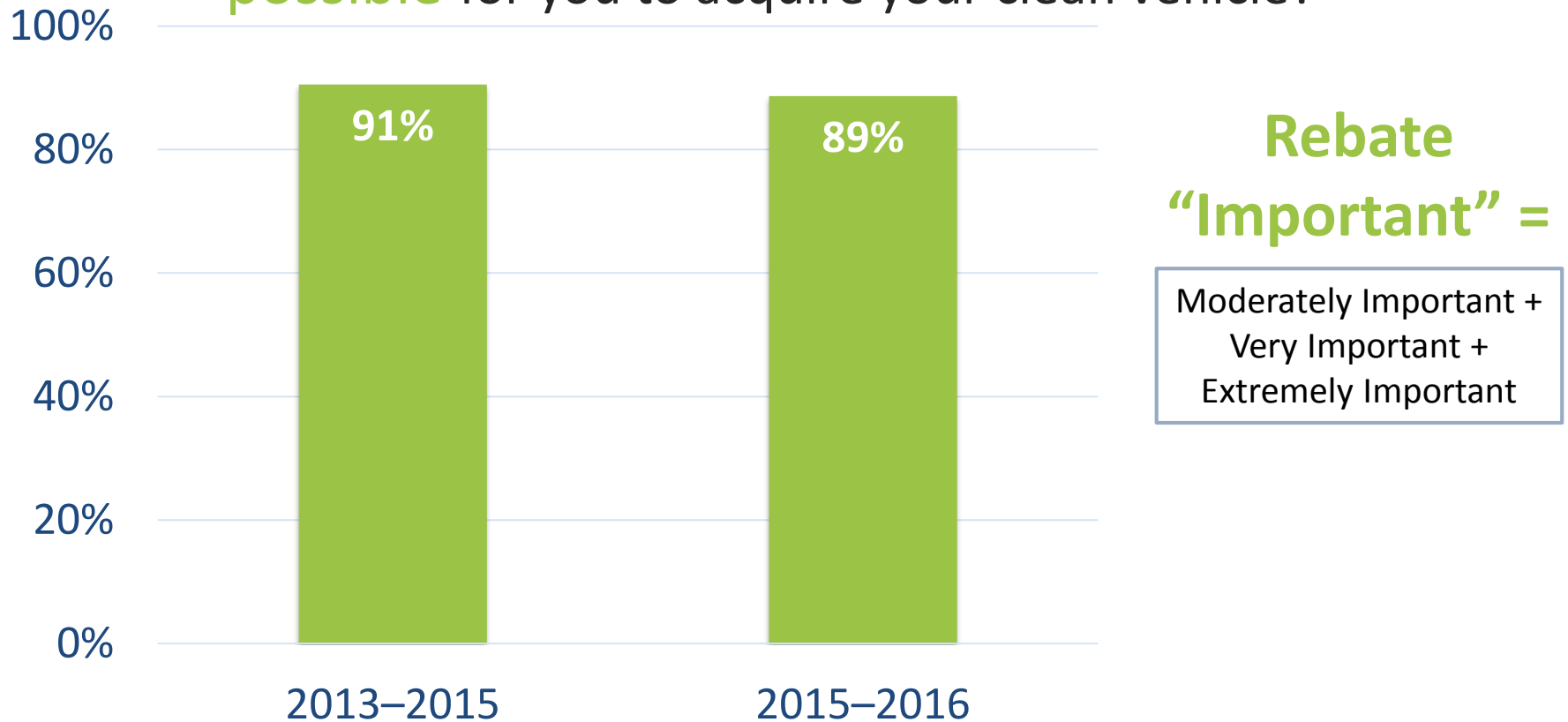


# What vehicles have rebates helped replace?



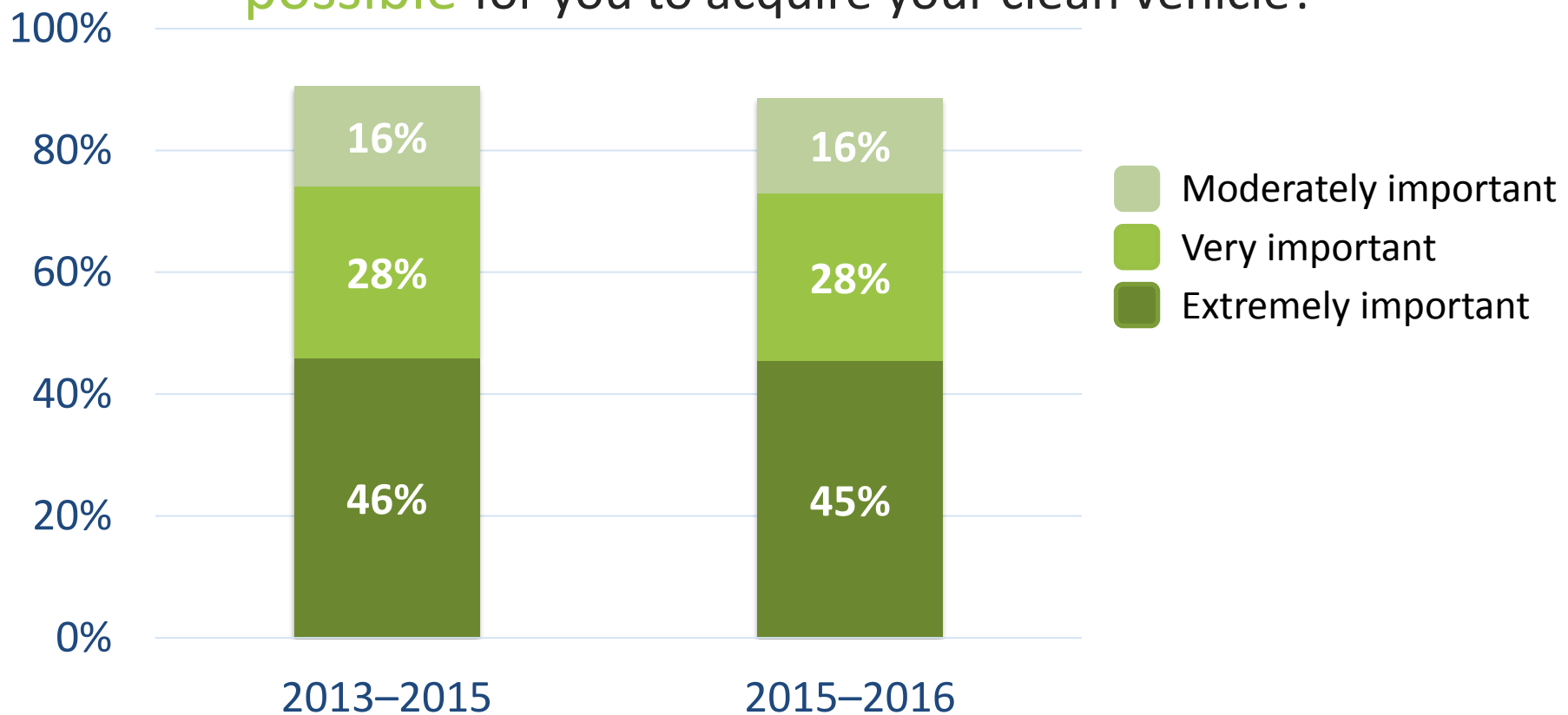
# What are indicators of rebate influence?: Importance

How **important** was the State Rebate (CVRP) in **making it possible** for you to acquire your clean vehicle?



# What are indicators of rebate influence?: Importance

How **important** was the State Rebate (CVRP) in **making it possible** for you to acquire your clean vehicle?



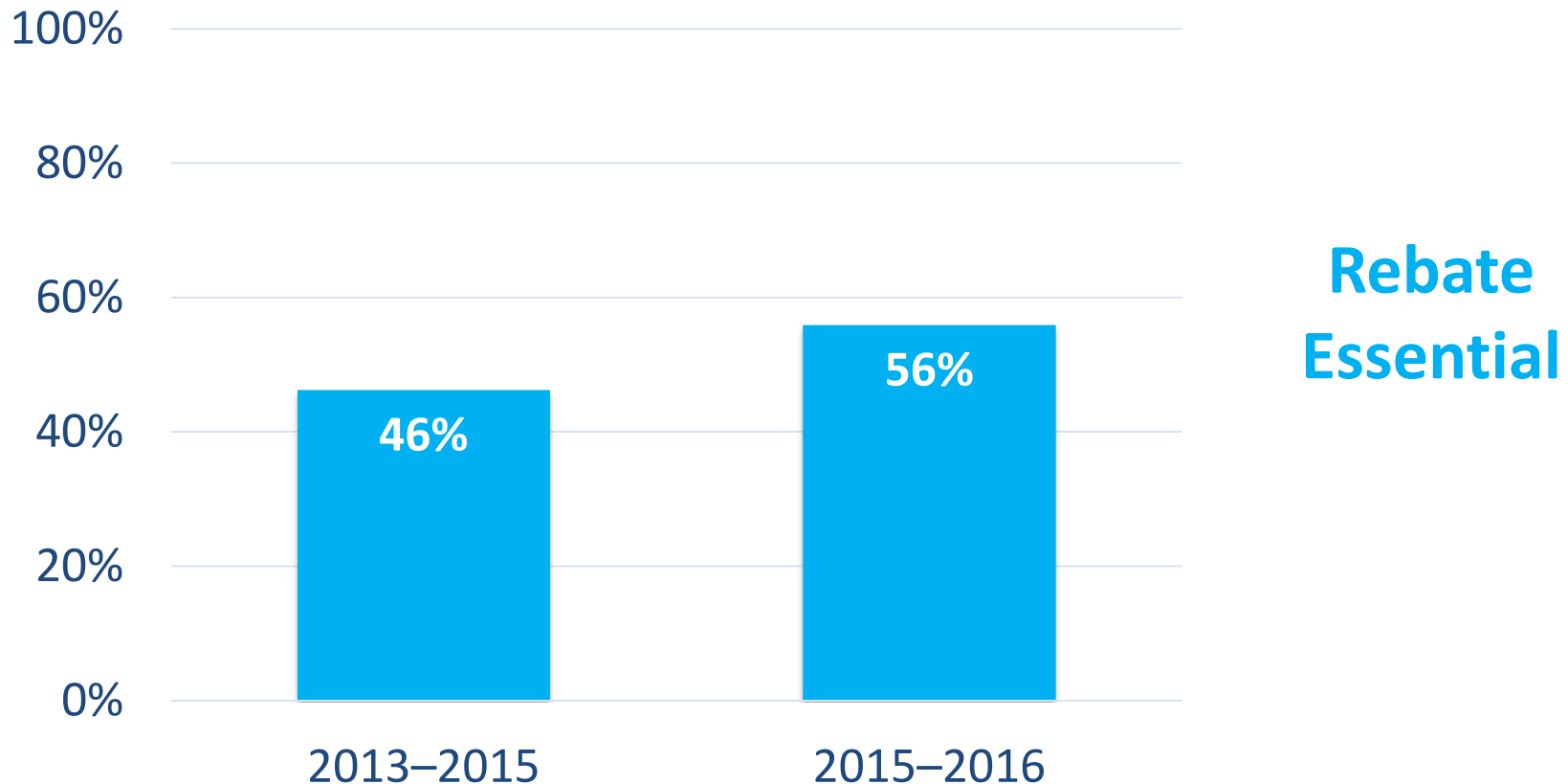


# Getting the most out of stated-preference data

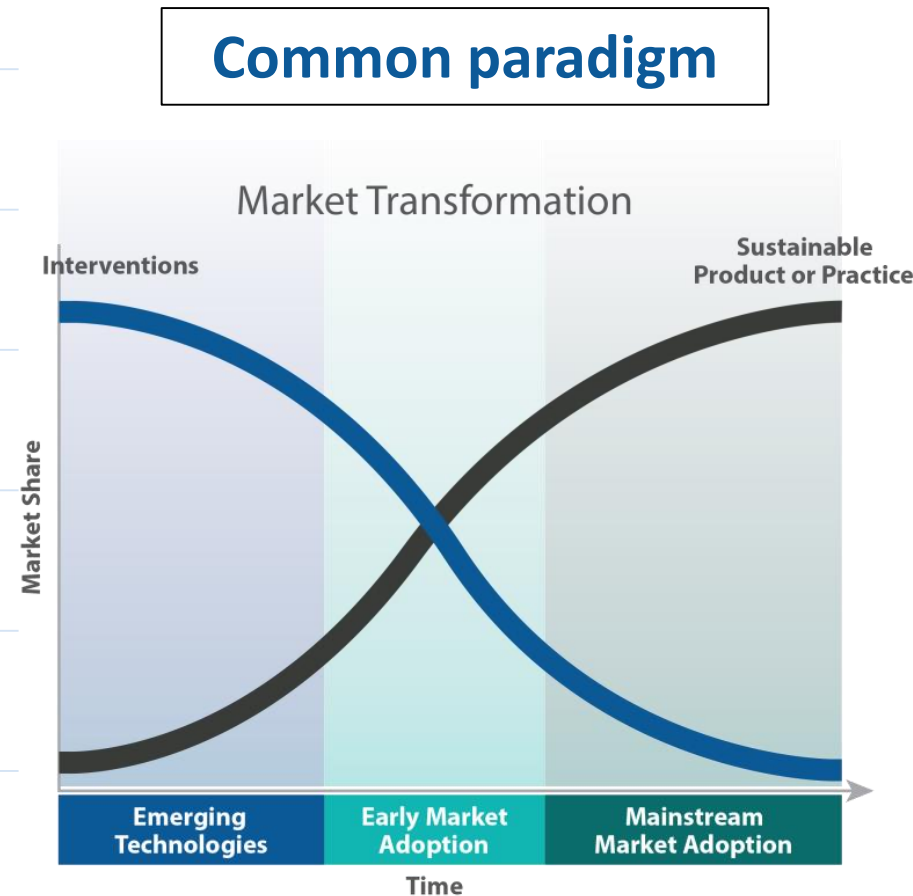
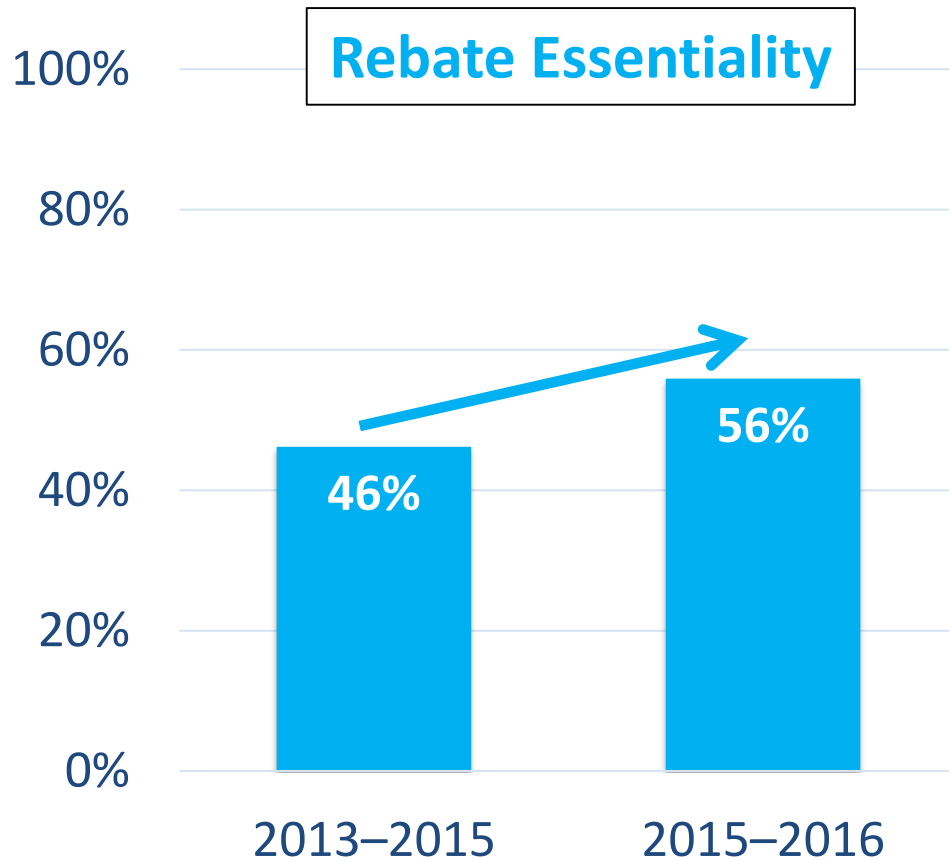
- “Importance” can be a useful indicator
  - High response rate
- But it is difficult to define and encapsulates a complex array of factors
- Keep marching toward an even more conservative metric
  - Difficult to avoid truthfulness bias in stated-preference data, but do have a metric that is:
    - Even less subject to recall bias
    - More clear cut
    - More “counterfactual”...

# What are indicators of rebate influence?: Essentiality

Would **not** have purchased/leased their EV **without rebate**



# Rebate essentiality is growing; phase-out appears premature



# Rebate Essential Consumers are Different

- 2016 BECC talk
- 2017 TRB [paper](#) and [poster](#)...



	PHEV Odds Ratio	BEV Odds Ratio	Explanatory Variable
<b>Target Consumers: "Rebate Essentials"</b> Consumers most influenced by the rebate: <b>Demographics:</b> male, non-white, higher education, lower household income, perhaps younger and larger households <b>Motivations and interest:</b> less motivated by environmental impacts, more motivated by saving money on fuel, carpool lane access, and perhaps energy independence; lower initial interest in EVs <b>Information gathering:</b> found it more difficult to find info on EVs, spent more time researching online, learned about the rebate before going to the dealer <b>Vehicle characteristics:</b> lower price, bought (vs. lease)	1.38	1.18	<b>Consumer demographics</b>
	1.25	1.23	Male
	1.08	1.11	Non-white ethnicity
	-	-	Graduate degree (vs. 2nd-highest: Bachelor's)
	1.05	1.04	Bachelor's degree (vs. 2nd: some college or less)
	1.007	-	Lower household income (\$50k)
	-	1.07	Younger (years)
	-	-	More people in household (#)
	-	1.19	<b>Housing and region</b>
	-	1.003	Multi-unit dwelling (vs. non-MUD)
<b>Differences - PHEV Consumers</b> The odds are higher for PHEV consumers that are younger, more motivated by energy independence and buying rather than leasing.	-	1.18	No solar (vs. 2nd-highest: planning solar)
	-	1.18	No workplace charging (vs. 2nd-highest: WPC)
	-	1.51	Central CA (vs. 2nd-highest: Far South CA)
	-	-	No workplace charging (vs. access to WPC)
	-	-	Central CA (vs. 2nd-highest: South CA)
	1.24	1.33	<b>Reasons and interest</b>
	1.04	1.12	More motivated by saving money on fuel
	1.08	1.08	More motivated by carpool lane access
	1.09	-	Less motivated by reducing environmental impacts
	-	-	More motivated by energy independence
1.41	1.29	More motivated by vehicle performance	
Yes	Yes	Lower initial interest in EVs	
<b>Differences - BEV Consumers</b> The odds are higher for BEV consumers in larger households and MUDs, with no solar or workplace charging, and living in central California.	-	-	Rebate essential
	1.22	1.18	<b>Information gathering</b>
	1.19	1.15	Found it more difficult to find information on EVs
	1.18	1.17	Spent more time researching EVs online
	1.000019	1.000016	Did not hear about the rebate from the dealer
	1.27	-	<b>Transactional factors</b>
	1.14	-	Vehicle price is lower (\$)
	-	1.04	Buy (vs. lease)
	-	-	Chevy PHEV (vs. 2nd-highest: Toyota)
	-	-	Nissan BEV (vs. 2nd-highest: FIAT)
-	-	Ford (vs. 2nd-highest: other)	
-	1.001	FIAT (vs. 2nd-highest: Nissan)	
-	-	Acquisition date (days)	
-	-	First EV	
-	-	Replacing a vehicle	

A close-up photograph of a person's hand plugging a charging cable into the port of an electric vehicle. The scene is set outdoors at sunset, with a bright sun in the upper right corner creating a lens flare effect. The background is slightly blurred, showing a city street with buildings and other vehicles.

# Program Implications

Market and Emissions

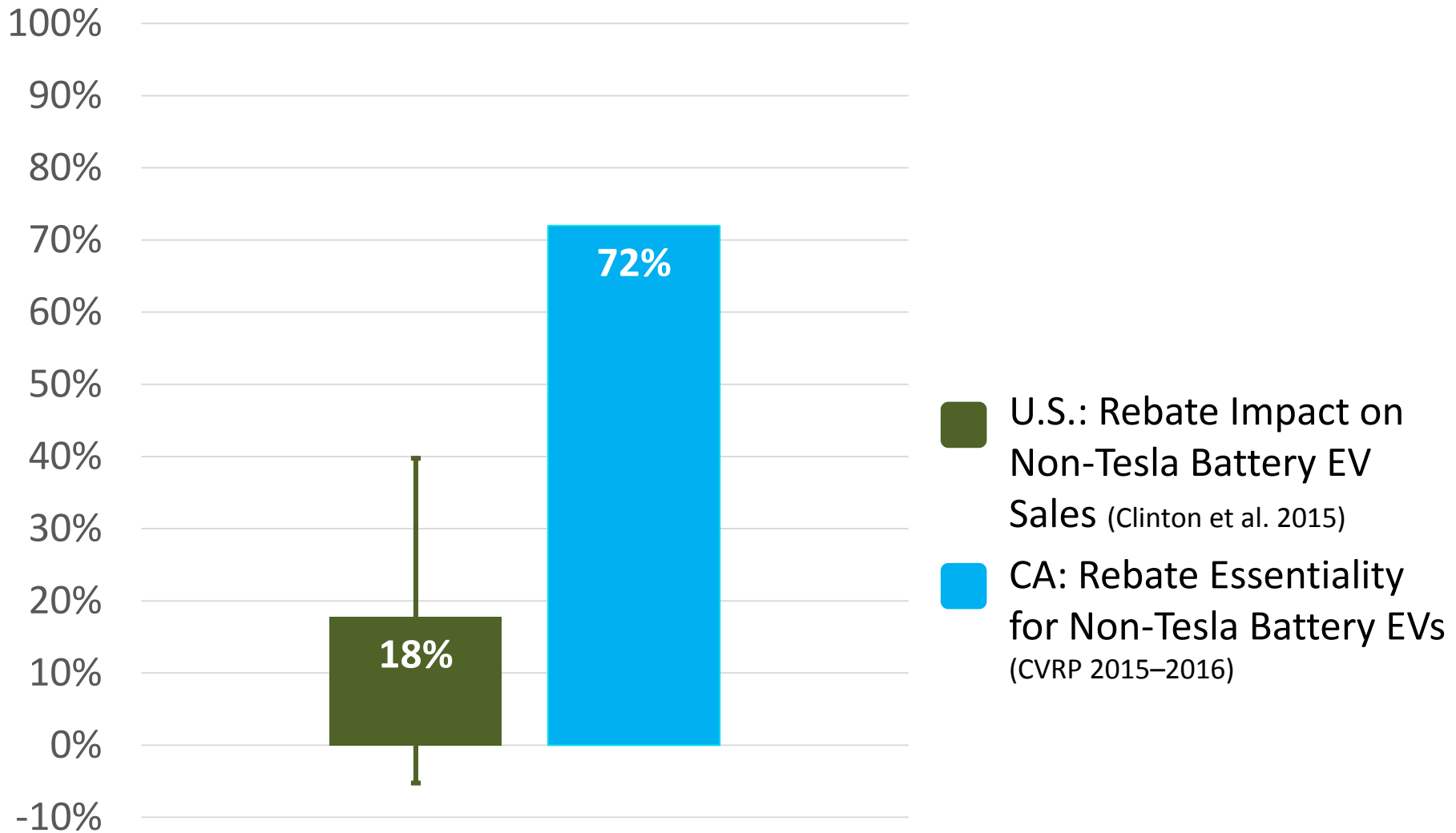




# Literature: Market Impacts

Author/Year	Variables Examined	Effect/Size
Sierzchula et al. (2014)	Country financial incentives – Global PEV market share	+ **
Jin et al. (2014)	Monetized non-financial BEV incentives – BEV sales	+ ***
	BEV financial subsidies – BEV sales	+
	Monetized non-financial PHEV incentives – PHEV sales	Not significant
DeShazo et al. (2014)	CA state rebate design – PEV sales	+
Narassimhan & Johnson (2014)	Purchase rebate – BEV registrations	+ *
	Purchase rebate - PHEV registrations	Not significant
Lutsey et al. (2015)	Monetized BEV benefits - BEV share	+ **
	Monetized PHEV benefits - PHEV share	Not significant
Clinton et al. (2015)	State rebate - BEV sales (Tesla & LEAF)	Not significant
	State rebate - BEV sales (LEAF)	Not significant
	State rebate - BEV sales (Tesla Only)	- **
Zhou et al. (2016)	Purchase incentives - BEV: Total Market	+ ***
	Purchase incentives - BEV: Mass Market (<\$40,000)	+ ***
	Purchase incentives - BEV: Mid Market (\$40-50,000)	Not significant
	Purchase incentives - BEV: Luxury (>\$60,000)	- ***
	Purchase incentives - PHEV: Total Market	+ **
	Purchase incentives - PHEV: Mass Market (<\$40,000)	+ **
	Purchase incentives - PHEV: Mid Market (\$40-50,000)	Not significant
Lutsey et al. (2016)	Purchase incentives - PHEV: Luxury (>\$60,000)	Not significant
	State incentive (top 50 MSA) - BEV vehicle shares	Not significant
	State incentive (top 50 MSA) - PHEV vehicle shares	+ **
	State incentive (top 50 MSA) - PEV vehicle shares	Not significant
	State incentive (top 200 MSA) - BEV vehicle shares	+ **
	State incentive (top 200 MSA) - PHEV vehicle shares	+ **
Jenn et al. (2017)	State incentive (top 200 MSA) - PEV vehicle shares	+ **
	Individual credit (rebate or tax credit) - EV registrations	Not significant
	Individual credit (rebate or tax credit) w/knowledge of incentives - EV registrations	+**

# External vs. Internal Perspectives on Rebate Impact



# Why are added vehicle volumes important?

Volume is a proxy for a variety of market benefits, e.g.:

- For producers
  - Economies of scale
  - OEM learning-by-doing
  - Supply-chain creation
- For consumers
  - Consumer awareness and understanding
    - Parking lots as “second showrooms”
  - Information spillovers
  - Consumer learning-by-doing
    - Charging confidence
  - Adoption network effects
- For society
  - Use potential
    - Positive environmental externalities





## How many vehicles has CVRP induced into the market?

Rebated, rebate-“important,” and rebate-essential

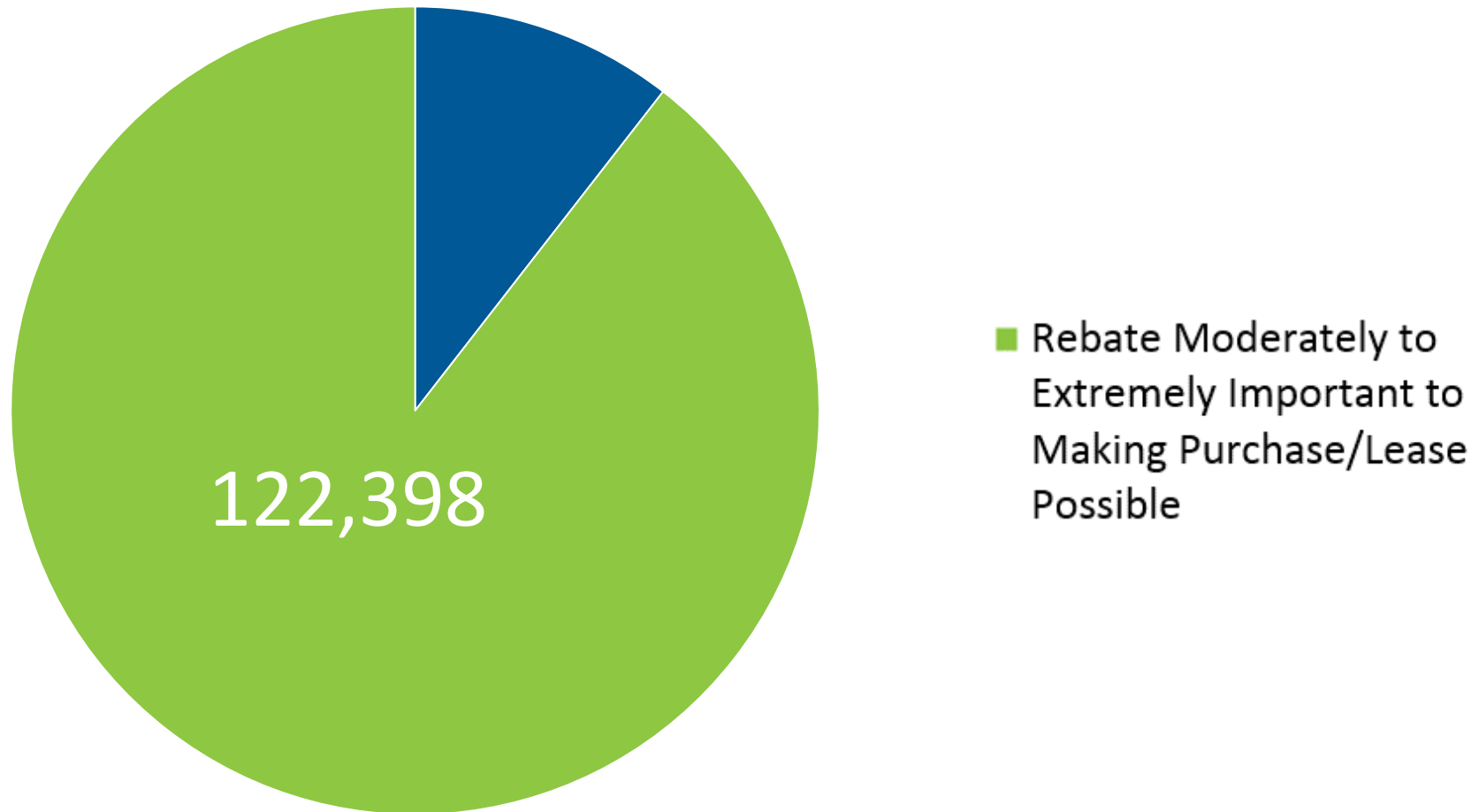


# How many EVs did CVRP rebate? *(during this period)*

136,779

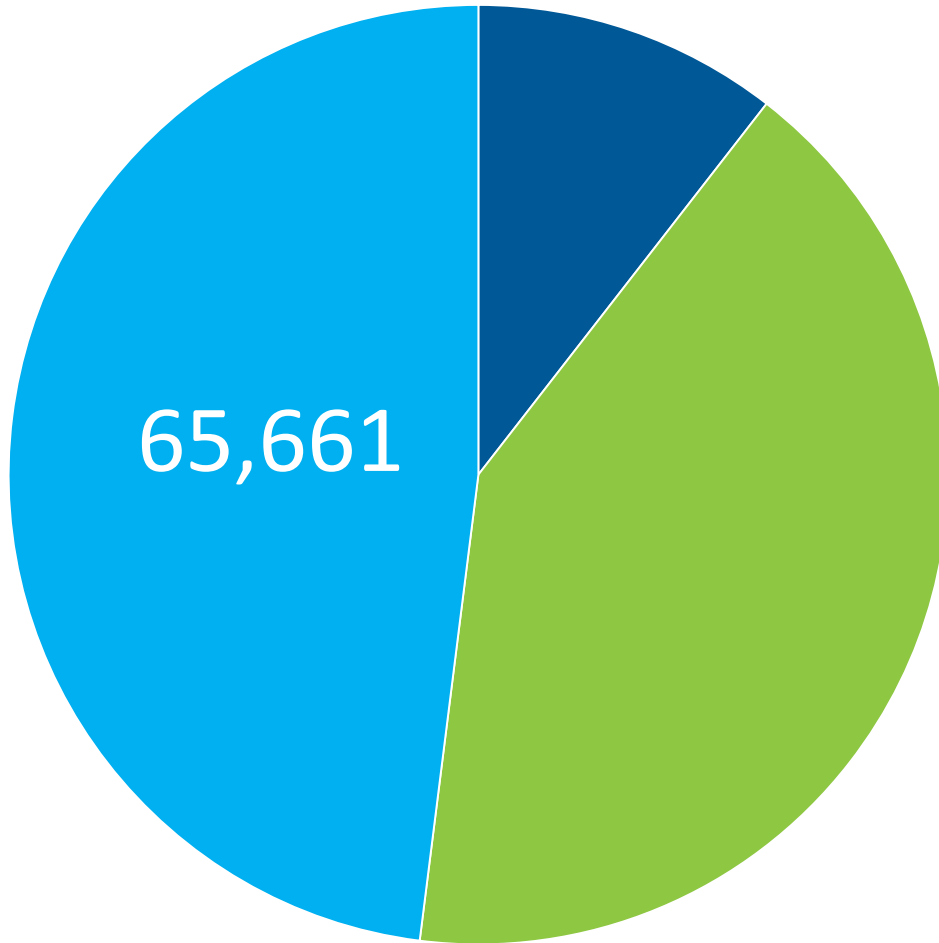
■ Rebated Vehicles

# How many EVs has CVRP enabled in a moderately to extremely important way? (calc. by tech. type, *during this period*)



# For how many vehicles has CVRP been essential?

(calc. by tech. type, *during this period*)



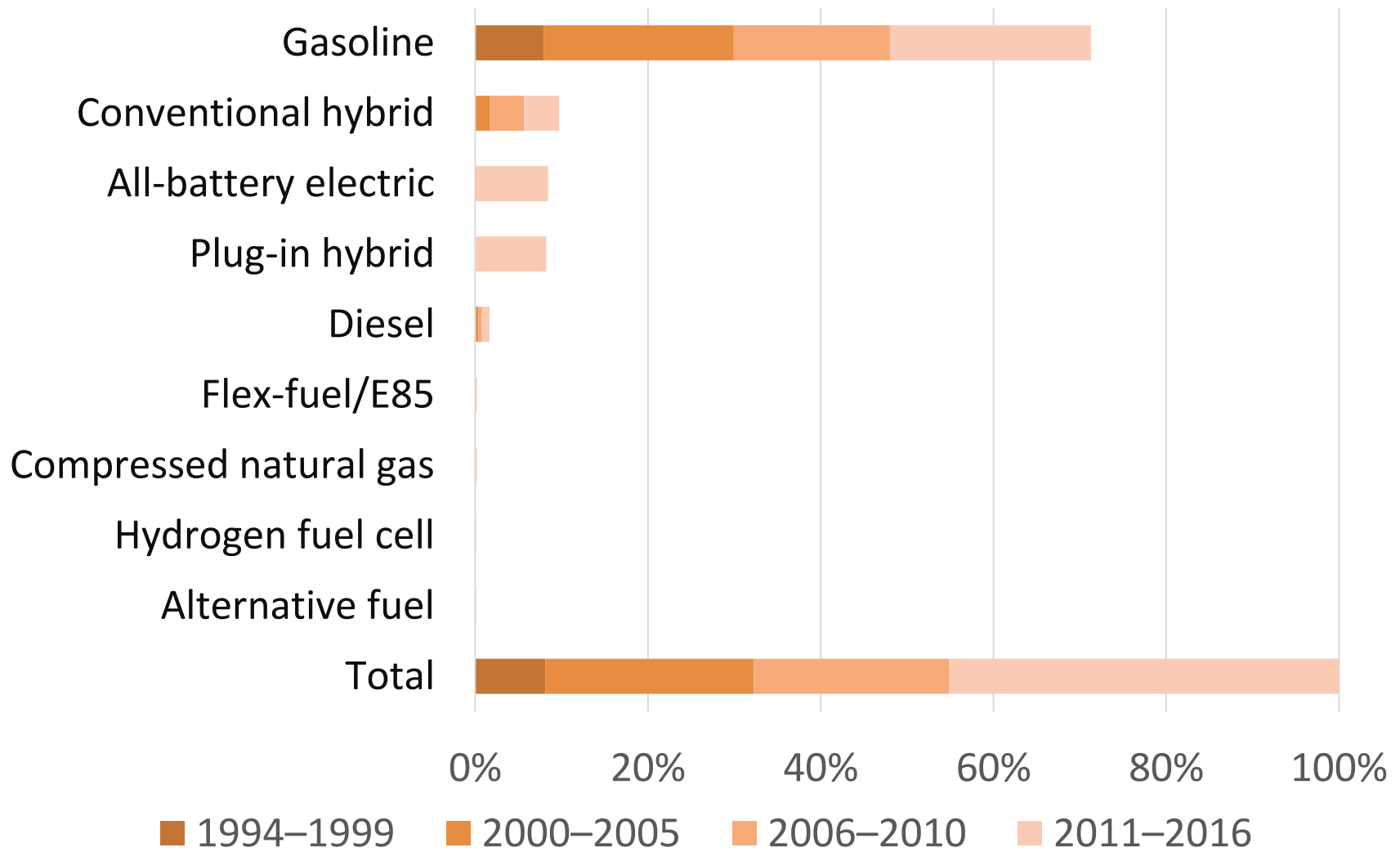
■ Would not have purchased/leased without the rebate



## **What vehicles have rebates removed from the market?**

Replacing older, more polluting vehicles

# What vehicles have rebates helped replace?







## How many emissions has CVRP reduced?

Greenhouse-gas savings

# Carbon prepared three ways

	1. CARB FP	2. CARB in AFLEET	3. Enhanced AFLEET
<b>Approach</b>	Vehicle emissions factor (EF) difference		
<b>Rebated Vehicle</b>	Average by tech. type		
<b>Comparison Vehicle</b>	Ave. new 2016 gasoline (EMFAC)		

# Carbon prepared three ways

	1. CARB FP	2. CARB in AFLEET	3. Enhanced AFLEET
<b>Approach</b>	Vehicle emissions factor (EF) difference		
<b>Rebated Vehicle</b>	Average by tech. type		
<b>Comparison Vehicle</b>	Ave. new 2016 gasoline (EMFAC)		
<b>Electric Grid</b>	CA-GREET ?		
<b>Gasoline</b>	CA-GREET CaRFG?		

# Carbon prepared three ways

	1. CARB FP	2. CARB in AFLEET	3. Enhanced AFLEET
<b>Approach</b>	Vehicle emissions factor (EF) difference	Counterfactual fleet – rebated fleet	
<b>Rebated Vehicle</b>	Average by tech. type	Actual CVRP models	
<b>Comparison Vehicle</b>	Ave. new 2016 gasoline (EMFAC)	Ave. new 2016 gasoline (AFLEET)	
<b>Electric Grid</b>	CA-GREET ?	CA-GREET 2.0	
<b>Gasoline</b>	CA-GREET CaRFG?	GREET 1_2015	

# Carbon prepared three ways

	1. CARB FP	2. CARB in AFLEET	3. Enhanced AFLEET
<b>Approach</b>	Vehicle emissions factor (EF) difference	Counterfactual fleet – rebated fleet	Counterfactual fleet – rebated fleet
<b>Rebated Vehicle</b>	Average by tech. type	Actual CVRP models	Actual CVRP models
<b>Comparison Vehicle</b>	Ave. new 2016 gasoline (EMFAC)	Ave. new 2016 gasoline (AFLEET)	MY-specific, sales-weighted ave. new gasoline
<b>Electric Grid</b>	CA-GREET ?	CA-GREET 2.0	CA-GREET 2.0
<b>Gasoline</b>	CA-GREET CaRFG?	GREET 1_2015	GREET 1_2015



# Per-vehicle Year-1 Reductions by Model

Metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e reductions (percent change from 1., percent change from 2.)

	1. CARB FP	2. CARB in AFLEET	3. Enhanced AFLEET
Average PEV savings	2.56	2.41 (-6%)	2.67 (4%, 11%)

# Per-vehicle Year-1 Reductions by Influence

**Metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e reductions (percent change from Rebated)**

	Rebated	Rebate “Important”	Rebate Essential
Average <b>PEV</b> savings	2.67	2.68 <b>(0%)</b>	2.72 <b>(2%)</b>
Average <b>BEV</b> savings	2.80	2.82 <b>(1%)</b>	2.84 <b>(1%)</b>
Average <b>PHEV</b> savings	2.48	2.48 <b>(0%)</b>	2.49 <b>(1%)</b>

# Year-1 Emissions Reductions

Thousand metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e reductions (percent change from CARB in AFLEET)

Assumptions	Low GHG Savings	CARB in AFLEET	High GHG Savings	Enhanced AFLEET
VMT	245 (-26%)	330	379 (15%)	365 (11%)
PHEV eVMT%	302 (-8%)		368 (12%)	
Electric Grid	295 (-11%)		483 (47%)	

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a charging cable connected to an electric vehicle. The scene is set outdoors at sunset, with a bright sun in the upper right corner creating a lens flare effect. The background shows a blurred city street with buildings and other vehicles. A white semi-transparent banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "Summary and Next Steps".

## Summary and Next Steps

# Summary

- Participant demographics are *similar* to car buyers, but...
  - Less frequently white, more frequently male, and changing
- >3/4<sup>th</sup> of rebated EVs replace **older, more polluting vehicles** (more so for PHEVs)
- Rebate influence may be significantly higher than indicated in literature to date, is growing
- Utilizing program-specific data:
  - Increases market impacts significantly
  - Increases emissions reductions 11+%
    - So far; more to come (next slide)
- Emissions reduction sensitivity to individual inputs examined range -26% to 15%
  - Upside potential of 100% renewable grid is 47%



# Next Steps: Conservatisms to Address

- Pre-income-cap
- Majority demographic summary (segments elsewhere)
- Vehicle volumes used as a proxy for other benefits that could be quantified
- Counterfactual fleet assumed all rebated consumers would have bought new “comparison vehicle” rather than kept old vehicle
- Lower-C gasoline
- No cleaning of grid over time
- Focused on Year-1 benefits, not 30-month program requirements, or 6–15-year vehicle lifetimes
- Other inputs based on conservative CARB inputs



# Other Next Steps, Program Data to Utilize

- Finish harmonization with latest CARB inputs to establish consistent baseline
- Explore
  - Time-dependent gasoline content
  - Gasoline substitute for BEV VMT make-up
- Incorporate
  - 2016–2017 survey data when available
  - Specific vehicles replaced
  - Continue reducing aggregation with case-specific values
- Use Monte Carlo analysis to prioritize areas with greatest uncertainty

# Thank You for Your Attention

What would you like to know more about?  
What decisions are you facing?  
[brett.williams@energycenter.org](mailto:brett.williams@energycenter.org)

*We work nationally in the clean energy industry and  
are always open to collaboration.*

# Sensitivity Testing: Details

	<i>Low GHG Reductions</i>	<b>CARB in AFLEET</b>	<i>High GHG Reductions</i>
<b>VMT</b>	BEV: 7,916 PHEV: 11,778	BEV: 11,059 PHEV: 14,855	BEV: 13,494 PHEV: 15,283
<b>PHEV eVMT%</b>	15% Electric	40% Electric	74.5% Electric
<b>Electric Grid</b>	WECC	CA-GREET 2.0	100% renewable

<b>Electricity Mix</b>	<b>WECC</b>	<b>CA-GREET 2.0</b>	<b>EIA - CA</b>	<b>100% renewable</b>
<b>Coal</b>	25.4%	7.15%	0.16%	
<b>Oil (Residual oil)</b>	0.2%	1.38%	0.05%	
<b>Gas (Natural gas)</b>	32.5%	50.75%	49.00%	
<b>Biomass</b>	0.2%	2.62%	3.05%	
<b>Nuclear</b>	7.9%	15.18%	9.50%	
<b>Renewable</b>	33.8%	22.92%	38.24%	100%

A close-up photograph of a person's hand plugging a charging cable into the port of a silver electric car. The scene is set outdoors at sunset, with a bright sun in the upper right corner creating a lens flare effect. In the background, a city street is visible with a bicycle rack and other vehicles. A semi-transparent white banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "Additional Online Resources".

## **Additional Online Resources**



# Additional Participant Evaluation Examples

- Progress in **Disadvantaged Communities** ([AEA pres 2016](#))
- **Information Channels** ([EV Roadmap pres, 2016](#))
  - Exposure & importance of various channels, consumer time spent researching various topics
- **Infographics**
  - Overall ([CVRP infographic, 2016](#))
  - Disadvantaged Communities ([CVRP DAC infographic, 2017](#))
- Characterization of **Participating Vehicles and Consumers** ([CVRP research workshop pres, 2015](#))
- **Program Participation by Vehicle Type and County** ([CVRP brief 2015](#))
- **Dealer services: Importance and Prevalence** (EF pres 2015)



# Zero Emission Vehicle Dashboard

ZEV Sales | ZEV Market Share | ZEV Goals

## U.S. Light-Duty Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Sales (2011-2017)

### Filters

#### ZEV Regulation Region\*

- (All)
- California
- East Coast
- West Coast
- Other

#### State

(All)

#### ZEV Category

- (All)
- BEV
- FCEV
- PHEV

#### Registration Type

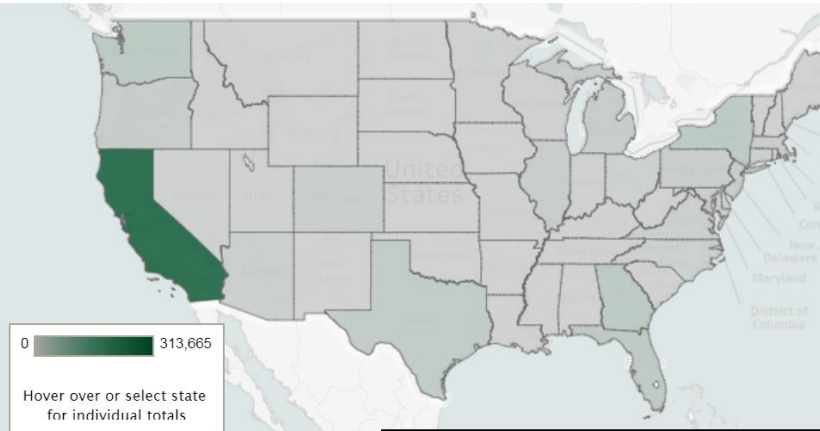
- Retail
- Other Fleet
- Government Fleet

#### Registration Month

Jan 2011 Jul 2017

1 79

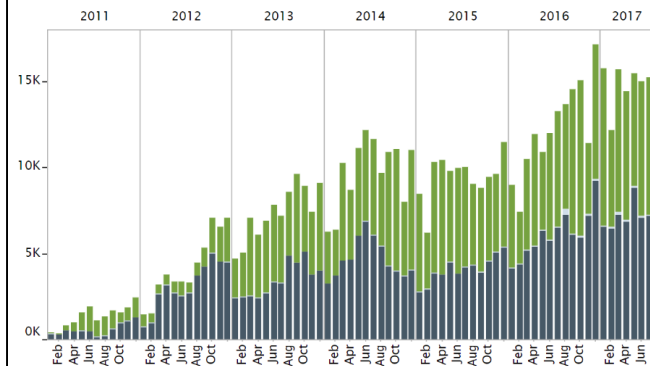
### ZEV Sales by State



### ZEV Sales by Category

BEV	318,487
FCEV	2,048
PHEV	314,675
All	635,210

### Monthly Sales by ZEV Category



### Top States by ZEV Market Share

