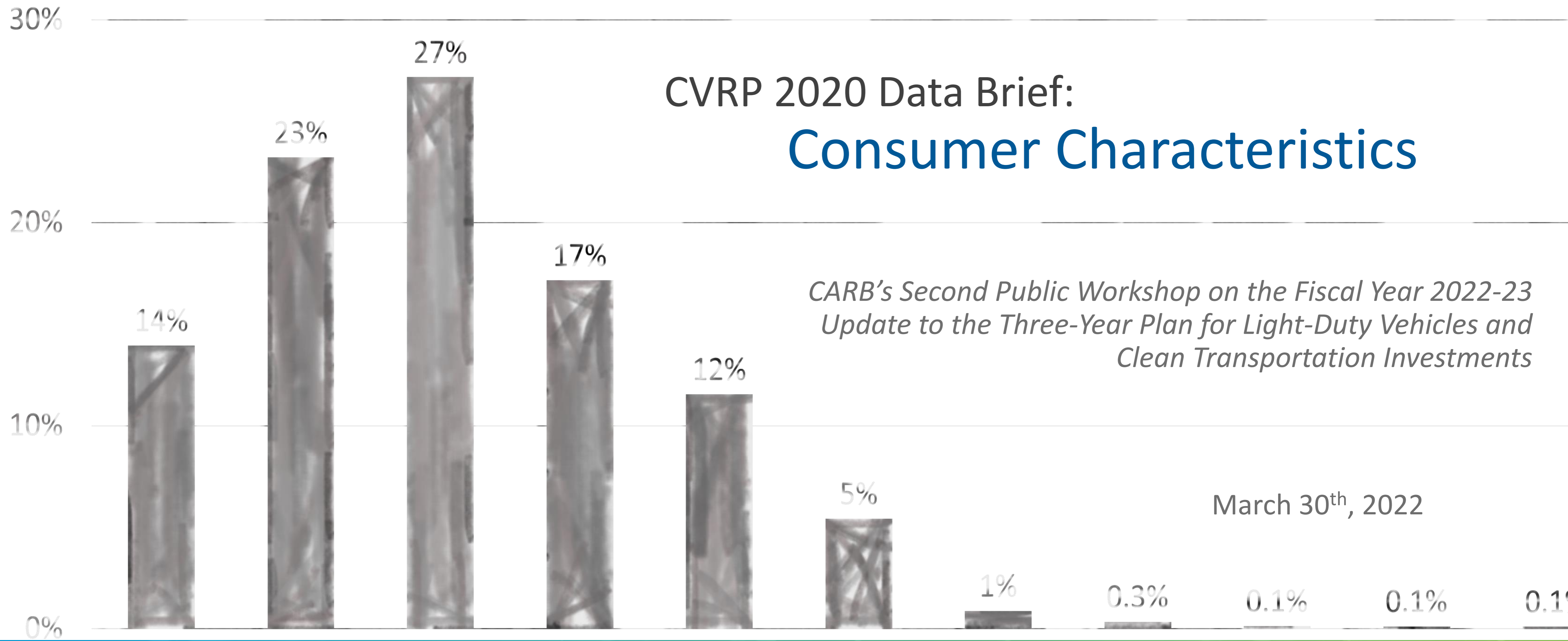


# CVRP 2020 Data Brief: Consumer Characteristics

Percent of Funding



*CARB's Second Public Workshop on the Fiscal Year 2022-23  
Update to the Three-Year Plan for Light-Duty Vehicles and  
Clean Transportation Investments*

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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*with thanks to J. Bowers and others at the Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE)*



# Outline: Consumer Characteristics

- I. Context: Consumer Eligibility Criteria
- II. Where is the funding going?: Consumers Rebated
- III. What is the path forward?: Strategic Segments
- IV. Summary & Select Findings

## Additional Details & Resources

EVs = light-duty plug-in hybrid, battery, and fuel-cell electric vehicles (PHEVs, BEVx vehicles, BEVs, and FCEVs)

PEVs = PHEVs, BEVx vehicles, and BEVs



The background image shows a close-up of a hand plugging a charging cable into the port of an electric vehicle. The scene is set outdoors during the day, with bright sunlight creating a lens flare effect in the upper right corner. In the background, a bicycle is parked on a sidewalk, and a building is visible. The overall atmosphere is clean and modern, representing sustainable transportation.

# Context

Consumer Eligibility Criteria & Other Program Features



# Program Design Shapes Outcomes

  = in effect during 2020



<p><b>as of Mar. 2010</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incentive stacking permitted</li> <li>36-month ownership requirement</li> <li>Rebates per year limit = 20</li> </ul>	<p><b>as of Dec. 2013</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebates per year limit = 2</li> </ul> <p><b>as of May 2014</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18-month application window</li> </ul>	<p><b>as of Dec. 2014 / Jan. 2015</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30-month ownership requirement (retroactive)</li> <li>Total rebate limit = 2</li> </ul>	<p><b>as of Mar. 2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$250k–\$500k income cap (PEVs)</li> <li>+\$1,500 for income-qualified households (<math>\leq 300\%</math> FPL), excluding ZEMs</li> </ul>	<p><b>as of Nov. 2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$150k–\$300k income cap (PEVs)</li> <li>+\$2,000 for income-qualified households (<math>\leq 300\%</math> FPL), excl. ZEMs</li> <li><math>\geq 20</math> UDDS electric miles</li> </ul>
<p><b>as of Jan. 2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$150k–\$300k income cap on stacking HOV decal             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(only binding on FCEVs)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Rebate Now San Diego County preapproval pilot with point-of-sale option</li> </ul>	<p><b>as of Jan. 2019</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stacking with CVAP grant not permitted (retroactive)</li> </ul>	<p><b>as of Dec. 2019</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Base MSRP <math>\leq</math> \$60k (PEVs)</li> <li><math>\geq 35</math> UDDS electric miles</li> <li>+\$2,500<sup>†</sup> for income-qualified households (<math>\leq 300\%</math> FPL), excl. ZEMs</li> <li>Total rebates limit = 1<sup>§</sup></li> <li>3-month application window<sup>‡</sup></li> </ul>	<p><b>as of Apr. 2020</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stacking with CVAP grant permitted</li> </ul> <p><b>as of Jan. 2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+\$2,500 for income-qualified households (<math>\leq 400\%</math> FPL), excl. ZEMs</li> </ul>	<p><b>as of Apr. 2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><math>\geq 30</math> U.S. EPA electric miles (45 UDDS)</li> <li>Rebate Now preapproval option limited to income-qualified households, expanded to include SJ Valley</li> </ul>

PEVs = plug-in EVs. FPL = Federal Poverty Level. ZEMs = zero-emission motorcycles. UDDS = Urban Dynamometer Driving Schedule. HOV = high-occupancy-vehicle. FCEVs = fuel-cell EVs. CVAP = Clean Vehicle Assistance Program. MSRP = manufacturer suggested retail price.

<sup>†</sup> Change due to \$500 decrease in standard rebate amounts. <sup>‡</sup> COVID exemptions on application window effectively delayed implementation until 4/15/2021.

<sup>§</sup> A second rebate can be approved for a FCEV if the first rebate was for a PEV.

# Base Rebate Amount for Most Individuals Decreased \$500



	as of Mar. 2010	as of Jun. 2011	as of Jul. 2013	as of Jun. 2014	as of Mar. 2016	as of Nov. 2016	as of Dec. 2019
Fuel-Cell EVs 	\$3,000– \$5,000 ‡	\$1,500– \$2,500 ‡	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$5,000 *	\$5,000**	\$4,500***
Battery EVs † 	\$3,000– \$5,000 ‡	\$1,500– \$2,500 ‡	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500 *	\$2,500**	\$2,000***
Plug-in Hybrid EVs 	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500 *	\$1,500**	\$1,000***
Zero-Emission Motorcycles 	\$1,500	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$750
Neighborhood EVs	\$1,500	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	None eligible	None eligible
Commercial Zero-Emission Vehicles	\$20,000						

† Includes range-extended battery electric vehicles.

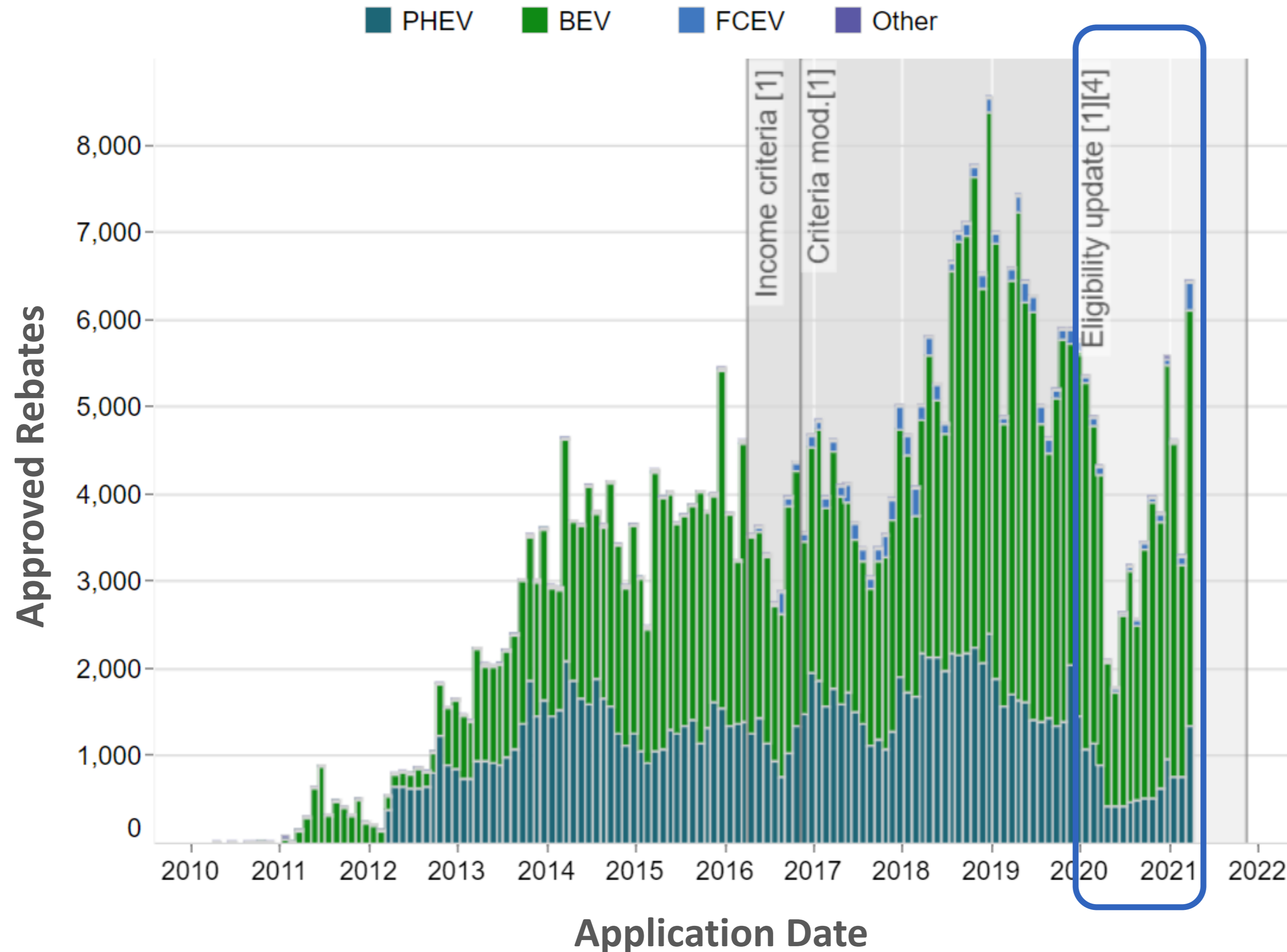
‡ Amounts varied by ZEV type. For definitions, see CCR 1962.1.

\* Lower-income consumers eligible for an additional \$1,500.

\*\* Lower-income consumers eligible for an additional \$2,000.

\*\*\* Lower-income consumers eligible for an additional \$2,500.

# Applications Saw Dramatic Decline But Significant Recovery



With COVID exemptions, rebate applications for calendar year 2020 purchases/leases for individuals spanned 1/1/2020 – 4/15/2021.

12% applied in 2021.



A close-up photograph of a hand plugging a charging cable into a car's charging port. The scene is set at a public charging station during sunset, with warm, golden light and lens flare effects. The background shows a blurred city street with buildings and other vehicles.

# Program Outputs

Consumers Rebated

# Rebate Statistics Dashboard: Equity Tab

### Priority Communities (AB 1550) [2]

This is a Venn diagram describing the priority communities of California Assembly Bill (AB) 1550. The small circle on the left represents CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Disadvantaged Communities and the larger circle on the right represents AB 1500 Low-Income Communities. The larger overlapping area represents Disadvantaged Communities within Low-Income Communities. The smaller overlapping area represents Low-income Communities within one half mile of Disadvantaged Communities.

### Rebates by Equity Group [2]

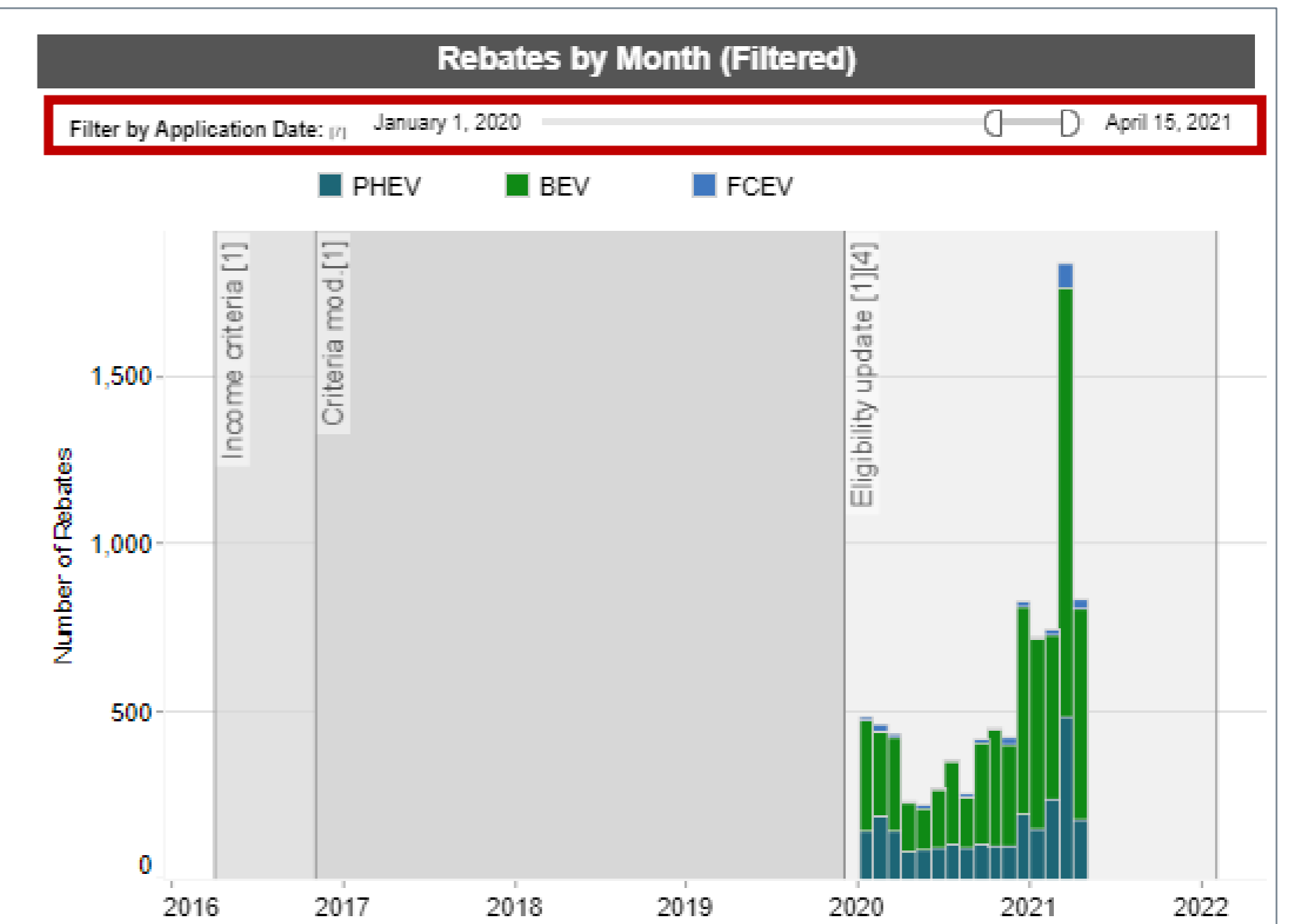
Timeframe: [1] Current Income Criteria (11/1/2016 – Present)

	Rebates	Funding	Percent of Funding
All Equity Groups	85,809	\$244,055,602	36.4%
Disadvantaged Communities	27,514	\$69,833,787	10.4%
Low-Income Communities	60,020	\$149,374,237	22.3%
Disadvantaged Communities within Low-Income Communities	19,231	\$49,702,208	7.4%
Low-Income Communities within 1/2 mile of a Disadvantaged Community [2]	12,050	\$30,258,427	4.5%
Increased Rebates for Low-/Moderate-Income Consumers [1]	29,019	\$122,315,780	18.3%

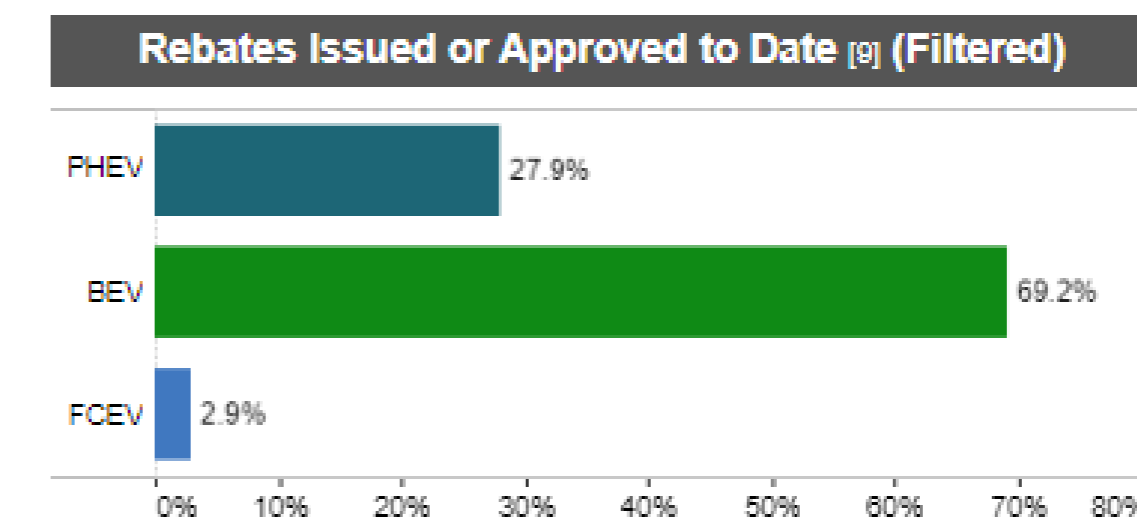
This chart summarizes the number of rebates, amount of funding, and the percent of funding by all equity groups, by geography, and by rebate type. Geography

### Filter by:

- Consumer Type: Individual
- Rebate Type [1]: Low-/Moderate-Income Incomes...
- Equity Communities [2]: (All)
- County: (All)
- Electric Utility: (All)
- Air District: (All)
- CA Senate District [3]: (All)
- CA Assembly District [3]: (All)
- Vehicle Category [4]: (All)
- Make: (All)
- Funding Source [5]: (All)
- Grant Number [6]: (All)



This figure displays the total number of rebates by month from 2010 to 2020 as a stacked bar chart with each bar containing number of rebates per vehicle technology type. Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles are represented in blue, Battery Electric Vehicles are represented in green, Fuel-cell Electric Vehicles are represented in light purple. Other vehicle categories are represented in dark purple. Additionally, it contains three date markers that represent program changes – the income criteria on 3/29/2016, the modified income criteria on 11/1/2016, and eligibility update on 12/3/2019.



This figure shows four horizontal bars each representing the percent of rebates issued or approved per vehicle technology type.



Data is updated monthly. Last updated: February 2, 2022

[1-7] Please select the **Notes** tab of this dashboard for additional details and links to related information.



# CVRP Consumer Survey Editions

(Shows Rebates to Individuals for Plug-in EVs Only)

	<b>2013–2015 Edition</b>	<b>2015–2016 Edition</b>	<b>2016–2017 Edition</b>	<b>2017–2020 Edition</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Vehicle Purchase/ Lease Dates</b>	Sep. 2012 – May 2015	April 2015 – May 2016	May 2016 – May 2017	June 2017 – Nov. 2020	Sep. 2012 – Nov. 2020
<b>Survey Responses (total <i>n</i>)*</b>	19,460	11,611	8,957	32,524	72,552
<b>Program Population (<i>N</i>)**</b>	91,100	45,700	46,800	193,200	376,800

\* Subsequently weighted to represent the program population along the dimensions of vehicle category, vehicle model, buy vs. lease, and county (weighting dimensions for the 2017–20 Edition also included year of purchase/lease).

\*\* Small numbers of rebated vehicles are not represented in the time frames due to application lags. Rounded to nearest 100.

# Consumer Survey Dashboard: Demographics

Data from three survey editions (2013–15, ‘15–16, and ‘16–17) online...

**Select Demographic\***

Annual Household Income  
Annual Household Income  
Education  
Housing Type  
Housing Ownership  
Gender  
Age

**Vehicle Category\*** (All) **Make** (All)

**County** (All) **Disadvantaged Community (DAC)\*** (All) **Project Representativeness (Weights)\*** Weighted

**Weighted Survey Responses: Annual Household Income**

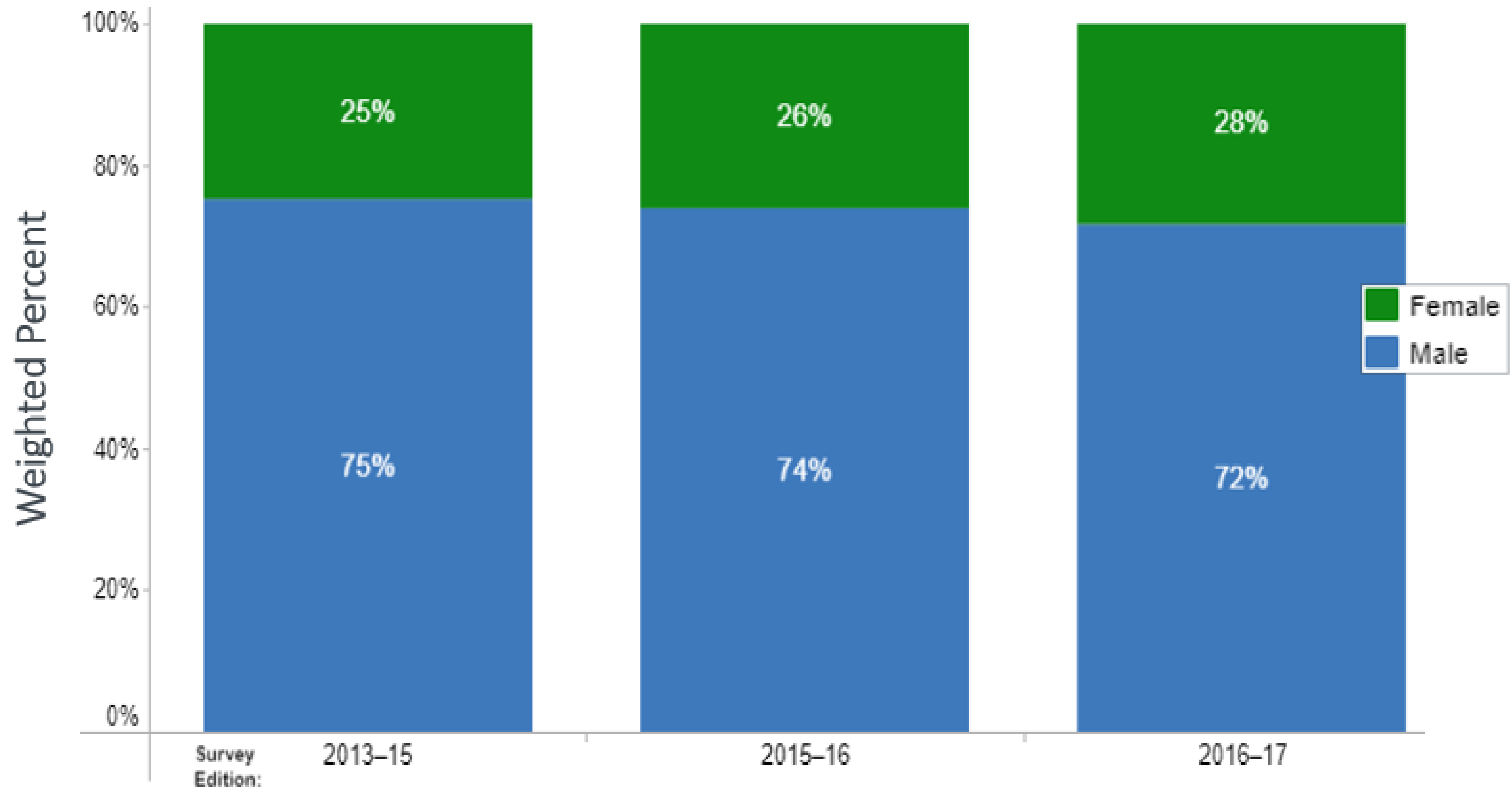
**33,067**

**Responses**

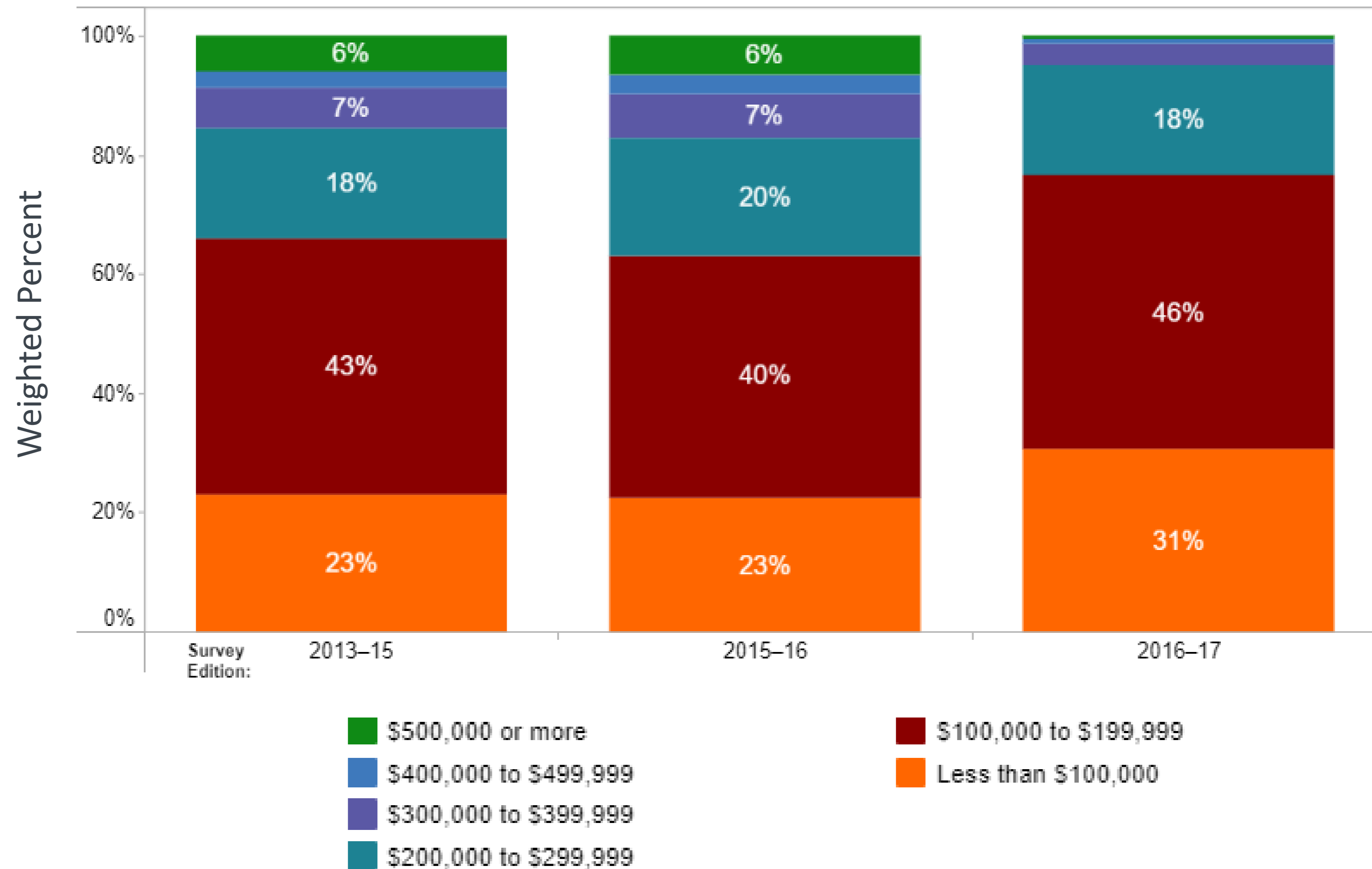
■ \$500,000 or more ■ \$100,000 to \$499,999



# Consumer Survey Dashboard Demographics: Sex/Gender



# Consumer Survey Dashboard Demographics: Household Income





# Select Additional Resources: Consumer Characteristics

(Reverse Chronological, as of 12/21/21)



## Presentations

- [Data from Statewide Electric Vehicle Rebate Programs: Vehicles, Consumers, Impacts, and Effectiveness](#)
- [CVRP CY 2019 Data Brief: Consumer Characteristics](#)
- [EV Purchase Incentives: Program Design, Outputs, and Outcomes of Four Statewide Programs with a Focus on Massachusetts](#)
- [Electric Vehicle Incentives and Policies](#)
- [CVRP: Data and Analysis Update](#)
- [Electric Vehicle Rebates: Exploring Indicators of Impact in Four States](#)
- [Supporting EV Commercialization with Rebates: Statewide Programs, Vehicle & Consumer Data, and Select Findings](#)
- [Yale Webinar: Supporting EV Commercialization with Rebates: Statewide Programs, Vehicle & Consumer Data, and Findings](#)
- [Electric Vehicle Rebates in Disadvantaged Communities: Evaluating Progress with Appropriate Comparisons](#)
- [Implementation Status Update](#)

## Publications

- B.D. Williams, J. Orose, M. Jones, J.B. Anderson, [Summary of Disadvantaged Community Responses to the Electric Vehicle Consumer Survey, 2013–2015 Edition](#), Clean Vehicle Rebate Project, San Diego CA, 2018.
- C. Johnson, B.D. Williams, C. Hsu, J.B. Anderson, [Summary Documentation of the Electric Vehicle Consumer Survey, 2013–2015 Edition](#), Clean Vehicle Rebate Project, San Diego CA, 2017.

# CVRP Consumer Survey Data Used

(Shows Rebates to Individuals for Plug-in EVs Only)

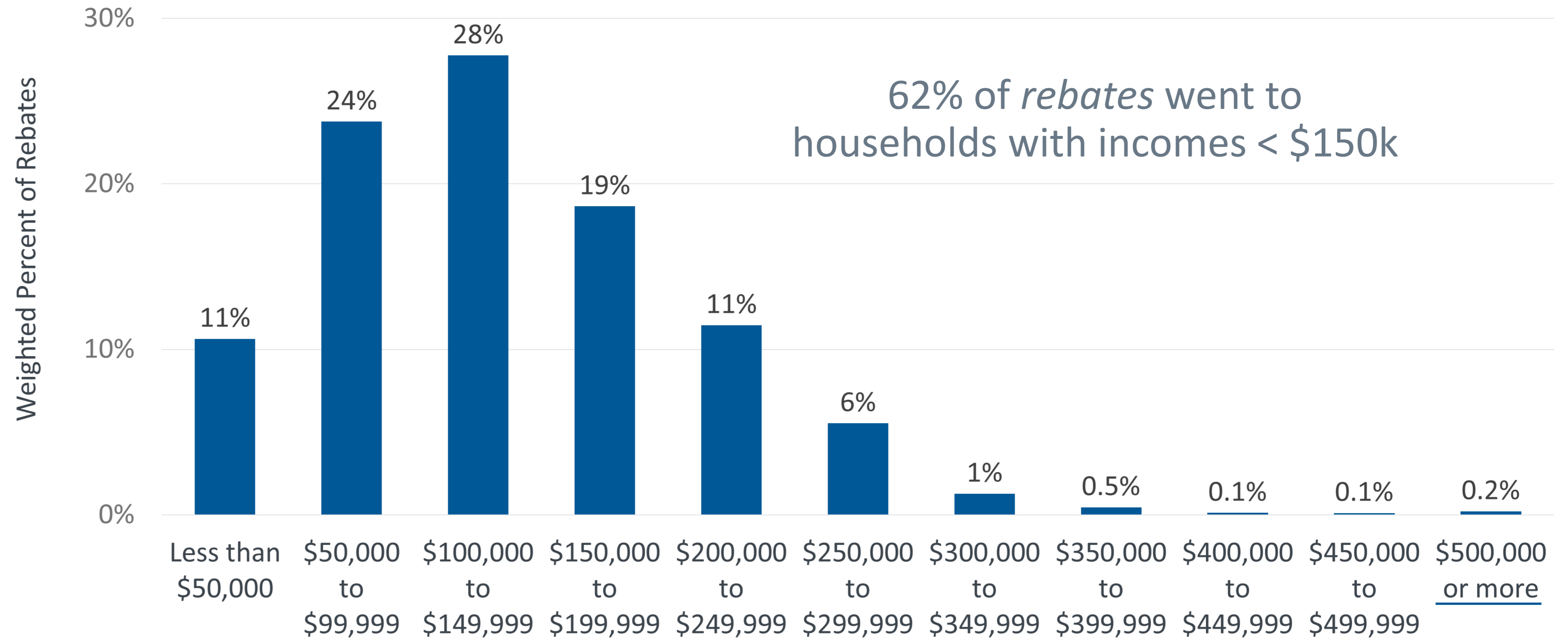
	<b>2017–2020 Edition</b>	<b>2018 purchases/leases subset</b>	<b>2019 purchases/leases subset</b>	<b>“2020” purchases/leases subset</b>
<b>Vehicle Purchase/ Lease Dates</b>	June 2017 – <b>Nov. 2020</b>	Jan. 2018 – Dec. 2018	Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2019	Jan. 2020 – <b>Nov. 2020</b>
<b>Survey Responses (total <i>n</i>)</b>	32,524*	14,757	8,991	4,331*
<b>Program Population (<i>N</i>)**</b>	193,200	78,600 (filtered subset of weighted Edition)	61,300 (filtered subset of weighted Edition)	26,500

\* Subsequently weighted to represent the program population along the dimensions of vehicle category, vehicle model, buy vs. lease, county, and year of purchase/lease. The 2020 subset was also independently weighted, producing only minor differences compared to the filtering approach.

\*\* Small numbers of rebated vehicles are not represented in the time frames due to application lags. Rounded to nearest 100.

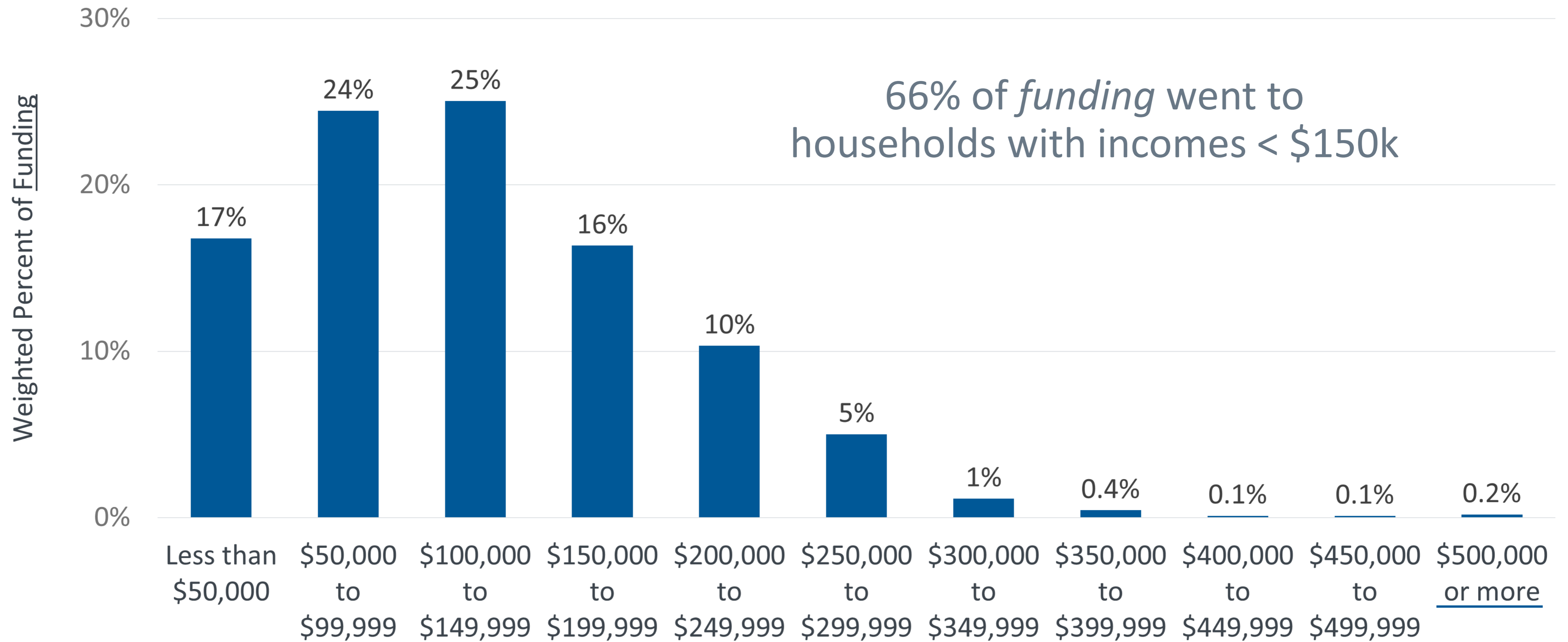


# Distribution of Plug-in EV *Rebates* by Household Income: Calendar Year (CY) 2020 Purchases/Leases



CVRP Consumer Survey, 2017–2020 Edition.  
Filtered, question-specific *n* = 3,831.

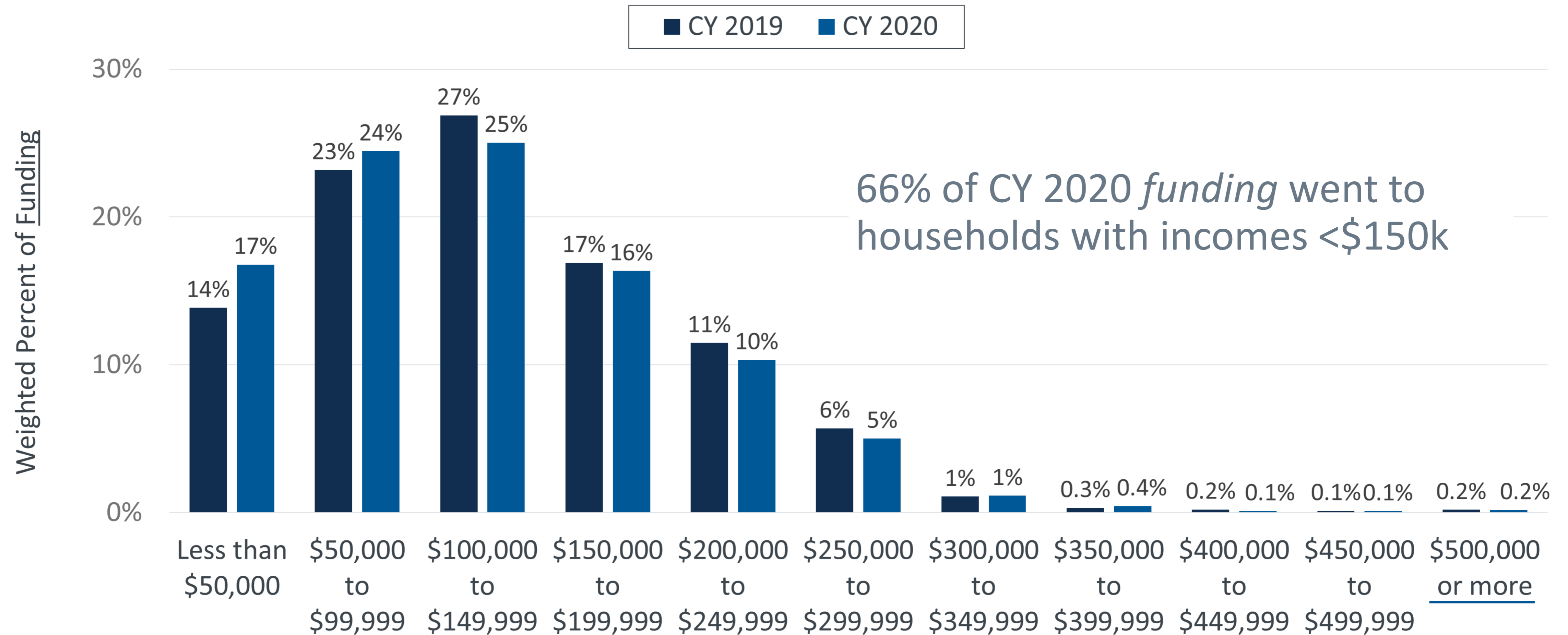
# Distribution of Plug-in EV *Funding* by Household Income: Calendar Year (CY) 2020 Purchases/Leases



CVRP Consumer Survey, 2017–2020 Edition.  
Filtered, question-specific *n* = 3,831.

# Funding Continues to Shift Toward Lower-Income Households

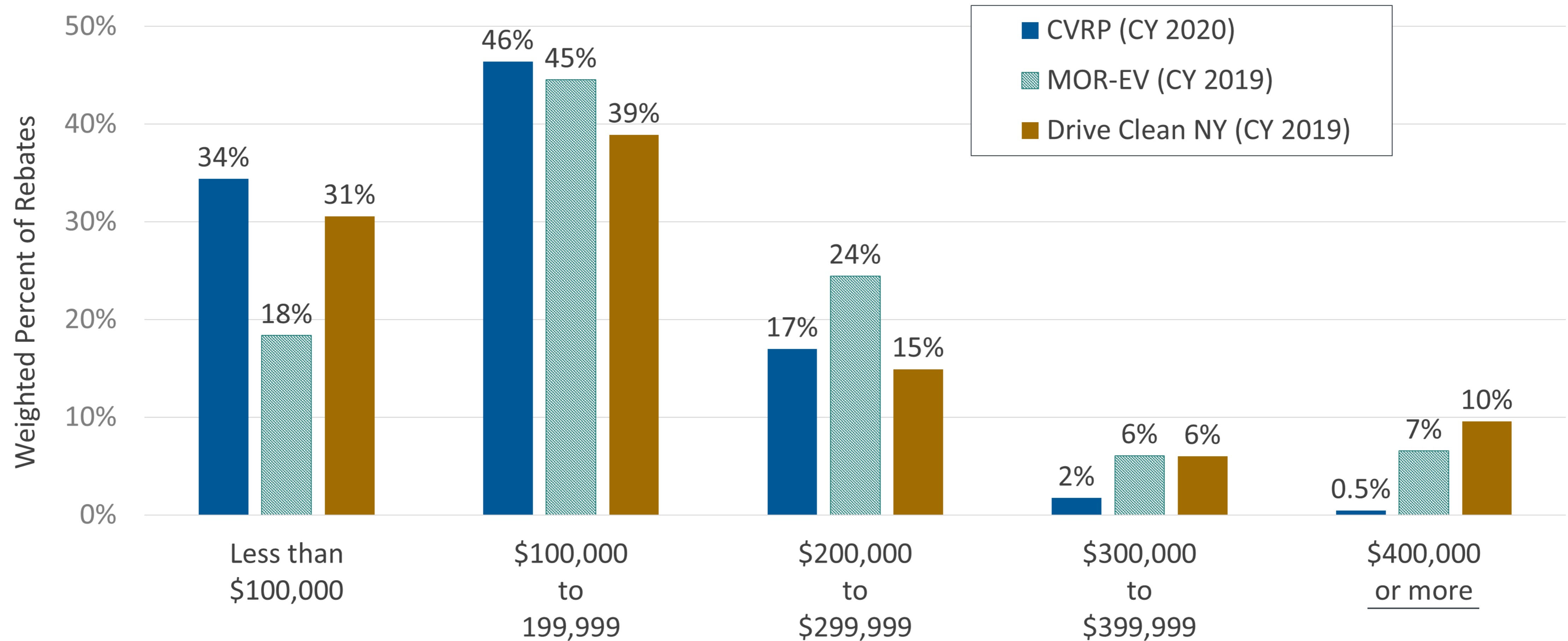
CY 2019 and CY 2020 Plug-in EV Purchases/Leases



CVRP Consumer Survey, 2017–2020 Edition. CY 2019 filtered, question-specific  $n = 7,992$ .  
 CY 2020 filtered, question-specific  $n = 3,831$ . CY 2020 weights specific to 2020 purchases/leases.




# Household Income Distribution: CA, MA, and NY Plug-in EV Rebates (most recent year available)



CVRP Consumer Survey, 2017–2020 Edition. Filtered, question-specific  $n = 3,831$ .  
MOR-EV Consumer Survey, 2014–2020 Edition. Filtered, question-specific  $n = 508$ .  
Drive Clean NY Consumer Survey, 2017–2019 Edition. Filtered, question-specific  $n = 1,817$

# Setting an Appropriate Baseline: U.S. Car Buyers Are Different Than the Population

	 <b>U.S. Population</b> 2015–2019 (Census 2019)		<b>U.S. New-Vehicle Buyers</b> MYs 2016–17 (2017 NHTS)
Selected solely white/Caucasian	61%	<<	74%
≥ 50 Years Old	35%	<<	51%
≥ Bachelor’s Degree	24%	<<<<	57%
≥ \$75k HH Income*	42%	<<<	62%
Own Residence*	64%	<<	77%
Selected Male	49%	≈	51%

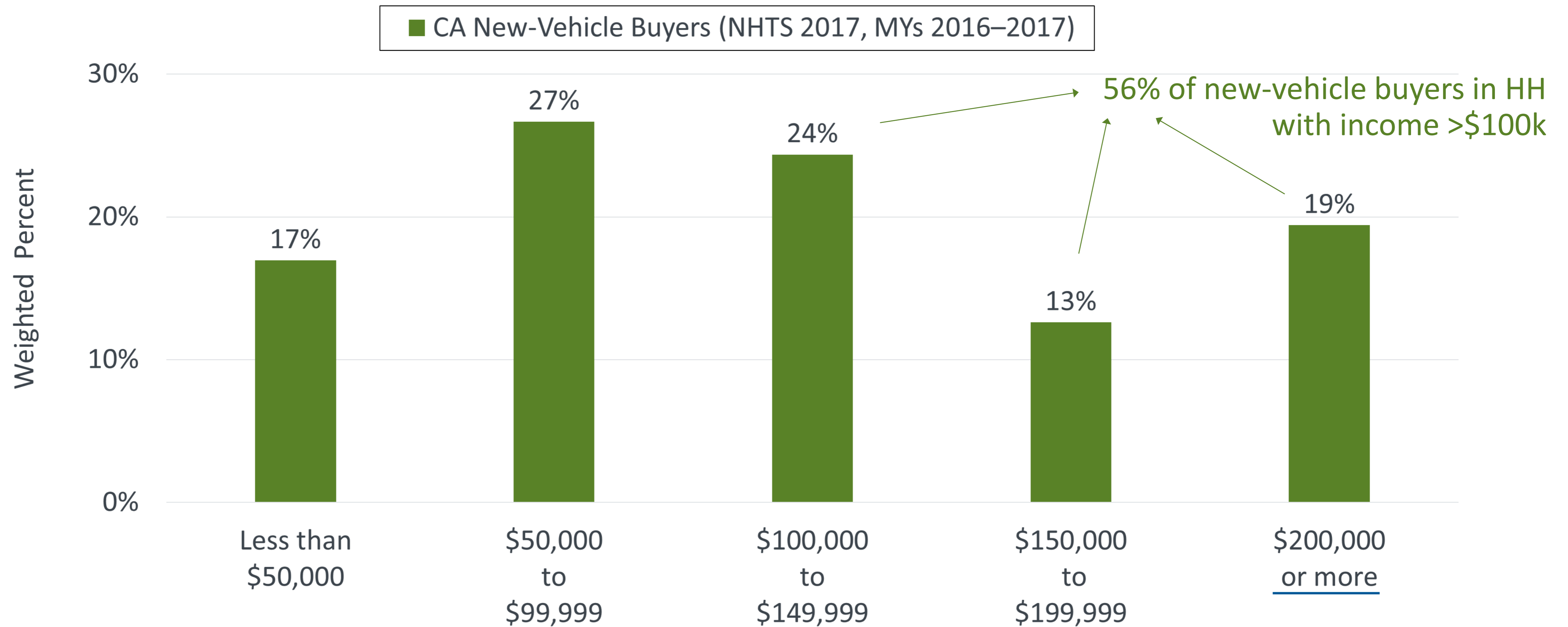
New-car buyers are different on almost every dimension.

- More frequently:
  - White
  - Older
  - Degree holders
  - Higher income
  - Residence owners
- *Some* of the difference explained by driving or buying age
- **The rest may be due in part to *social inequities***

\* Based upon household level data.

Census 2019: 2015–2019 American Community Survey, PUMS. NHTS 2017 is weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified based on within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout.

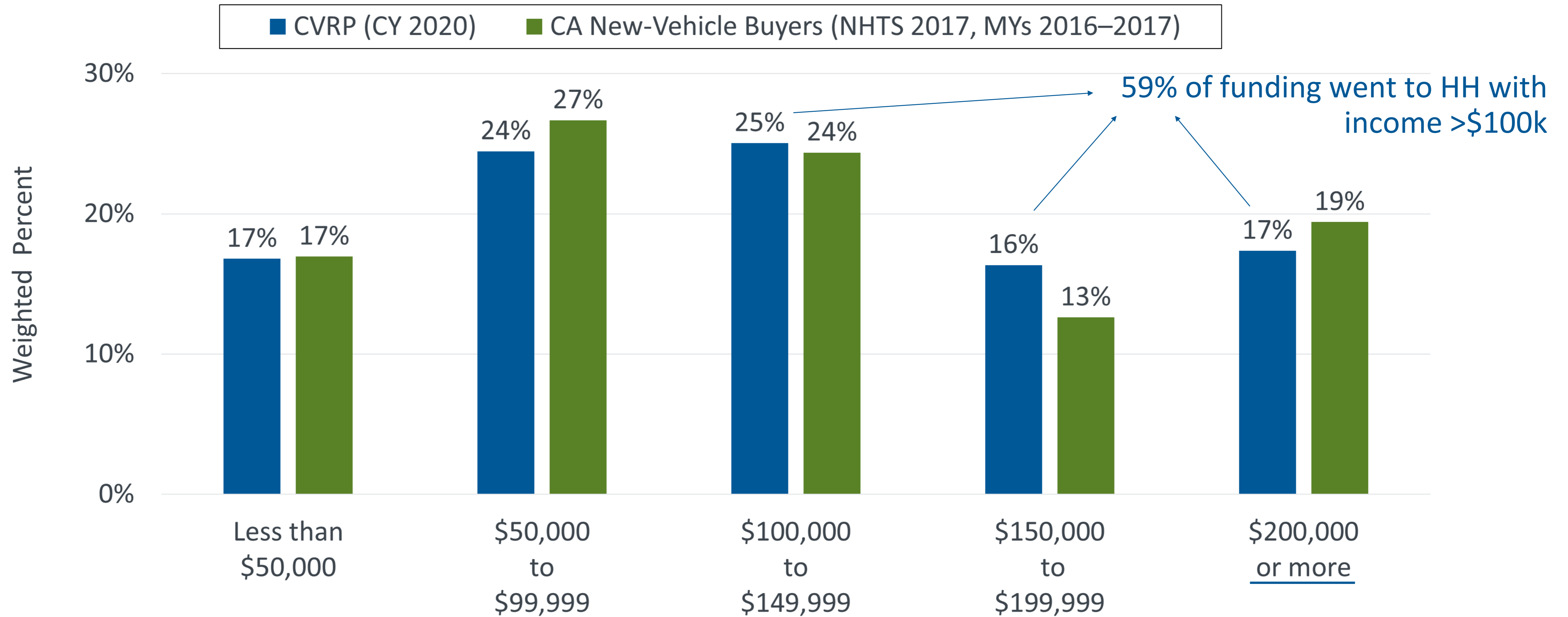
# Household Income Distribution: CA New-Vehicle Buyers



NHTS 2017 (CA add-on) is weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified based on within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.



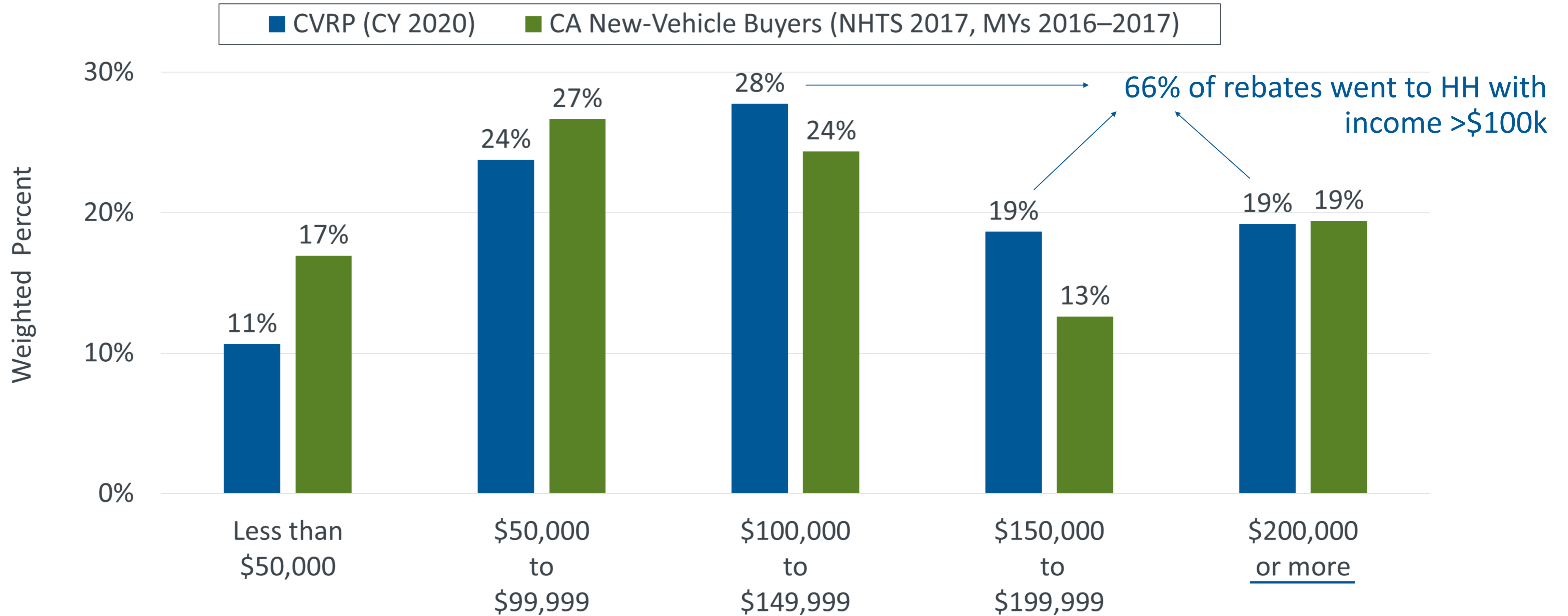
# Household Income Distribution: CVRP Plug-in EV Funding and CA New-Vehicle Buyers



CVRP Consumer Survey, 2017-2020 Edition. Filtered, question-specific  $n = 3,831$ .

NHTS 2017 (CA add-on) is weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified based on within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.

# Household Income Distribution: CVRP Plug-in EV Rebates and CA New-Vehicle Buyers



CVRP Consumer Survey, 2017-2020 Edition. Filtered, question-specific  $n = 3,831$ .

NHTS 2017 (CA add-on) is weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified based on within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.

# Latest Characteristics with Comparisons



	<b>CVRP Plug-in EV Rebates</b> <b>2020</b> n = 4,331 Weighted results	<b>CA New-Vehicle Buyers</b> <b>MYs 2016–17</b> (2017 NHTS CA add-on)	<b>CA Population</b> <b>2015–2019</b> (Census 2019)
<b>The majority of new-car buyers</b>			
Selected solely white/Caucasian	50%	51%	37%
≥ 40 years old	75%	68%	45%
≥ Bachelor’s degree	79%	‡	‡
≥ \$100k household income	66%	56% §	38% §
Own residence	80%	63% §	54% §
Selected male	71% ¶	50%	50%

‡ Census & NHTS data characterize individual educational attainment, whereas rebate data characterize highest household attainment. § Based upon household-level data.

¶ 100% includes non-binary options. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. CY 2020 weights specific to 2020 purchases/leases. Census 2019: 2015–2019 American Community Survey, PUMS. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified by within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.



# Explaining Differences with **Appropriate Comparisons** *(not population statistics)*



	<b>CVRP Plug-in EV Rebates 2020</b> n = 4,331 Weighted results	Portion of <b>total difference</b> attributable to EVs	<b>CA New-Vehicle Buyers MYs 2016–17</b> (2017 NHTS CA add-on)	Portion of <b>total difference</b> explained by car buying	CA Population 2015–2019 (Census 2019)
<b>The majority of new-car buyers</b>					
Selected solely white/Caucasian	50%	← -8% →	51%	← 108% →	37%
≥ 40 years old	75%	← 23% →	68%	← 77% →	45%
≥ Bachelor’s degree	79%	n.a.	‡	n.a.	‡
≥ \$100k household income	66%	← 36% →	56% §	← 64% →	38% §
Own residence	80%	← 65% →	63% §	← 35% →	54% §
Selected male	71% ¶	← 100% →	50%	← 0% →	50%

‡ Census & NHTS data characterize individual educational attainment, whereas rebate data characterize highest household attainment. § Based upon household-level data.

¶ 100% includes non-binary options. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. CY 2020 weights specific to 2020 purchases/leases. Census 2019: 2015–2019 American Community Survey, PUMS. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified by within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.

# Latest Characteristics with **Appropriate Comparisons** *(not population statistics)*



	<b>CVRP Plug-in EV Rebates</b> <b>2020</b> n = 4,331 Weighted results	<b>CA New-Vehicle Buyers</b> <b>MYs 2016–17</b> (2017 NHTS CA add-on)	<b>CA Population</b> <b>2015–2019</b> (Census 2019)
<b>The majority of new-car buyers</b>			
Selected solely white/Caucasian	50%	51%	37%
≥ 40 years old	75%	68%	45%
≥ Bachelor’s degree	79%	‡	‡
≥ \$100k household income	66%	56% §	38% §
Own residence	80%	63% §	54% §
Selected male	71% ¶	50%	50%

‡ Census & NHTS data characterize individual educational attainment, whereas rebate data characterize highest household attainment. § Based upon household-level data.

¶ 100% includes non-binary options. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. CY 2020 weights specific to 2020 purchases/leases. Census 2019: 2015–2019 American Community Survey, PUMS. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified by within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.

# Quantifying the Road that Remains: Percentage-Point Differences from the New-Vehicle-Buyer Baseline



The majority of new-car buyers	All CVRP	CA New-Vehicle Buyers
Selected solely white/Caucasian	-1	0
≥ 40 years old	7	0
≥ \$100k HH income	10	0
Own residence	17	0
Selected male	21	0
Total points:	<b>54</b>	<b>0</b>

Rebate data filtered by purchase/lease date. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified based on within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned, using most-recent model years available (2016–17).



# Assessing Progress with **Appropriate Comparisons** *(not population statistics)*



	<b>CVRP Plug-in EV Rebates</b> Purchase/Lease Dates:			<b>CA New-Vehicle Buyers</b>	<b>CA Population</b>
	<b>CY 2018</b> n = 14,757 Weighted results	<b>CY 2019</b> n = 8,991 Weighted results	<b>CY 2020</b> n = 4,331 Weighted results	<b>MYs 2016–17</b> (2017 NHTS CA add-on)	<b>2015–2019</b> (Census 2019)
<b>The majority of new-car buyers</b>					
Selected solely white/Caucasian	52%	50%	50%	51%	37%
≥ 40 years old	76%	73%	75%	68%	45%
≥ Bachelor’s degree in HH	84%	83%	79%	‡	‡
≥ \$100k household income	73%	68%	66%	56% §	38% §
Own residence	83%	79%	80%	63% §	54% §
Selected male	73%¶	71%¶	71%¶	50%	50%

‡ Census & NHTS data characterize individual educational attainment, whereas rebate data characterize highest household attainment. § Based upon household-level data.

¶ 100% includes non-binary options. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. CY 2020 weights specific to 2020 purchases/leases. Census 2019: 2015–2019 American Community Survey, PUMS. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified by within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.

# Latest Progress by Vehicle Type



	CVRP Plug-in EV Rebates Vehicle Type:		CA New-Vehicle Buyers	CA Population
	CY 2020 BEVs n = 3,464 Weighted results	CY 2020 PHEVs n = 867 Weighted results	MYs 2016–17 (2017 NHTS CA add-on)	2015–2019 (Census 2019)
<b>The majority of new-car buyers</b>				
Selected solely white/Caucasian	50%	49%	51%	37%
≥ 40 years old	74%	76%	68%	45%
≥ Bachelor’s degree in HH	80%	77%	‡	‡
≥ \$100k household income	69%	52% < 56% §		38% §
Own residence	81%	75%	63% §	54% §
Selected male	72% ¶	66% ¶	50%	50%

‡ Census & NHTS data characterize individual educational attainment, whereas rebate data characterize highest household attainment. § Based upon household-level data.

¶ 100% includes non-binary options. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. CY 2020 weights specific to 2020 purchases/leases. Census 2019: 2015–2019 American Community Survey, PUMS. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified by within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.



A close-up photograph of a person's hand plugging a charging cable into the charging port of a white electric vehicle. The scene is set outdoors at sunset, with warm, golden light and lens flare effects. In the background, a charging station and other vehicles are visible, though slightly out of focus.

# Paths Forward

Strategic EV Market Segments



# What is the Path Forward?

## Expanding Market Frontiers Through Strategic Segmentation



### Existing Adopters: Market Acceleration

Characterize existing, generally enthusiastic and pre-adapted consumers, to target similar consumers who have the highest likelihood of adoption and maximize scale



### *“Rebate Essential”* Consumers: Minimizing Free Ridership

Characterize adopters most highly influenced by supportive resources to join the EV market, to improve the cost-effectiveness of outreach and program design



### *“EV Converts”*: Moving Mainstream

Characterize EV consumers with low initial interest in EVs, to look for additional opportunities to expand into the mainstream



### Priority Populations: Increasing Equity

1. Characterize adoption by priority populations, to understand & reinforce adoption that is successfully overcoming hurdles
2. Identify and break down barriers, to further diversity and expand access

# Starting Point: CA Plug-in Vehicle Rebates

## Low-Hanging Fruit (Existing Adopters)

CY 2020  
n = 4,331

Weighted results



### The majority of new-car buyers

Selected solely white/Caucasian	50%
≥ 40 years old	75%
≥ Bachelor's degree in HH	79%
≥ \$100k HH income	66%
Own residence	80%
Selected male	71% ‡





## CA New-Vehicle Buyers

MYs 2016–17  
(2017 NHTS)

51%
68%
*
56% †
63% †
50%

\* NHTS data characterize individual educational attainment, whereas other data characterize highest household attainment. † Based upon household-level data. ‡ 100% includes non-binary options. Rebate data filtered by purchase/lease date. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified based on within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.

# Paths Forward: CA Plug-in Vehicle Rebates

	<b>Low-Hanging Fruit (Existing Adopters)</b> CY 2020 n = 4,331 <b>Weighted results</b> 	<b>“Rebate Essentials”</b> CY 2020 n = 1,669 <b>Weighted results</b> 	<b>“EV Converts”</b> CY 2020 n = 834 <b>Weighted results</b> 	<b>CA New- Vehicle Buyers</b> MYs 2016–17 (2017 NHTS)	<b>Increased Rebate Recipients</b> Low-/Moderate-Income CY 2020, n = 507 <b>Weighted results</b> 
<b>The majority of new-car buyers</b>					
Selected solely white/Caucasian	50%	42%	36%	51%	34%
≥ 40 years old	75%	71%	67%	68%	67%
≥ Bachelor’s degree in HH	79%	79%	75%	*	63%
≥ \$100k HH income	66%	57%	58%	56% <sup>†</sup>	9%
Own residence	80%	76%	74%	63% <sup>†</sup>	60%
Selected male	71% <sup>‡</sup>	71% <sup>‡</sup>	70% <sup>‡</sup>	50%	66% <sup>‡</sup>

\* NHTS data characterize individual educational attainment, whereas other data characterize highest household attainment. † Based upon household-level data. ‡ 100% includes non-binary options. Rebate data filtered by purchase/lease date. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified based on within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.



# Quantifying the Path Forward:

## Percentage-Point Differences from the New-Vehicle-Buyer Baseline



<b>The majority of new-car buyers</b>	<b>All CVRP</b>	<b>Rebate Essentials</b>	<b>EV Converts</b>	<b>CA New-Vehicle Buyers</b>	<b>Increased Rebate Recipients</b>
Selected solely white/Caucasian	-1	-9	-15	0	-17
≥ 40 years old	7	3	1	0	-1
≥ \$100k HH income	10	1	2	0	-47
Own residence	17	13	11	0	-3
Selected male	21	21	20	0	16
<b>Total points:</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-52</b>
<b>Percent of journey from segment to segment:</b>		<b>46%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>Percent of journey from start:</b>		<b>46%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>196%</b>

Rebate data filtered by purchase/lease date. “Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified based on within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned, using most-recent model years available (2016–17).



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 warm, golden light and lens flare effects. In the background, a public charging station with multiple orange charging cables is visible, along with a blurred city street and buildings.

# Summary & Select Findings



# Summary & Select Findings: Consumer Characteristics

## Program Design:

- Shapes impacts

## Rebated Consumer Characteristics vs. CA New-Vehicle Buyers:

- Different picture than painted by population stats
  - Depending on the characteristic, up to 100% of the difference between rebate recipients and the population can be explained by new-vehicle buying (e.g., 64% of the income difference is not about EVs)
- Metric of ***race/ethnicity comparable***
- Metric of ***age somewhat higher***, stopped progressing (still within 7 percentage points)
- ***Income:***
  - metric ***trending toward*** new-vehicle buyers (rebates within 10 percentage points, funding even closer)
    - percent of ***PHEV participants ≥\$100k lower*** than new-car buyers
  - 66% of funding went to households <\$150k, who are 68% of new-vehicle buyers
- ***Home ownership*** and ***male gender much more frequent*** (less so for PHEVs)
- Metrics can help ***quantify “length of road ahead”***

## Paths Forward:

- ***Strategic consumer segments*** present possible steppingstones on a path toward the mainstream and beyond to increased access (see related work)



A close-up photograph of a person's hand plugging a charging cable into the charging port of a light-colored electric vehicle. 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 public charging station with several orange charging cables is visible, along with a blurred city street scene. The overall atmosphere is warm and modern.

# Additional Details & Resources



# Funding Availability Has Been Regularly Disrupted

(as of Sept. 2021)



**Table 4: CVRP Waitlists**

Waitlist Year	Start Date	End Date	Length in Days
2011*	Jun. 20	Sept. 30	102
2013*	May 1	Jun. 30	60
2014	Mar. 28	Jul. 22	116
2016	Jun. 11	Sept. 28	109
2017**	Jun. 30	Nov. 20	143
2019**	Jun. 5	Sept. 23	110
2021	Apr. 23	Sept. 15	145

\* *Dates approximate.*

\*\* *For standard applications only; no waitlist for income-qualified increased rebates.*

# Explaining Differences with Appropriate Comparisons *(not population statistics)*



CY 2019 UPDATE

	<b>CVRP</b> Plug-in EVs <b>CY 2019</b> n = 8,991 Weighted results	Portion of <b>total</b> difference attributable to EVs	<b>CA New-Vehicle</b> <b>Buyers</b> <b>MYs 2016–17</b> (2017 NHTS CA add-on)	Portion of <b>total</b> difference explained by car buying	CA Population 2015–2019 (Census 2019)
<b>The majority of new-car buyers</b>					
Selected solely white/Caucasian	50%	← -8% →	51%	← 108% →	37%
≥ 40 years old	73%	← 18% →	68%	← 82% →	45%
≥ Bachelor’s degree	83%	n.a.	‡	n.a.	‡
≥ \$100k Household Income	68%	← 40% →	56% §	← 60% →	38% §
Own Residence	79%	← 64% →	63% §	← 36% →	54% §
Selected Male	71% ¶	← 100% →	50%	← 0% →	50%

‡ Census & NHTS data characterize individual educational attainment, whereas rebate data characterize highest household attainment. § Based upon household-level data.





¶ Starting in June 2017, 100% includes non-binary options.

“Prefer not to answer,” “I don’t know,” and similar responses are excluded throughout. Census 2019: 2015–2019 American Community Survey, PUMS. NHTS weighted to represent population, not new-vehicle subset. New-vehicle buyers identified by within-100-mile match between odometer and miles driven while owned.



# Consumer Survey Data: Plug-in EVs\*

*(Shows Rebates to Individuals Only)*

					<b>Total</b>
<b>Vehicle Purchase/ Lease Dates</b>	Sep. 2012 – Nov. 2020	Jun. 2014 – Apr. 2020	May 2015 – Sep. 2018	Mar. 2017 – Dec. 2019	Sep. 2012 – Nov. 2020
<b>Survey Responses (total <i>n</i>)**</b>	72,552	6,616	1,565	5,474	86,207
<b>Program Population (<i>N</i>)***</b>	376,800	16,100	3,500	21,800	418,200

\* Plug-in EVs (PEVs) include PHEVs and BEVs.

\*\* Subsequently weighted to represent the program population along the dimensions of vehicle category, model, buy vs. lease, and county (weighting dimensions for CVRP 2017–20 Edition as included year of purchase/lease).

\*\*\* Small numbers of rebated vehicles are not represented in the time frames due to application lags. Rounded to nearest 100.

# Select Publications (Reverse Chronological, as of 3/2022)



- N. Pallonetti and B.D.H. Williams (2022, Jan.), [“Evaluating the Cost-Effectiveness of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions Associated with Statewide Electric Vehicle Rebate Programs in California and Massachusetts in 2019,”](#) for *International Energy Program Evaluation Conference 2022*.
- Williams, B. D. H. (2022, Jan.), [Brief: PHEV Consumers Most Highly Influenced by the U.S. Federal Tax Credit.](#) Clean Vehicle Rebate Project
- B.D.H. Williams (2021, Oct.), [An Electric-Vehicle Consumer Segmentation Roadmap: Strategically Amplifying Participation in the New York Drive Clean Rebate Program,](#) NYSERDA Report 21-30.
- N. Pallonetti and B. D. H. Williams (2021, Jul.), [“Refining Estimates of Fuel-Cycle Greenhouse-Gas Emission Reductions Associated with California’s Clean Vehicle Rebate Project with Program Data and Other Case-Specific Inputs,”](#) *Energies*, vol. 14, no. 15.
- B. D. H. Williams and J. B. Anderson (2021, Mar.), [“Strategically Targeting Plug-In Electric Vehicle Rebates and Outreach Using ‘EV Convert’ Characteristics,”](#) *Energies*, vol. 14, no. 7, p. 1899.
- B.D.H. Williams, J.B. Anderson, A. Lastuka (2020, Sep.), [Characterizing Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle Consumers Who Found the U.S. Federal Tax Credit Extremely Important in Enabling Their Purchase,](#) in: *33rd Electr. Veh. Symp.*, Electric Drive Transportation Association (EDTA), EVS33 and Zenodo, Portland OR.
- S. Hardman, P. Plötz, G. Tal, J. Axsen, E. Figenbaum, P. Jochem, S. Karlsson, N. Refa, F. Sprei, B.D. Williams, J. Whitehead, B. Witkamp (2019), [Exploring the Role of Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles in Electrifying Passenger Transportation,](#) International EV Policy Council, UC Davis Plug-in Hybrid and Electric Vehicle Research Center.
- B.D. Williams, J. Orose, M. Jones, J.B. Anderson (2018, Oct.), [Summary of Disadvantaged Community Responses to the Electric Vehicle Consumer Survey, 2013–2015 Edition.](#) Clean Vehicle Rebate Project.
- B.D. Williams, J.B. Anderson (2018, Sep.), [Strategically Targeting Plug-in Electric Vehicle Rebates and Outreach Using Characteristics of “Rebate-Essential” Consumers in 2016–2017,](#) in: *31st Int. Electr. Veh. Symp.*, Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan, Inc., Kobe, Japan.
- C. Johnson, B.D. Williams, J.B. Anderson, N. Appenzeller (2017, Jun.), [Evaluating the Connecticut Dealer Incentive for Electric Vehicle Sales,](#) Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE).
- C. Johnson, B.D. Williams (2017, Jan.), [Characterizing Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle Consumers Most Influenced by California’s Electric Vehicle Rebate,](#) *Transp. Res. Rec.* 2628, 23–31.

# Select Presentations (Reverse Chronological, as of 2/22)



- [Cost-Effectiveness of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions Associated with California’s Clean Vehicle Rebate Project in 2019 \(and 2020\)](#)
- [California Plug-in Hybrid EV Consumers Who Found the U.S. Federal Tax Credit Extremely Important in Enabling Their Purchase](#)
- [Data from Statewide Electric Vehicle Rebate Programs: Vehicles, Consumers, Impacts, and Effectiveness](#)
- [CVRP CY 2019 Data Brief: Vehicle Replacement & Incentive Influence](#)
- [CVRP CY 2019 Data Brief: Consumer Characteristics](#)
- [CVRP Data Brief: MSRP Considerations](#)
- [EV Purchase Incentives: Program Design, Outputs, and Outcomes of Four Statewide Programs with a Focus on Massachusetts](#)
- [What Vehicles Are Electric Vehicles Replacing and Why?](#)
- [Electric Vehicle Incentives and Policies](#)
- [Proposed FY 2019–20 Funding Plan: Final CVRP Supporting Analysis](#)
- [CVRP: Data and Analysis Update](#)
- [Cost-Effectively Targeting EV Outreach and Incentives to “Rebate-Essential” Consumers](#)
- [Electric Vehicle Rebates: Exploring Indicators of Impact in Four States](#)
- [Targeting EV Consumer Segments & Incentivizing Dealers](#)
- [Supporting EV Commercialization with Rebates: Statewide Programs, Vehicle & Consumer Data, and Select Findings](#)
- [Yale Webinar: Supporting EV Commercialization with Rebates: Statewide Programs, Vehicle & Consumer Data, and Findings](#)
- [CVRP Income Cap Analysis: Informing Policy Discussions](#)



# Recommended citation

B.D.H. Williams and N. Pallonetti, Presentation: “CVRP 2020 Data Brief: Consumer Characteristics,” for CARB’s *Second Public Workshop on the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Update to the Three-Year Plan for Light-Duty Vehicles and Clean Transportation Investments*, Clean Vehicle Rebate Project, 30 March 2022.

 [CleanVehicleRebate.org](https://CleanVehicleRebate.org)

