

# Opportunities to Ramp Up Low-Income Energy Efficiency to Meet Climate Policy Goals

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2016 ACEEE Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings

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# Synapse Energy Economics

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- Founded in 1996 by CEO Bruce Biewald
- Leader for public interest and government clients in providing rigorous analysis of the electric power sector
- Staff of 30 includes experts in energy and environmental economics and environmental compliance

# What is the current landscape of low-income energy efficiency across the country?

- 1) Does the level of funding for low-income energy efficiency differ across groups of states with higher and lower poverty rates?
- 2) Does the cost of saved energy for low-income energy efficiency differ across groups of states with higher and lower poverty rates?

# Summary of Findings

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1. In our dataset, states with a higher proportion of low-income residents spend less on low income energy efficiency
2. In our dataset, low income energy efficiency does not cost more in states that are spending more

# Policy Context: Why Is This Important?

August 2015:  
EPA's Clean  
Power Plan (CPP)

- 30% below 2005 levels by 2030
- Clean Energy Incentive Program (CEIP) for low income

December 2015:  
COP21

- Similar targets as CPP

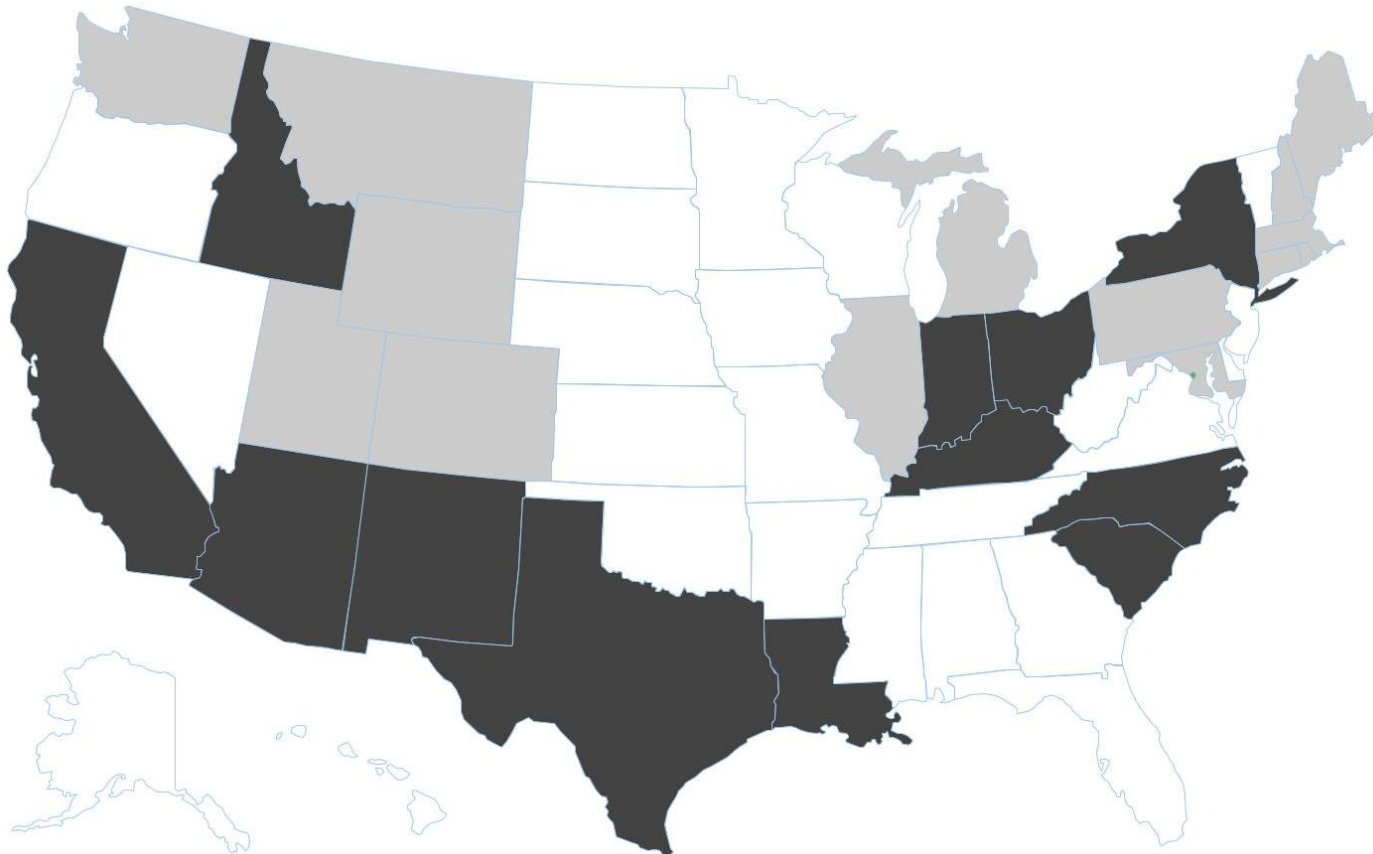
# Dataset

	Source
<b>Poverty Rate</b>	U.S. Census Bureau/2014 Annual Social and Economic Supplement of the Current Population Survey
<b>Utility Revenues from Residential Sales</b>	EIA, 2012
<b>Ratepayer-Funded Low-Income Energy Efficiency Programs:</b>	
<b>Costs</b>	Program Administrator (PA) Filings (most recent actuals)
<b>Savings</b>	PA Filings (most recent actuals)

# Geographic Coverage of Dataset

## 74 PAs in 26 states

- 12 with higher poverty rates than the U.S. avg (33.9%), in dark grey
- 14 with lower poverty rates, in light grey

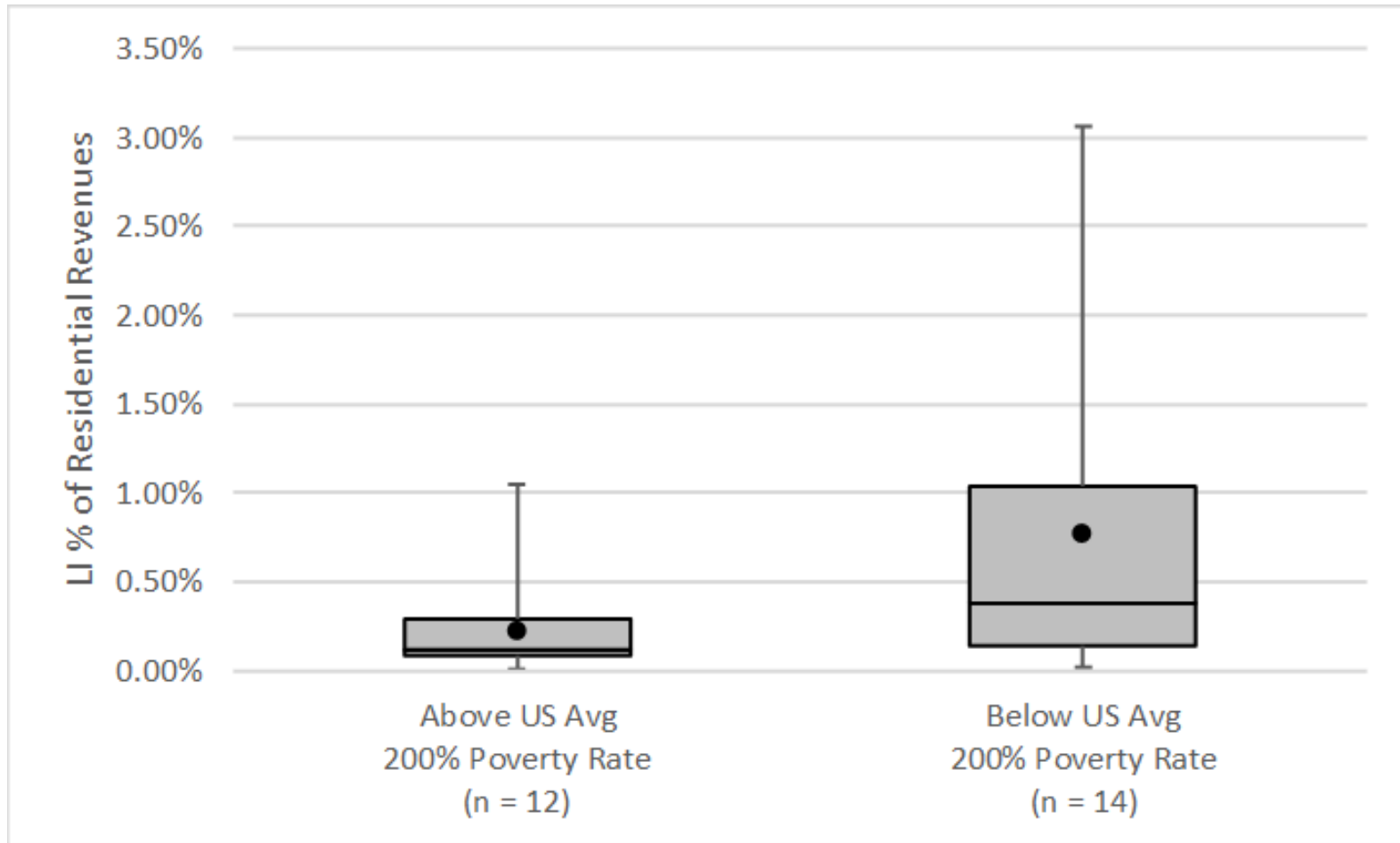


# Summary of Findings

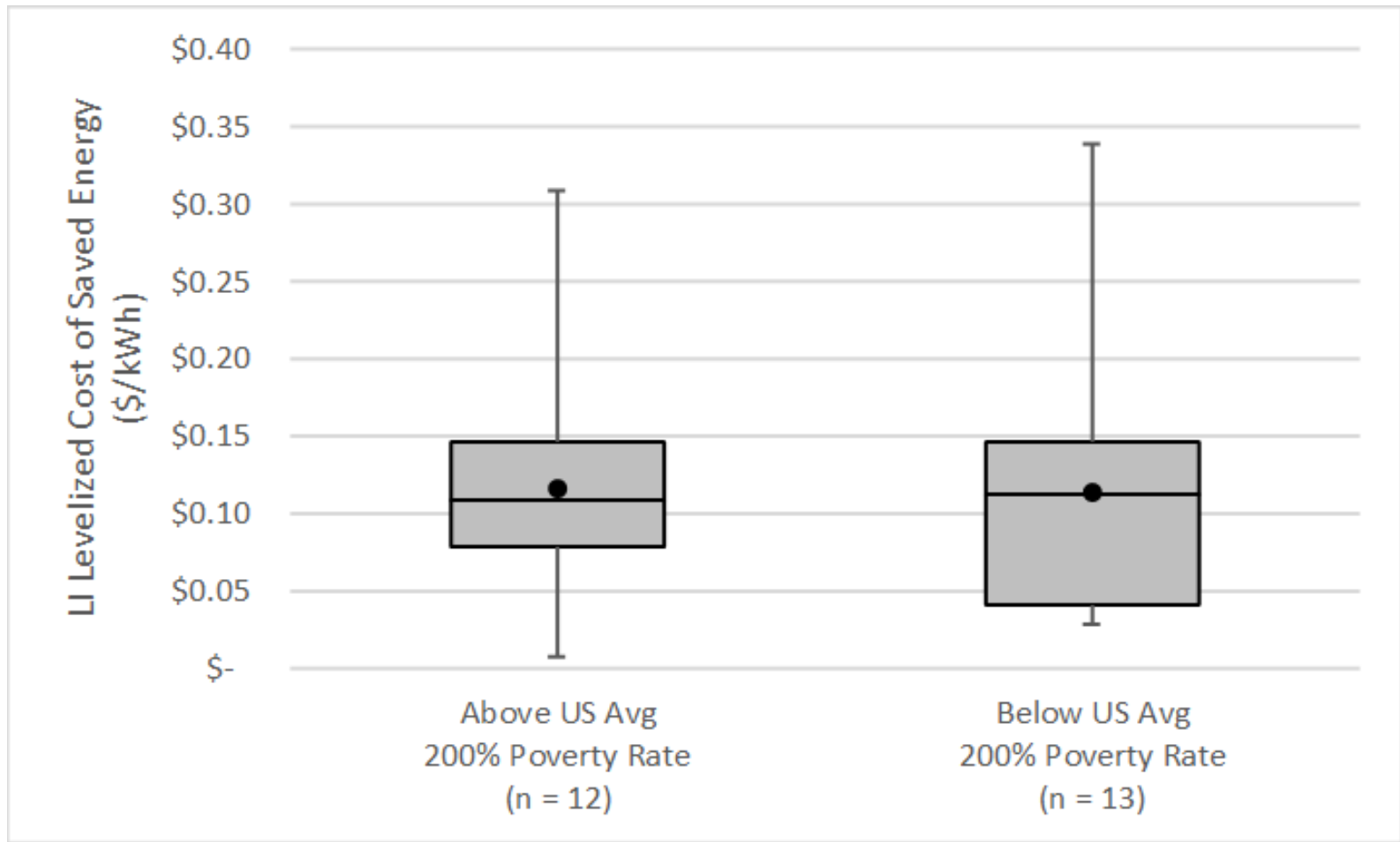
	<b>LI EE Investment / Residential Revenues (%)</b>	<b>Cost of Saved Energy (\$/kWh)</b>
States with Higher Poverty Rates	0.12%	\$0.11/kWh
States with Lower Poverty Rates	0.38%	\$0.11/kWh




# Findings on Low-Income Energy Efficiency Investment



# Findings on Low-Income Energy Efficiency Cost of Saved Energy



# Opportunities to Expand Low-Income Energy Efficiency



National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish incentives to promote more equitable energy efficiency</li><li>• Support inclusion of low-income data in the National Energy Efficiency Registry</li></ul>
State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop a framework to help states think about target setting</li><li>• Explore opportunities to establish an ongoing funding stream for low income energy efficiency</li><li>• Implement policies and practices to drive more equitable efficiency implementation</li></ul>
Utility Regulators/ PAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scale up low income energy efficiency/improve program designs</li><li>• Improve cost effectiveness screening practices</li></ul>

# Additional Resources

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Policies and practices to address equity in energy efficiency:

<http://www.synapse-energy.com/sites/default/files/EE-Factsheet.pdf>

<http://www.synapse-energy.com/sites/default/files/EE-Handbook.pdf>

Clean Power Plan, webinars and tools:

<http://www.synapse-energy.com/webinars>

<http://www.synapse-energy.com/tools/clean-power-plan-planning-tool-cp3t>

# Contact Information

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