



# BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE



## 2018 PROGRESS REPORT

#40  
2017 ranking

TOTAL COUNTS  
 BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES 3  
 BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES 2  
 BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES 1

# MISSISSIPPI

REGION: SOUTH

## 2018 Progress Report

Mississippi, has one of the lowest rates of bicycle commuting in the nation and has seen the percentage of workers commuting by bike drop in recent years. In 2017, the Census Bureau estimated that only 432 people regularly biked to work in the state. While bike commuting is a limited and imperfect measure, there is a need to do more to address this problem through better infrastructure and increased safety measures.

On the bright side, Mississippi has been spending more of its federal funding on bicycling and walking in recent years, beating the national average in two of the past four years. While Mississippi is taking steps to address behavioral safety issues, including a safe passing law the includes the ability to legally change lanes to pass a bicyclists and an increase in local complete streets policies, there is a lack of policy and planning framework for long-term improvements, particularly the types of improvements that would benefit current and potential bike commuters.

Bicycle Friendly Actions ✓ = New Progress in 2018	
Complete Streets Law / Policy	Yes
Safe Passing Law (3ft+)	Yes
Statewide bike plan in last 10 years	No
Bicycle Safety Emphasis Area	No
2% or more fed funds on bike/ped (in last five fiscal years)	No

## Featured Statewide Member - Bike Walk Mississippi



# BIKE WALK MISSISSIPPI

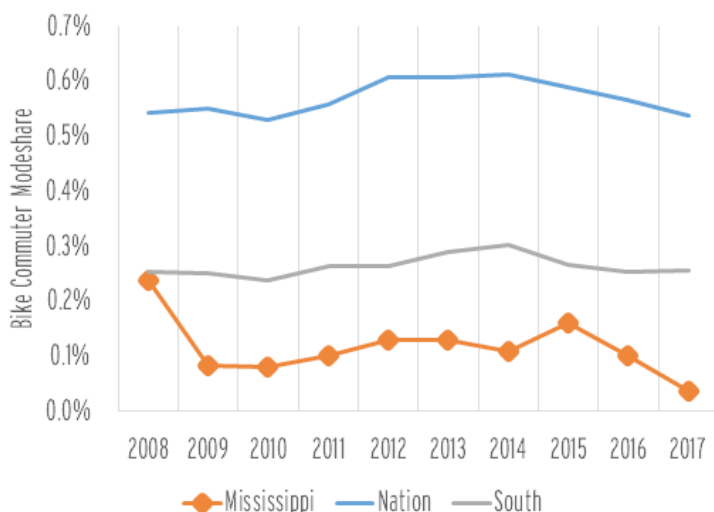
The state's bicycle and pedestrian advocacy group, Bike Walk Mississippi celebrated its 25th year in 2018 and has been working steadily to increase the policies, programs and infrastructure that support a bikeable, walkable and move livable Mississippi.

Bike Walk Mississippi has recently partnered with the National Partnership for Active Transportation to create the state's first Active Transportation plan and is working with Adventure Cycling to designate the state's first official US Bicycle Route.

With support from MDOT's Safe Routes to Schools program, Bike Walk Mississippi recently produced a 50 page toolkit for parents, teachers, school administrators and coaches can download to start bicycling and walking programs in their communities and maintains a statewide bicycle safety website with current bicycle laws, tips and talking points for law enforcement.

Bike Walk Mississippi, whose goal is to build a better state for all people who walk, run or ride a bicycle, whether they do so by choice or by need, would like to see increased creative match opportunities for local communities to match federal bike/ped projects, increased complete streets policies, implementation of a statewide bike/ped plan and increased enforcement of the state's safe passing law.

Federal Data on Biking	Ten-Year Trend	Ten-Year Rank
<b>Ridership</b> 0.1% of commuters biking to work	<b>One of 15 largest decreases in bike commuting</b>	<b>50/50</b>



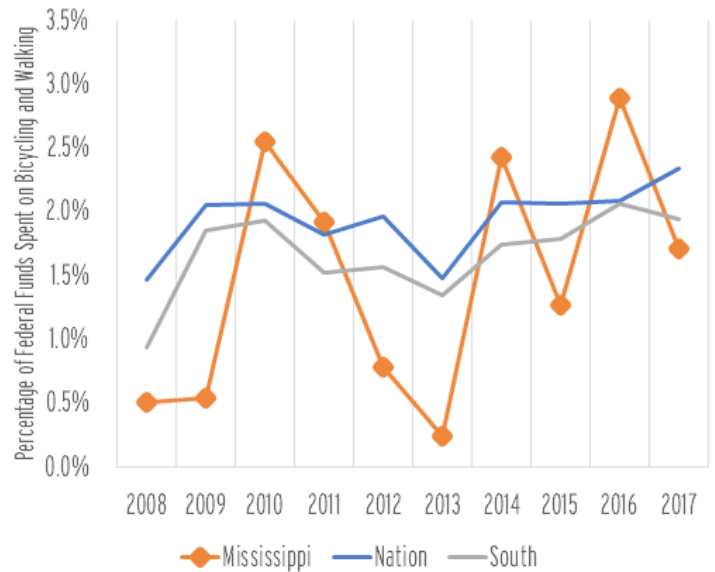
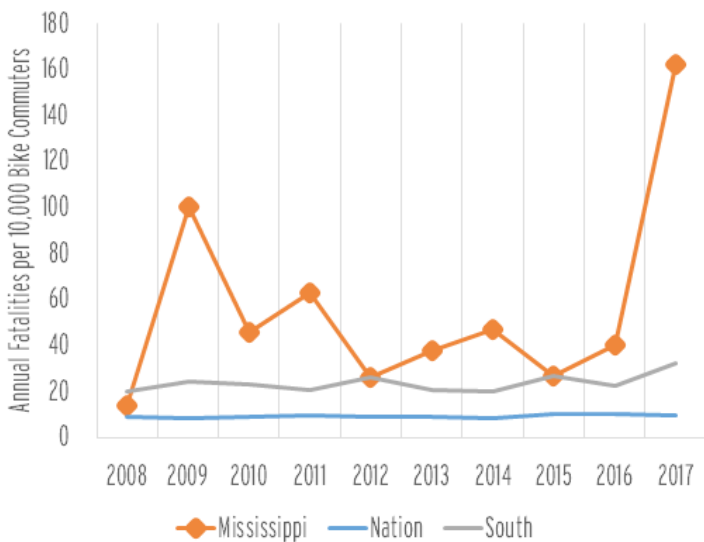


# BICYCLE FRIENDLY Mississippi 2018 PROGRESS REPORT

This Progress Report provides an update on Mississippi's efforts related to bicycling. A full report card based upon a comprehensive survey is available at: <http://bikeleague.org/content/state-report-cards>

Federal Data on Biking		Ten-Year Trend	Ten-Year Rank
<b>Safety</b>	<b>56.3</b> fatalities per 10k bike commuters	<b>One of 5 most more dangerous</b>	<b>50/50</b>

Federal Data on Biking		Ten-Year Trend	Ten-Year Rank
<b>Spending</b>	<b>1.5%</b> of FHWA spending on biking and walking	<b>One of 15 largest increases in funding</b>	<b>32/50</b>



## Featured Agency - Mississippi Department of Transportation (Agency did not respond)

According to the Mississippi Department of Transportation's website the goal of the Department "is to provide a safe intermodal transportation network for those that use our transportation system. This includes bicyclists and pedestrians as well as motorists."

A 2018 Bicycling Guide published by the Department highlights four trails within the state, including over 300 miles of the Natchez Trace Trail, the Longleaf Trail that provides over 40 miles 10-foot wide asphalt, the over 46 mile long Tanglefoot Trail shared use path, and approximately 300 miles of the Mississippi River Trail.

The Bicycling Guide is available at <http://mdot.ms.gov/documents/planning/bikeped/guide/Bicycle%20Guide%202018.pdf>.



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Every member organization of the League of American Bicyclists gets free access to a powerful advocacy software package. In 2017, the League facilitated over a dozen actions that engaged thousands of people. In New Jersey, these efforts led to a law that requires that drivers are educated about bicyclist and pedestrian safety as part of their driver's license training.

Learn about current actions and how your organization can use our tools at <https://bikeleague.org/TakeAction>