



Pittsburgh, PA



2024 BFC Award: Silver

Award History: Previously Bronze since 2010, received Honorable Mention in 2003.

Pittsburgh's BFA Program Stats

- # of Local Bicycle Friendly Businesses: **6**
- # of Local Bicycle Friendly Universities: **3**
- # of Local League Cycling Instructors: **10**
- Pennsylvania's Bicycle Friendly State Ranking: **#19**

The 5 Es Category Scores	Pittsburgh	Max Score this round
Engineering	45.23%	79.26%
Education	70.41%	83.25%
Encouragement	61.87%	90.86%
Evaluation & Planning	34.43%	75.73%
Equity & Accessibility	48.99%	75.47%

Scores are determined by points earned in each 'E' Category, weighted against comparable communities in the 2024 BFC round. See pages 2-3 for your full subcategory points in each Category.

Community Profile

- Population: 302,971
(Size classification for weighted scoring: Large)
- Area: 58.34 square miles
- Population Density: 5,193.20 people/square mile
- Land Classification: Urban
- Poverty Rate: 19%*
- Median Household Income: \$63,380*
- Percent of the Population that Speaks a Language Other Than English at Home: 11.8%*
- Percent with Disability: 14.4%*
- Percent of Households with No Vehicle Available: 35%*

*Source: https://data.census.gov/profile/Pittsburgh_city,_Allegheny_County,_Pennsylvania?g=060XX00US4200361000

Pittsburgh's Bike Links

Bike Network Map, if available:
<https://bikepgh.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Official-Pittsburgh-Bike-Map.version9.pdf>

Bike Plan, if available:
<https://pittsburghpa.gov/domi/bikeplan>

Key Outcomes

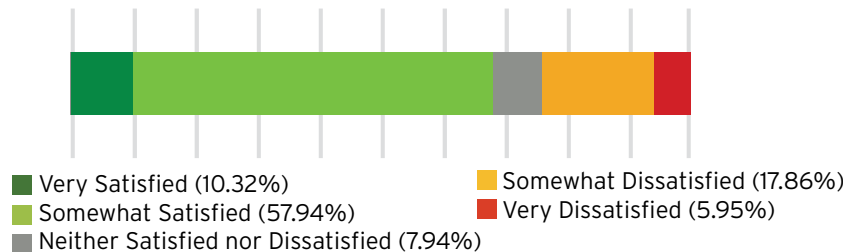
- Overall Commuter Ridership: 1.8%**
- Male Commuter Ridership: 2.5%
- Female Commuter Ridership: 0.6%
- (Bicycle Mode Share among commuters, according to the Census Bureau's 2022 or 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate.)*

Bicycle Mode Share: Unknown
(Reported by applicant)

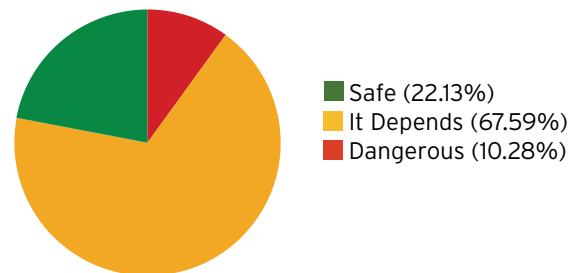
- Annual Average Bicyclist Crashes in last 5 years: 39.4**
- Annual Average Bicyclist Fatalities in last 5 years: 25**
- (Crashes and Fatalities both reported by applicant)*

2024 BFC Public Survey Response Summary for Pittsburgh, PA

How satisfied are you with how this community is designed for making bike riding safe? (n = 252)



Is it safe or dangerous to ride a bicycle in your neighborhood, or does it depend? (n = 253)



What are the top 1-3 changes you would most like to see the local government make in this community for bicyclists? (n = 253)

1. More bike lanes (52.96%)
2. Improve existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes (52.17%)
3. Reduce speeds through traffic calming and/or road diets (50.59%)

About this Report Card

The following scores are based on the online application submitted by Pittsburgh in the 2024 Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) submission round. These scores reflect a combination of automatically-generated points earned through the online application, as well as judge-assigned points and bonus points given by BFC reviewers.

The League updated its Bicycle Friendly Community application and awards criteria in 2022, after nearly a year of research, focus groups, interviews, listening sessions, and other outreach. The updated application includes a new section on Equity and Accessibility, and other changes throughout. As such, **this Bicycle Friendly Community Report card is a beta version** as we refine our new scoring system and develop a greater understanding of how to convey new information.

All 2024 BFC Report Cards (including this one) will be republished with updated scores if there are significant changes to the points system after the next round of BFC applications. To learn more about the BFC application and awards criteria, please visit <https://bikeleague.org/community>.

ENGINEERING	<i>Pittsburgh earned a weighted score of 45.23% in the Engineering Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Pittsburgh earned in each subcategory within the Engineering section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Engineering Subcategories	Pittsburgh's Subcategory Points in Engineering
	Policies and Design Standards for the Built Environment	5.8 / 41 pts
	End-of-Trip Facilities	24.9 / 44 pts
	Bicycle Network	14.3 / 128 pts
	Network Maintenance	10.0 / 32 pts
	Bicycle Access to Public Transportation	16.7 / 23 pts
	Bike Sharing	10.4 / 24 pts
	Other Bicycle-Related Amenities	3.0 / 6 pts
	Regional Coordination	16.9 / 23 pts
Engineering Bonus Points	4.0 / 10 pts	

EDUCATION	<i>Pittsburgh earned a weighted score of 70.41% in the Education Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Pittsburgh earned in each subcategory of the Education section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Education Subcategories	Pittsburgh's Subcategory Points in Education
	Youth Bicycle Education	38.4 / 68 pts
	Adult Bicycle Education	36.0 / 47 pts
	Motorist Education	13.3 / 28 pts
	Bicycle Safety Education Resources	5.4 / 16 pts
	Inclusive Education	7.0 / 26 pts
Education Bonus Points	1.9 / 7 pts	

ENCOURAGEMENT	<i>Pittsburgh earned a weighted score of 61.87% in the Encouragement Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Pittsburgh earned in each subcategory of the Encouragement section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Encouragement Subcategories	Pittsburgh's Subcategory Points in Encouragement
	Encouragement Policies, Programs and Partnerships	5.1 / 17 pts
	Route-Finding Support	4.0 / 10 pts
	Bicycle Culture and Promotion	53.5 / 91 pts
	Access To Bicycle Equipment and Repair Services	15.0 / 35 pts
	Reducing Work-Related/Fleet VMT	5.0 / 11 pts
	Encouragement Bonus Points	4.4 / 7 pts

EVALUATION & PLANNING	<i>Pittsburgh earned a weighted score of 34.43% in the Evaluation & Planning Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Pittsburgh earned in each subcategory of the Evaluation & Planning section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Evaluation & Planning Subcategories	Pittsburgh's Subcategory Points in Evaluation & Planning
	Staffing And Committees	9.4 / 35 pts
	Public Engagement for Bicycle Planning	19.5 / 35 pts
	Planning, Funding, And Implementation	14.9 / 46 pts
	Evaluating The Bicycle Network	0 / 25 pts
	Evaluating Ridership	7.6 / 20 pts
	Evaluating & Improving Safety Outcomes	-7.7 / 42 pts
Evaluation & Planning Bonus Points	6.1 / 15 pts	

EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY	<i>Pittsburgh earned a weighted score of 48.99% in the Equity & Accessibility Category. Below is the full breakdown of points that Pittsburgh earned in each subcategory of the Equity & Accessibility section, compared to the total points available in that subcategory from the 2024 BFC application.</i>	
	Equity & Accessibility Subcategories	Pittsburgh's Subcategory Points in Equity & Accessibility
	Equity & Accessibility Staffing, Committees, & Partnerships	12.0 / 24 pts
	Equity Data Collection & Goals	0 / 27 pts
	Equity & Accessibility Policies & Plans	9.9 / 21 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Engineering	13.1 / 44 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Education	15.6 / 52 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Encouragement	16.2 / 42 pts
	Equity & Accessibility in Evaluation & Planning	17.5 / 51 pts
Equity & Accessibility Bonus Points	3.1 / 9 pts	



Pittsburgh, PA

2024 BFC Award: Silver | Award History: Previously Bronze since 2010, Honorable Mention in 2003.

FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE:

To maintain and improve on Pittsburgh's Silver-level Bicycle Friendly Community award, BFC Reviewers recommend...

- » As part of Pittsburgh's 2024 BFC application, the City did not submit a BFC Bicycle Network Worksheet with full details on your current and planned roadway and bicycle network. This lack of complete data makes it difficult to judge the current state of bicycling infrastructure in Pittsburgh. Ensure that data is available on your roadway network and your bicycle network so that your community can utilize GIS-based or other network analyses, can create high-quality bicycle network maps, and accurately assess the quality of your bicycle network.
- » Conduct a connectivity analysis and network quality evaluation of your existing bicycle network, and work to identify and fill any gaps. Establish a performance measurement program for bicycling and/or active transportation infrastructure. See FHWA's resources on these topics: https://bit.ly/FHWA_connectivity and https://bit.ly/FHWA_bikepedPMs.
- » Continue to improve and expand the low-stress bike network for all ages and abilities, and ensure that your community follows a bicycle facility selection criteria that increases separation and protection of bicyclists based on levels of motor vehicle speed and volume, as well as equitably distributing the facilities across the city.
- » Develop a design manual that meets current FHWA, AASHTO, and/or NACTO standards, or formally adopt one of these organizations existing up-to-date guides as official guidance for your community's transportation planners and engineers. This will make it easier for city staff to propose and implement bicycle facility designs that have been shown to improve conditions for people who bike in other cities throughout the United States.
- » Your Bicycle Friendly Community application reported that ACS data shows a gender gap in bicycle modeshare (2.5% of male commuters bike to work, compared to 0.6% of female commuters, according to ACS data). Consider how focused outreach around bicycling education, encouragement, and engagement could help bring more women to bike for transportation in Pittsburgh. Consider how local data collection efforts may be able to further inform your work by capturing gender in other bike use and modeshare counts, as well as identifying gender disparities in perceptions of safety and barriers to bicycling.
- » Continue to develop a bicycle count program that utilizes several methods of data collection including automated bicycle counters to provide long-term data on bicycle use at fixed points and mobile counters to provide periodic or before/after data related to changes in your community's road or bicycle network. Observational counts and surveys can supplement automated data in order to collect demographic information and examine social equity goals.
- » Work with Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (<https://www.spcregion.org/>) to encourage your neighboring communities to also apply to the Bicycle Friendly Community program. Pittsburgh can serve as a local leader and mentor for other jurisdictions, and gaining more new BFCs in the region can help identify opportunities to collaborate, such as on connecting trail projects, regional transit, or advocacy efforts to the state, MPO, or county.



Pittsburgh, PA

2024 BFC Award: Silver | Award History: Previously Bronze since 2010, Honorable Mention in 2003.

FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE, CONTINUED:

- » Improve bicycle safety education for students of all ages by incorporating more on-bicycle education opportunities and by expanding the program to all K-12 schools in the city. Providing bicycles in schools for on-bike education ensures that all students can learn to safely ride a bicycle regardless of the availability of a bicycle in their household. Work with the school district, local bicycle groups, and interested parents to expand and improve the Safe Routes to School program universally across Pittsburgh.
- » Work with the Downtown Business Association, BikePGH, and other local partners to increase the number of Bicycle Friendly Businesses across the City. Pittsburgh used to rank first in the nation among cities with the most Bicycle Friendly Businesses, largely thanks to the work of the BikePGH roughly a decade ago. Engaging with your local businesses through the DBA, Chamber of Commerce, or other similar entity would be a great way to continue to build public support for bicycling improvements and investments across Pittsburgh. City Hall or other municipal buildings could apply to the BFB program as an employer to lead by example among other local employers.
- » Create an official Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) or bike-specific subcommittee that is separate from the Complete Streets Advisory Group to create a systematic method for ongoing citizen input into the development of important policies, plans, and projects that impact bicycling conditions in Pittsburgh. Ensure that the members of the committee reflect the diversity and ability levels of cyclists in your community.
- » Work on re-establishing a full-time Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator or bike/ped planner role for the City. While the development of the City's new Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI) has been a great addition for Pittsburgh, expanding staff time specifically focused on bicycling-related projects and programs would help in further scaling up your BFC efforts.
- » Increase efforts to coordinate with PennDOT to make the state-owned roads within City limits safer for people biking, walking and taking transit.
- » Increase investments in the ongoing and proactive maintenance of your bike network, roadways, and sidewalks for cyclists and pedestrians. Routinely addressing potholes, uneven and broken pavement, etc. is critical to creating safe, comfortable, and inviting bike routes for your residents and visitors.
- » Pittsburgh is lucky to have Free Ride providing bicycling repair services and outreach efforts to reach and support new riders in your community. Explore ways for the local government to provide in-kind and/or financial support or partnership opportunities with the co-op. Consider looking into contracting with them to increase bicycling education or other services, or providing free PSA or advertising space on government communications channels, such as on public buses. We encourage you to reach out to Free Ride to find out what kinds of support may be most beneficial to them to help you both succeed in your shared goals of supporting local bicyclists.



Pittsburgh, PA

2024 BFC Award: Silver | Award History: Previously Bronze since 2010, Honorable Mention in 2003.

FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE, CONTINUED:

- » Continue to build partnerships with local, regional, and statewide public health agencies and organizations that can support efforts to create more opportunities for bicycling and increase physical activity through community design. To further show your community's commitment to health and wellness through active transportation, work with local elected officials to pass an Active People, Healthy NationSM Proclamation this year. Active People, Healthy NationSM is a national initiative led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help 27 million Americans become more physically active by 2027. Learn more about Active People, Healthy NationSM Proclamations at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/active-people-healthy-nation/php/data-research/proclamations.html>.

MORE RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNITY:

- » **Guide to this BFC Report Card:** <https://bit.ly/BFC-Report-Card-Guide-2024>
- » **League of American Bicyclists:** <https://www.bikeleague.org>
- » **Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/community>
- » **Resources for Building a Bicycle Friendly Community:** https://bikeleague.org/BFC_Resources
- » **About the BFC Application Process:** <https://bikeleague.org/content/about-bfc-application-process>
- » **The Five E's:** <https://bikeleague.org/5-es>
- » **The BFC Ideabook and Map:** <https://bikeleague.org/BFCIdeaBook>
- » **The League's Benchmarking Project on Biking & Walking Data and Reports:** <https://data.bikeleague.org>
- » **Bicycle Friendly State (BFS) Rankings and Report Cards:** <https://bikeleague.org/state>
- » **Bicycle Friendly Business (BFB) Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/business>
- » **Bicycle Friendly University (BFU) Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/university>
- » **Smart Cycling Education Program:** <https://bikeleague.org/ridesmart>
- » **National Bike Month Resources:** <https://bikeleague.org/bikemonth>
- » **More Reports and Resources from the League:** <http://bikeleague.org/reports>
- » **Federal Funding Resources from the League:** <https://bikeleague.org/federal-funding-resources/>
- » **Pedestrian and Bicycle Funding Opportunities from U.S. DOT Transit, Safety, and Highway Funds:** https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/funding/funding_opportunities.pdf
- » **U.S. DOT Navigator:** <https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>