



BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD

STATE RANKING OVERALL (OUT OF 50)

#45

TOTAL COUNTS

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES 4
 BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES 6
 BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES 1

SEE THE DATABASE MAP: [BIKELEAGUE.ORG/BFA/AWARDS](http://bikeleague.org/bfa/awards)

MONTANA

STATE ADVOCACY GROUP: BIKE WALK MONTANA

Summary

Montana performs very well according to federal data. Despite this it has consistently performed poorly in our Bicycle Friendly State ranking. This difference can be explained by Montana's low scores in most categories of survey data. These scores reflect that Montana lawmakers and policymakers do not regularly take positive steps to ensure that the state's laudable safety and bicycle use record continue at their current levels or improve.

While bicycling is often associated with urban environments, it is often well represented in primarily rural states. When a state has a lower overall population, relatively few pockets of bicycle-friendly areas can have an outsized effect on bicycling-related data. With standout communities such as Missoula and Bozeman having more than 5% of commuter biking to work, these communities likely represent a large percentage of the bicycle commuters that make Montana's federal data look good.

Montana will be situated to move up our ranking when the state government is a strong partner for these communities and actively plans for inter-community bicycling connections that serve as assets for transportation and tourism.

Feedback Points

Adopt a safe passing law with a minimum distance of 3 feet to address bicyclist safety. The League of American has a model safe passing law and resources available at: <http://bikeleague.org/content/model-safe-passing-law-0>.

Adopt a statewide bicycle plan that addresses each of the five "Es", has clear implementation actions, and performance measures to gauge success.

Adopt a vulnerable road user law that increases penalties for a motorist that injures or kills a bicyclist or pedestrian. Model language is available here: <http://bikeleague.org/content/model-legislation>.

Adopt a statewide Complete Streets policy. The National Complete Streets Coalition has a model state policy and a variety of other resources to ensure adoption and implementation.

Establish a statewide bicycle advisory committee to provide accountability for bicycle projects and programs. The BAC should include diverse representation, formal inclusion in decision making, a workplan, and regularly held meetings (at least quarterly).

>> Feedback Continued on Page 3

Comparison States

National (Overall)	Western Region (out of 13)
43. Kentucky	9. Alaska
44. New Mexico	10. Wyoming
45. Montana	11. New Mexico
46. Oklahoma	12. Montana
47. Kansas	13. Hawaii

Categories	Rank out of 50
Infrastructure & Funding	25
Education & Encouragment	2
Legislation & Enforcement	46
Policies & Programs	43
Evaluation & Planning	45

Bicycle Friendly Actions	✓ = Progress	✓ = New in 2017
Complete Streets Law / Policy		
Safe Passing Law (3ft+)		
Statewide bike plan last 10 years		
2% or more fed funds on bike/ped		
Bicycle Safety Emphasis Area		

Federal Data on Biking		Rank
Ridership	1.4% of commuters biking to work ⁱ	2/50
Safety	1.8 fatalities per 10k bike commuters ⁱⁱ	1/50
Spending	\$7.17 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking ⁱⁱⁱ	5/50


ⁱ This figure is based upon the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate.


ⁱⁱ This figure is based upon fatalities reported over a five-year period according to the National Highway Administration (NHTSA)'s Fatality Analysis Reporting System and the 2015 5-year ACS estimate of the number of bicycle commuters.


ⁱⁱⁱ FHWA spending is based upon projects coded using any of three project types associated with bicycling and walking projects through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)'s Fiscal Management Information System. To calculate per capita spending we used a five-year average for fiscal years 2011-2016 and the 2015 5-year ACS state population estimate.





The Category Scores below are aggregated from smaller sub-categories—each of which is sorted in descending order, from the topic with the highest possible points available to least.

 Infrastructure & Funding Ranked 25 th of 50 States	
Design and Existence of Infrastructure Has the state made it easy to build bicycle infrastructure and installed a variety of infrastructure on state facilities?	17/38 pts
State Transportation Funding Does the state report that funding is allocated to bicycling?	10/28 pts
Use of Federal Transportation Funding Does the state take advantage of available federal funding for biking and walking?	10/16 pts
Planned and Recently Built Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities How many lane miles of bicycle and pedestrian facilities has the state reportedly planned to build and built?	10/10 pts
State Transportation Funding Restrictions Does the state have any policies that limit the ability to fund bicycling and walking infrastructure?	8/8 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points: 55/100 pts	

 Policies & Programs Ranked 43 rd of 50 States	
Complete Streets Does the state have a complete streets policy and processes to support its implementation?	3/56 pts
Design and Access Policies Does the state have policies in place to ensure good design and access for people who bike and walk?	14/25 pts
State of Practice Development Does the state support trainings on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and complete streets implementation?	13/13 pts
Sustainable Transportation Policies Does the state work incorporate multi-disciplinary considerations in the development and implementation of transportation projects?	2/6 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points: 32/100 pts	

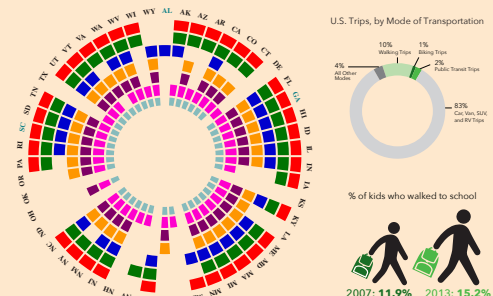
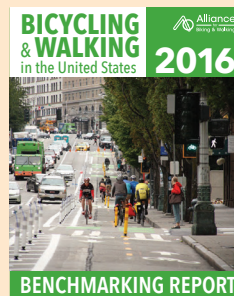
 Education & Encouragement Ranked 2 nd of 50 States	
State DOT Education & Encouragement Support Does the state DOT support bicycling and walking events and education materials?	35/35 pts
Mode Share Do many people bike to work and is that number increasing relative to other modes?	17/30 pts
Driver Education Requirements Does the state require drivers to answer questions about bicyclist safety as part of the driver's licensing test?	10/20 pts
Advocacy Does the state have a bicycle advocacy group that is a member of the League of American Bicyclists or was identified by the state?	15/15 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points: 77/100 pts	

 Evaluation & Planning Ranked 45 th of 50 States	
State DOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Plans Does the state have a bicycle and/or pedestrian plan and does that plan follow best practices?	18/48 pts
Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Has the state made bicyclist and pedestrian safety an emphasis and what does data say about safety?	19/34 pts
Understanding People who Bike and Walk Does the state have programs in place to collect data on people who walk and bike?	2/10 pts
Formal User Group Engagement Does the state have an official Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Advisory Committee and does it follow best practices?	0/8 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points: 39/100 pts	

 Legislation & Enforcement Ranked 46 th of 50 States	
Laws that regulate driver behavior and methods of enforcement Does the state have strong comprehensive distracted driving laws and allow photo enforcement?	0/37 pts
Laws that restrict the behavior of people who bike and walk How does the state unnecessarily restrict the behavior of people who bike and walk? (low points = more restrictions)	28/28 pts
Laws that create protections for people who bike and walk Does the state have laws that provide specific protections for people who bike and walk?	14/25 pts
Laws that influence the built environment Does the state allow speed limits of 20 mph or less?	5/10 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points: 47/100 pts	

Dig into the data: Robust interactive report + Downloads

The Bicycle Friendly State survey used to create this ranking is also the basis for a biennial report. Explore tons of bicycling, walking, & health data on states and cities at bikingandwalkingbenchmarks.org.





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Feedback Points, CONTINUED

>> Cont'd from Page 1

Update the state rumble strip policy to ensure compliance with the November 211 Federal Highway Administration guidance. Require that rumble strips are not installed unless a traffic safety study proves they are necessary.

Increase dedicated, long-term and sustainable, state transportation funding for active transportation. Current federal spending on biking and walking projects is lower than the 2% set-aside provided in federal law. Adopt project prioritization criteria for federal funds that incentivize bicycle projects and accommodations.



ABOUT THE LEAGUE & MEMBERSHIP

Support the League by becoming a member today and add your voice to the bicycling movement! Over 75% of our funding comes from individuals. Members support our time-tested programs like Bicycle Friendly America, Smart Cycling and Federal Advocacy. As a member, you'll enjoy valuable perks like *Bicycling Magazine*, discounts at dozens of national bike retailers and manufacturers, and exclusive pricing to the National Bike Summit. Together, let's advance bicycling on Capitol Hill and in your community!

WE BELIEVE

Bicycling brings people together. When more people ride bikes:

- » Life is better for everyone;
- » Communities are safer, stronger and better connected;
- » Our nation is healthier, economically stronger, environmentally cleaner and more energy independent.

OUR VISION

is a nation where everyone recognizes and enjoys the many benefits and opportunities of bicycling.

OUR MISSION

is to lead the movement to create a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone. As leaders, our commitment is to listen and learn, define standards and share best practices to engage diverse communities and build a powerful, unified voice for change.

SMART CYCLING RESOURCES



Bike Safety Education is a key component to keeping roadways safe for all users. Having League Cycling Instructors (LCIs) in your state creates more opportunities for bike safety education to be shared. LCIs are certified by the League through an intense 3-day seminar focused on how to effectively deliver the Smart Cycling curriculum. To host a LCI seminar in your state, contact education@bikeleague.org.

Visit bikeleague.org/ridesmart to access Smart Cycling videos, Smart Cycling Quick Guides (available in English & Spanish), and Smart Cycling manuals.

>> ADD YOUR MOMENTUM AT BIKELEAGUE.ORG/JOIN