

# RHODE ISLAND



## STATE RANKING OVERALL (OUT OF 50)

#### **TOTAL COUNTS**

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES 1
BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES 2
BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES 0

SEE THE DATABASE MAP: BIKELEAGUE.ORG/BFA/AWARDS

#22

### **Summary**

Rhode Island does a good job of taking advantage of federal funding opportunities for biking and walking. It is very similar in this regard to Delaware, and is only .1% behind Delaware (#7) based on the percentage of federal funding spent on bicycling and walking and \$.10 ahead of Delaware based on per capita spending.

Another way in which Delaware and Rhode Island are similar is that neither state has a bicycle master plan adopted within the last decade. This year, the Rhode Island Division of Planning (Department of Administration), in cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT), and the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA), is beginning the process to address this deficiency and create the first statewide bicycle mobility plan for the state of Rhode Island. The League of American Bicyclists is eager to see this plan come to fruition and, if implemented successfully, could set Rhode Island up to be competing in the Top 10 states, like Delaware has in recent years.

### **Feedback Points**

The Office of Statewide Planning Programs is beginning an update to the State Long Range Transportation Plan which will include the devleopment of Rhode Island's first Statewide Bicycle Mobility Plan. This plan development process is a unique opportunity for advocates, agency staff, and local communities to engage with the Rhode Island DOT to create a vision for safe and connected bicycle networks throughout the state.

Make information on potential future bicycle projects more readily available, including potential resurfacing based upon RIDOT's 2017 Roadway/Bike Path Pavement Condition Survey. This may be done as part of the state's first statewide Bicycle Mobility Plan or in conjunction with local planning for short-term TIP updates.

Adopt a law allowing transportation agencies to post 20 mph or lower speed limits under certain circumstances.

Ensure that state guidelines, plans, policies, or other documents are updated so that they are consistent with and make it routine to implement your state's bike plan or bicycle and pedestrian plan.

Hold a state bicycle and/or walking conference with opportunities for professional development, contact with elected officials, and networking.

>> Feedback Continued on Page 3

### STATE ADVOCACY GROUP: RHODE ISLAND BICYCLE COALITION

Comparison States	
National (Overall)	Eastern Region (out of 11)
20. North Carolina	6. Vermont
21. Arizona	7. Maine
22. Rhode Island	8. Rhode Island
23. New York	9. New York
24. Connecticut	10. Connecticut

Categories	Rank out of 50
Infrastructure & Funding	29
Education & Encouragment	21
Legislation & Enforcement	24
Policies & Programs	29
Evaluation & Planning	33

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

Federal Data on Biking		Rank
Ridership	<b>0.4% of commuters</b> biking to work <sup>i</sup>	<b>27</b> /50
Safety	<b>5 fatalities</b> per 10k bike commuters <sup>ii</sup>	<b>17</b> /50
Spending	\$7.28 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking	<b>3</b> /50

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This figure is based upon the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>II</sup> 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.

<sup>■</sup> 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



## **Rhode Island** Report Card: Detailed Category Scores

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 29 <sup>th</sup> 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?	<b>0</b> /38 pts
State Transportation Funding Does the state report that funding is allocated to bicycling?	<b>20</b> /28 pts
Use of Federal Transportation Funding  Does the state take advantage of available federal funding for biking and walking?	<b>12</b> /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?	<b>10</b> /10 pts
State Transportation Funding Restrictions  Does the state have any policies that limit the ability to fund bicycling and walking infrastructure?	<b>7</b> /8 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points:	49/100 pts

Policies & Programs Ranked 29th of 50 States	
Complete Streets  Does the state have a complete streets policy and processes to support its implementation?	<b>26</b> /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?	<b>8</b> /25 pts
State of Practice Development Does the state support trainings on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and complete streets implementation?	<b>9</b> /13 pts
Sustainable Transportation Policies  Does the state work incorporate multi-disciplinary considerations in the development and implementation of transportation projects?	<b>2</b> /6 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points:	<b>45</b> /100 pts

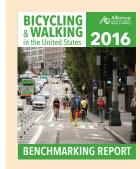
Education & Encouragement Ranked 21st of 50 States	
State DOT Education & Encouragement Support Does the state DOT support bicycling and walking events and education materials?	<b>30</b> /35 pts
<b>Mode Share</b> Do many people bike to work and is that number increasing relative to other modes?	<b>4</b> /30 pts
<b>Driver Education Requirements</b> Does the state require drivers to answer questions about bicyclist safety as part of the driver's licensing test?	<b>10</b> /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?	<b>15</b> /15 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points:	<b>59</b> /100 pts

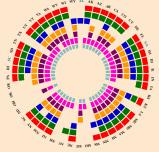
Evaluation & Planning Ranked 33rd of 50 States	
State DOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Plans Does the state have a bicycle and/or pedestrian plan and does that plan follow best practices?	<b>24</b> /48 pts
Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Has the state made bicyclist and pedestrian safety an emphasis and what does data say about safety?	<b>21</b> /34 pts
Understanding People who Bike and Walk  Does the state have programs in place to collect data on people who walk and bike?	<b>10</b> /10 pts
Formal User Group Engagement  Does the state have an official Bicycle and/or Pedestrian  Advisory Committee and does it follow best practices?	<b>0</b> /8 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points:	<b>55</b> /100 pts

Legislation & Enforcement Ranked 24th 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?	<b>25</b> /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)	<b>18</b> /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?	<b>21</b> /25 pts
Laws that influence the built environment Does the state allow speed limits of 20 mph or less?	<b>2</b> /10 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points:	<b>66</b> /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

Provide specific training to engineers and planners on how to plan, design, and implement bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, including protected bike lanes, safe rural bicycling routes, and other facilities that have become more widespread in recent years. Significant changes in best practices have occurred recently and training is essential to ensuring that communities in your state have access to the best possible solutions for their bicycle and pedestrian safety and mobility issues.

### **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.



### **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 timetested 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.

#### OHR 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.

>> ADD YOUR MOMENTUM AT BIKELEAGUE.ORG/JOIN