

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**



## STATE RANKING OVERALL (OUT OF 50)

#### **TOTAL COUNTS**

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES
BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES

BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES 3
SEE THE DATABASE MAP: BIKELEAGUE.ORG/BFA/AWARDS

#41

### **Summary**

Complete streets and related policies and programs are the highlight of **South Carolina**'s Bicycle Friendly State survey, despite the state having a fairly weak Complete Streets Resolution that is over a decade old. The Policies & Programs category, which includes questions about complete streets efforts, is the only ranked indicator on the first page of our report card where South Carolina is above average.

Notably, South Carolina earned points for "State of Practice Development" which includes questions about training and the existence of a bicycle program manager at the state Department of Transportation. The Policies & Programs category points to a potential place to build from as South Carolina needs sustained efforts to improve its bottom 5 fatality rate. Other good places to start include updating Design Standards, actively sponsoring training on bicycling infrastructure planning and design, improving coordination with local governments, formal user engagement, and better data collection on who is biking and walking in South Carolina.

### **Feedback Points**

To assist local communities with bicycle planning and facility, SCDOT has taken the step of putting the GPS data of local bicycle routes onto its ITMS (Integrated Transportation Management System). This allows all SCDOT staff to have knowledge of the routes contained in local plans and increases the potential for cooperation between local bicycle planning staff of cities and their SCDOT District Maintenance and Traffic staffs to facilitate low-cost improvements during resurfacings. SCDOT should conduct trainings so that both SCDOT staff and local city staff is aware of this resource and how to leverage it.

South Carolina should spend more federal funding on bicyclists and pedestrians. The state is in the bottom 10 of all states according to bike/ped spending per capita and as a percentage of all federal transportation spending. Adopt project prioritization criteria for federal funds that incentivize bicycle projects and accommodations.

Adopt a statewide bicycle plan that addresses each of the five "Es", has clear implementation actions, and performance measures to gauge success. South Carolina is one of 16 states that has never had a statewide bicycle plan.

Although the South Carolina
Department of Transportation
Commission adopted a Complete
Streets Resolution directed at
counties and municipalities in 2003,
the state DOT should take steps to
operationalize a Complete Streets
policy within the DOT. A strong
state DOT Complete Streets policy,
with clear changes to state DOT
processes, would provide counties
and municipalities a strong basis
for collaboration on bicycle and
pedestrian improvements.

>> Feedback Continued on Page 3

### STATE ADVOCACY GROUP: PALMETTO CYCLING COALITION

Comparison States		
National (Overall) Southern Region (out of 13		
39. Alabama	9. West Virginia	
40. Mississippi	10. Alabama	
41. South Carolina	11. Mississippi	
42. Wyoming	12. South Carolina	
43. Kentucky	13. Kentucky	

Categories	Rank out of 50
Infrastructure & Funding	40
Education & Encouragment	29
Legislation & Enforcement	32
Policies & Programs	18
Evaluation & Planning	47

Bicycle Friendly Actions ✓= Progres	adly Actions ✓= Progress ✓= New in 2017	
Complete Streets Law / Policy	<b>~</b>	
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	<b>0.3% of commuters</b> biking to work <sup>i</sup>	<b>37</b> /50
Safety	<b>22.1 fatalities</b> per 10k bike commuters <sup>ii</sup>	<b>46</b> /50
Spending	\$1.39 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking	<b>42</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>quot;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 higher

<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



## STATE South Carolina 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 40 <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>26</b> /38 pts
State Transportation Funding Does the state report that funding is allocated to bicycling?	<b>0</b> /28 pts
Use of Federal Transportation Funding  Does the state take advantage of available federal funding for biking and walking?	<b>4</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>0</b> /10 pts
State Transportation Funding Restrictions  Does the state have any policies that limit the ability to fund bicycling and walking infrastructure?	<b>5</b> /8 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points:	35/100 pts

Policies & Programs Ranked 18 <sup>th</sup> of 50 States	
Complete Streets  Does the state have a complete streets policy and processes to support its implementation?	<b>36</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>14</b> /25 pts
State of Practice Development Does the state support trainings on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and complete streets implementation?	<b>13</b> /13 pts
Sustainable Transportation Policies  Does the state work incorporate multi-disciplinary considerations in the development and implementation of transportation projects?	<b>3</b> /6 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points:	<b>66</b> /100 pts

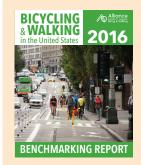
Education & Encouragement Ranked 29 <sup>th</sup> of 50 States	
State DOT Education & Encouragement Support  Does the state DOT support bicycling and walking events and education materials?	<b>30</b> /35 pts
<b>Mode Share</b> Do many people bike to work and is that number increasing relative to other modes?	<b>3</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>5</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>53</b> /100 pts

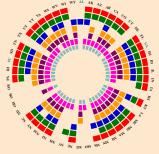
Evaluation & Planning	
Ranked 47 <sup>th</sup> of 50 States  State DOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Plans  Does the state have a bicycle and/or pedestrian plan and does that plan follow best practices?	<b>15</b> /48 pts
Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Has the state made bicyclist and pedestrian safety an emphasis and what does data say about safety?	<b>19</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>0</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>34</b> /100 pts

Legislation & Enforcement Ranked 32 <sup>nd</sup> 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>15</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>20</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>18</b> /25 pts
Laws that influence the built environment Does the state allow speed limits of 20 mph or less?	<b>7</b> /10 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points:	<b>60</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**.









# **SOUTH CAROLINA**



## STATE RANKING OVERALL (OUT OF 50)

#### **TOTAL COUNTS**

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES 5
BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES 21

BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES 3
SEE THE DATABASE MAP: BIKELEAGUE.ORG/BFA/AWARDS

#### STATE ADVOCACY GROUP: PALMETTO CYCLING COALITION

### Feedback Points, CONTINUED

#### >> Cont'd from Page 1

South Carolina has the fifth worst record for bicycle safety on both a per capita and a per bike commuter basis. South Carolina should take comprehensive steps to address bicycle safety, including driver and bicyclist education, with a particular focus on the development of safe and connected bicycle networks.

The SCDOT, highway safety office, or other relevant state agency should consider collaborating with non-profits and law enforcement agencies to investigate potential for ticket diversion programs that teach bike safety and transit access to both DUI offenders and bike law offenders. Such training provides mobility options to DUI offenders and targeted bike training for bike law offenders.

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

Repeal the state's mandatory bike lane law. These types of laws ignore the quality and safety of available bike lanes. The best way to get people to use bike lanes is to make them safe, convenient, and connected so that they are appealing and accessible to people who bike.

#### **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