



BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD

STATE RANKING OVERALL (OUT OF 50)

#37

TOTAL COUNTS

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES 1
BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES 8
BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES 0

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

WEST VIRGINIA

STATE ADVOCACY GROUP: WEST VIRGINIA CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Summary

West Virginia has the unfortunate distinction of being the state with the fewest people choosing to bike to work relative to other modes. This lack of people biking to work casts a shadow over some good state and local efforts to improve the safety and mobility of people who bike. These efforts include having more Bicycle Friendly Actions than average, a reported \$5 million in state funding for bicycling and walking, and category scores that are close to average.

The Education & Encouragement category, which includes data on bicycling to work and reflects the low rate of biking to work and lack of growth in biking to work, is the one category that stands out as far below average. While it would be easy to pin this on the federal data, which is harder to affect, there are also many actions within the control of the state government, such as investing in education materials that can help people get riding and riding safely.

Feedback Points

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.

Adopt a law prohibiting a motorist from opening an automobile's door unless the motorist is able to do so safely. West Virginia is one of only 9 states without a law protecting people who bike from "dooring."

West Virginia has done considerable work to create draft maps and supporting documents for its statewide bicycle connectivity plan. This plan should be finalized so that it can provide a basis for state and local collaboration, long-term planning, tourism development, and additional funding.

Allow the flexibility for all units of government statewide to use NACTO and AASHTO standards as well as the state's own design standards. Or, alternatively incorporate NACTO and AASHTO standards into state design standards and guidance.

Since 2015, West Virginia adopted bicyclist safety as an emphasis area in its Strategic Highway Safety Plan as part of the Continuing Successful Safety Programs & Initiatives emphasis area. This should make it easier to fund bicycle safety improvements in the state.

» Feedback Continued on Page 3

Comparison States

National (Overall)	Southern Region (out of 13)
35. Arkansas	7. Louisiana
36. Alaska	8. Arkansas
37. West Virginia	9. West Virginia
38. Indiana	10. Alabama
39. Alabama	11. Mississippi

Categories	Rank out of 50
Infrastructure & Funding	22
Education & Encouragement	50
Legislation & Enforcement	29
Policies & Programs	42
Evaluation & Planning	36

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	0.1% of commuters biking to work ⁱ 50/50
Safety	8.4 fatalities per 10k bike commuters ⁱⁱ 29/50
Spending	\$1.33 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking ⁱⁱⁱ 44/50


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 22 nd 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?	20/28 pts
Use of Federal Transportation Funding Does the state take advantage of available federal funding for biking and walking?	5/16 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?	7/8 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points: 59/100 pts	

 Policies & Programs Ranked 42 nd of 50 States	
Complete Streets Does the state have a complete streets policy and processes to support its implementation?	26/56 pts
Design and Access Policies Does the state have policies in place to ensure good design and access for people who bike and walk?	0/25 pts
State of Practice Development Does the state support trainings on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and complete streets implementation?	3/13 pts
Sustainable Transportation Policies Does the state work incorporate multi-disciplinary considerations in the development and implementation of transportation projects?	3/6 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points: 32/100 pts	

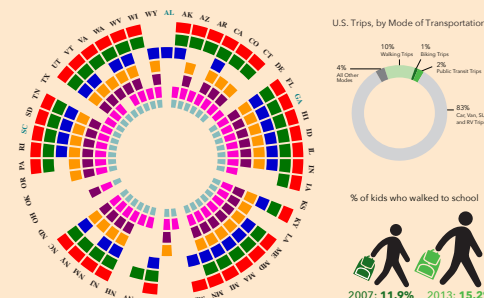
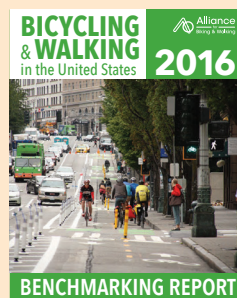
 Education & Encouragement Ranked 50 th of 50 States	
State DOT Education & Encouragement Support Does the state DOT support bicycling and walking events and education materials?	5/35 pts
Mode Share Do many people bike to work and is that number increasing relative to other modes?	-9/30 pts
Driver Education 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: 21/100 pts	

 Evaluation & Planning Ranked 36 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?	23/48 pts
Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Has the state made bicyclist and pedestrian safety an emphasis and what does data say about safety?	27/34 pts
Understanding People who Bike and Walk Does the state have programs in place to collect data on people who walk and bike?	1/10 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: 51/100 pts	

 Legislation & Enforcement Ranked 29 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?	25/37 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)	17/28 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?	7/10 pts
Total of Possible 100 Points: 63/100 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

West Virginia does a poor job of using federal funding for biking and walking improvements. On a per capita basis, West Virginia spends the 6th least of any state. The state DOT, and legislature, should make changes so that more federal funding is used on biking and walking. This may include allocating state funds to match federal funds in communities that cannot meet the matching requirements of federal programs.



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.

>> ADD YOUR MOMENTUM AT BIKELEAGUE.ORG/JOIN

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.