



BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD

WISCONSIN

RANKED

29

OF 50

STATE ADVOCACY GROUP:
THE BICYCLE FEDERATION OF
WISCONSIN

Successes & Suggestions

The Bicycle Friendly State report card is based on over 100 data points for each state and input from state agencies and advocates. Based on the information we obtained for Wisconsin, the League of American Bicyclists believes the following actions will improve the safety, comfort, and accessibility of bicycling in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin has several initiatives related to bicycle tourism and recreational bicycling promotion through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Travel Wisconsin. As people come to experience the great variety of recreational bicycling in Wisconsin, it is important that people can move between commercial areas and bicycling destinations safely.

The Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety and Traffic Operations and Safety Laboratory have created Community Maps of crash data that can inform community efforts to improve traffic safety. This data is not readily available in many states, so it is great to see this effort and communities and advocates should use it in working to reduce traffic fatalities.

Wisconsin has had some tough recent years, with the repeal of the state's Complete Streets law and transportation funding has included costly highway expansions. Providing stable or increased funding for bicycling and walking and reinstituting a statewide policy on Complete Streets should be priorities.

Wisconsin should work to increase the extent of its on-and-off street bicycle network so that more people are able to safely experience the state and its communities by bicycle.

While Wisconsin is the only state that has repealed a Complete Streets law, this should not prevent the DOT from pursuing policies that ensure that roads are built with the safety of all road users as the primary goal.

Active transportation is an important part of community health and promotion of physical activity. Wisconsin should consider investing more in active transportation where communities have high rates of physical inactivity, obesity, diabetes, or other health issues associated with physical inactivity.

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

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.

The state should spend more federal funding on bicyclists and pedestrians. Adopt project prioritization criteria for federal funds that incentivize bicycle projects and accommodations.

	Infrastructure & Funding	D+
	Education & Encouragement	C
	Legislation & Enforcement	C+
	Policies & Programs	D+
	Evaluation & Planning	C+

Get the full breakdown of each category and grade average on the next page.

Bicycle Friendly Actions bikeleague.org/bicycle-friendly-actions	Action Taken?
Complete Streets Law / Policy	
Safe Passing Law (3ft+)	✓
Statewide bike plan last 10 years	
2% or more federal funds on bike/ped	
Bicycle Safety Emphasis Area	✓


Federal Data on Biking		Rank
Ridership	0.8% of commuters biking to work	14/50
Safety	4.4 fatalities per 10K bike commuters ⁱⁱ	14/50
Spending	\$1.59 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.


Category Breakdown: WISCONSIN

 Infrastructure & Funding Ranked 36 of 50 States D+	
DESIGN AND EXISTENCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE Has the state made it easy to build bicycle infrastructure and installed a variety of infrastructure on state facilities?	C-
STATE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING Does the state allocate funding to bicycling or limit state funding for bicycling?	D
USE OF FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING Does the state take advantage of available federal funding for biking and walking?	F+
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?	F

 Policies & Programs Ranked 42 of 50 States D+	
COMPLETE STREETS Does the state have a complete streets policy and processes to support its implementation?	D-
DESIGN AND ACCESS POLICIES Does the state have policies in place to ensure good design and access for people who bike and walk?	C
STATE OF PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT Does the state support trainings on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and complete streets implementation?	C-
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION POLICIES Does the state work incorporate multi-disciplinary considerations in the development and implementation of transportation projects?	D

 Education & Encouragement Ranked 30 of 50 States C	
STATE DOT EDUCATION & ENCOURAGEMENT SUPPORT Does the state DOT support bicycling and walking events and education materials?	B
MODE SHARE & ADVOCACY Do people bike to work and are they organized to advocate for improvements?	C

 Evaluation & Planning Ranked 29 of 50 States C+	
STATE DOT BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN PLANS Does the state have a bicycle and/or pedestrian plan and does that plan follow best practices?	C
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY Has the state made bicyclist and pedestrian safety an emphasis and what does data say about safety?	B
UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE WHO BIKE AND WALK Does the state have programs in place to collect data on people who walk and bike?	F
FORMAL USER GROUP ENGAGEMENT Does the state have an official Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Advisory Committee and does it follow best practices?	A

 Legislation & Enforcement Ranked 21 of 50 States C+	
LAWS THAT REGULATE DRIVER BEHAVIOR AND METHODS OF ENFORCEMENT Does the state have strong comprehensive distracted driving laws and allow photo enforcement?	C-
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?	C+
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?	A

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

The Bicycle Friendly State ranking is based on a comprehensive survey completed by state departments of transportation and state bicycling advocates. For more information, visit bikeleague.org/states or contact Ken McLeod at (202)-822-1333 or ken@bikeleague.org.



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TOGETHER!**

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