



BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD



STATE ADVOCACY GROUP(S):
Iowa Bicycle Coalition

2024

IOWA

#24

NATIONAL RANK (OF 50)
COMPARED TO LAST REPORT CARD: 1

#7

Midwestern REGIONAL RANK (OF 13)

Bicycle Friendly Actions	Action Taken	Progress <small>SINCE LAST REPORT CARD</small>
Complete Streets Law/Policy	Yes	↔
Safe Passing Law (3ft+)	No	↔
Statewide bike plan last 10 years	Yes	↔
2%+ federal funds on bike/pedestrian	Yes	↑
Speed limit laws for #SlowRoads	Yes	↔

FEEDBACK

Adopt a safe passing law with a minimum distance of 3 feet to address bicyclist safety. Iowa is one of only 10 states that does not define a safe distance.

Congratulations on spending at least 2% of federal transportation funds on biking and walking improvements. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has provided increased federal funding for transportation and it is great to see it resulting in greater investments in bicycling and walking improvements.

Adopt a law prohibiting a motorist from opening an automobile's door unless the motorist is able to do so safely. Iowa is one of only eight states that has not adopted this type of law to reduce "dooring."

Iowa's successful use of federal funds is thanks to many state and local-level funding initiatives such as the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund and Destination Iowa funding for economic development. Build on these successes by continuing to support funding for bicycling improvements.

Adopt a primary enforcement law allowing an officer to cite a driver for handheld use of a cellphone to reduce dangerous distracted driving.

ONE SUCCESS

Iowa passed the Crosswalk Protections Bill which proactively protects cyclists in crosswalks, marked or unmarked, and in any type of roadway statewide. Research from Iowa State University helped show the need for this legal reform and other states should follow this example.

TOP TIP

Most states prohibit handheld cellphone use while driving, but Iowa does not. Adopting a primary enforcement law allowing an officer to cite a driver for handheld use of a cellphone would reduce dangerous distracted driving.

	Federal Data on Biking	Rank
Ridership	0.4% of commuters biking to work	22/50
Safety	15 fatalities per 10K bike commuters	30/50
Spending	\$5.81 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking	5/50

	Categories	% of available points	Rank
	Funding	66%	3/50
	Infrastructure	98%	3/50
	Laws	20%	45/50
	Policies	43%	35/50
	Capacity & Support	74%	22/50
	Safety	32%	41/50
	Every Ride Counts	39%	18/50

SEE THE BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE DATABASE MAP: [BIKELEAGUE.ORG/BFA/AWARDS](https://bikeleague.org/bfa/awards)

The Bicycle Friendly State ranking is based on a comprehensive survey – with over 100 data points – completed by state departments of transportation and state bicycling advocates. For more information, visit bikeleague.org/states or contact Ken McLeod at ken@bikeleague.org. See the [Report Card Use Guide](#).