



BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD



STATE ADVOCACY GROUP(S):
Bicycle Coalition of New Mexico

2024

NEW MEXICO

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

#8 Western 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	No	

FEEDBACK

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

Adopt a statewide Complete Streets policy or other policy that institutionalizes planning, designing, and building safe places for people to bike and walk as part of the transportation system. While we give credit to New Mexico under our Bicycle Friendly Action criteria, the state only has resolutions expressing support for Complete Streets rather than stronger actions, such as a law or departmental policy.

New Mexico is one of the most dangerous states for people walking, and is thankfully no more dangerous than average for people biking. Both people biking and walking face common threats posed by arterial roadways. 85% of people killed while biking in the state were killed on arterial roadways. Addressing arterial roadways is key to improving bicycle and pedestrian safety.

New Mexico sets default urban area speed limits above 20 miles per hour and does not provide clear legal authority or guidance for how communities may establish 20 mile per hour speed limits on streets in urban or residential areas. We know that slow road save lives and clearer laws and guidance supporting slower streets will benefit the safety of all people using New Mexico's streets.

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](#).

ONE SUCCESS In recent years New Mexico has increased the percentage of federal funds spent on bicycling and walking projects. This investment is important to address New Mexico's safety challenges, particularly for people walking.

TOP TIP A Complete Streets law or statewide policy would help ensure that bicycling and walking safety is included in every transportation project and reduce costs associated with retrofitting projects created without people biking and walking in mind.

Federal Data on Biking	Rank
Ridership 0.6% of commuters biking to work	13/50
Safety 16.7 fatalities per 10K bike commuters	33/50
Spending \$8.32 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking	4/50

Categories	% of available points	Rank
Funding	52%	22/50
Infrastructure	58%	35/50
Laws	31%	42/50
Policies	60%	23/50
Capacity & Support	42%	36/50
Safety	29%	43/50
Every Ride Counts	28%	27/50