



# BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD



STATE ADVOCACY GROUP(S):  
New York Bicycling Coalition

2024

## NEW YORK

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

**#5** Eastern REGIONAL RANK (OF 11)

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

### FEEDBACK

Adopt a safe passing law with a minimum distance of 3 feet to address bicyclist safety. New York is one of only 10 states that does not define a safe distance and the only state in the northeast without a clear standard.

New York currently holds the record for the longest time between bike plans. NYSDOT is actively working on an Active Transportation Strategic Plan (ATSP), which will replace the current 1997 Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan. The ATSP is expected to be released in the summer of 2025 and we look forward to it.

Congratulations on the 2024 adoption of 'Sammy's Law,' which allows New York City to set 20 mph speed limits in certain areas, and on the growing number of municipalities reducing their area speed limits to 25 mph. This progress was made possible by the 2022 legislation that safe streets advocates fought for, enabling cities, villages, and certain towns across New York to lower area speed limits to 25 mph. As of October 2024, 14 municipalities have already implemented 25 mph limits.

New York should prioritize increasing its use of Federal Highway Administration resources for bike and pedestrian infrastructure. New York currently ranks in the bottom half of states with only \$3.20 per capita spent on such projects. By tapping into federal dollars, New York can accelerate the development of protected bike lanes, multi-use trails, complete streets initiatives, bike and pedestrian bridges, traffic calming measures and other improvements.

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](https://bikeleague.org/states) or contact Ken McLeod at [ken@bikeleague.org](mailto:ken@bikeleague.org). See the [Report Card Use Guide](#).

**ONE SUCCESS** Recent changes to state laws allowed New York City to lower speed limits to 20 miles per hour (mph) and 14 other cities to lower speed limits to 25 mph. Slow roads save lives!

**TOP TIP** New York should adopt a safe passing law with a defined safe distance. Every other state in the northeast has defined a safe passing distance of at least 3 feet, and four out of five states bordering New York have a 4 foot safe passing distance. New York is one of only 10 states without this type of definition in law.

Federal Data on Biking	Rank
Ridership <b>0.8% of commuters</b> biking to work	6/50
Safety <b>5.8 fatalities</b> per 10K bike commuters	12/50
Spending <b>\$3.20 per capita FHWA</b> spending on biking and walking	26/50

Categories	% of available points	Rank
Funding	57%	15/50
Infrastructure	60%	32/50
Laws	26%	44/50
Policies	63%	20/50
Capacity & Support	88%	13/50
Safety	64%	14/50
Every Ride Counts	61%	5/50