



BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD



STATE ADVOCACY GROUP(S):
Rhode Island Bicycle Coalition

2024

RHODE ISLAND

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

#6 Eastern REGIONAL RANK (OF 11)

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

FEEDBACK

Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island's streets.

Spend at least 2% of federal transportation funds on biking and walking improvements. Rhode Island has not met this key Bicycle Friendly Action metric for any single year since 2018. Over the last 5 years, 17% of traffic fatalities in Rhode Island have been people biking or walking, and funding should reflect the need to invest in their safety.

The "Rhode to Bicycle Safety" education program covers all facets of bicycle safety and is offered to 4th and 5th grade elementary school students. The program also features on-bike instruction for all students no matter their ability level with trained instructors. This is an exciting program deserving continued support.

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 The Rhode to Bicycle Safety teaches elementary school-age children valuable skills for safe bike riding. Under the program, RIDOT provides the instructors, bikes and helmets, and all other equipment at no cost to participating schools. This is a great program that gets youth Ready to Ride!

TOP TIP Roundabouts are a featured Safety and Engineering practice by the Rhode Island DOT and it would be great to see a broader focus on speed management by the Rhode Island DOT.

Federal Data on Biking	Rank
Ridership 0.3% of commuters biking to work	31/50
Safety 5.2 fatalities per 10K bike commuters	9/50
Spending \$2.92 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking	30/50

Categories	% of available points	Rank
Funding	45%	36/50
Infrastructure	73%	27/50
Laws	66%	11/50
Policies	80%	8/50
Capacity & Support	42%	31/50
Safety	56%	21/50
Every Ride Counts	44%	16/50