



BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD



STATE ADVOCACY GROUP(S):
Virginia Bicycle Federation,
Bike Virginia

2024

VIRGINIA

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

#2 Southern 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+)	Yes	↔
Statewide bike plan last 10 years	No	↓ ⚠
2%+ federal funds on bike/pedestrian	Yes	↑ 🌱
Speed limit laws for #SlowRoads	Yes	↑ 🌱

FEEDBACK

The most recent statewide bike plan for Virginia was created in 2011. While the state has indicated that an update is in process, no public materials were provided. The League of American Bicyclists hopes that the Virginia DOT is updating its statewide bike plan and that public engagement appears soon.

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.

Legislative changes in 2021 and 2024 have improved the ability of communities in Virginia to implement slower speed limits that save lives. Most recently, §46.2-1300 was amended to allow speed limits below 25 mph in business and residence districts, even on state-owned roads. We're excited to see communities use this new authority.

Virginia's Complete Streets policy was adopted in 2004. Some of the accommodations allowed under this policy include 2-foot shoulders that are not accepted as best practice today. Ensuring this policy supports VDOT's work on innovative treatments would be an improvement.

A statewide active transportation conference would be a great way to build on the work of localities, VDOT, trail expansions, and the Virginia Walkability Action Institute.

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

Virginia achieved our key Bicycle Friendly Action of spending at least two percent of federal transportation funds on bicycling and walking projects each of the last three years. Keep it up!

TOP TIP

Virginia's SmartScale process has received national recognition for its transparent scoring of priority projects, but recent changes eliminated land use as a criteria and made several other changes that make funding bicycle and pedestrian safety projects more difficult. Evaluate the impact of those changes and update the program.

Federal Data on Biking	Rank
Ridership 0.3% of commuters biking to work	28/50
Safety 8.6 fatalities per 10K bike commuters	20/50
Spending \$3.35 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking	24/50

Categories	% of available points	Rank
Funding	62%	8/50
Infrastructure	78%	22/50
Laws	66%	10/50
Policies	40%	37/50
Capacity & Support	94%	3/50
Safety	42%	35/50
Every Ride Counts	33%	22/50