



BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE REPORT CARD



5% PERCENT OF STATE IN BFC SILVER+

STATE ADVOCACY GROUP:
VIRGINIA BICYCLING FEDERATION

VIRGINIA

#7 NATIONAL RANK (OF 50)

#1 REGIONAL RANK (OF 13)

SEE THE REPORT CARD USE GUIDE

		F	D	C	B	A	
	Infrastructure & Funding						Considers the use of federal transportation funding, state transportation funding, and the existence of bicycle infrastructure in the state.
	Education & Encouragement						Considers bicycle mode share, advocacy, state goals to increase bicycling, and whether the state sponsors a conference on bicycling.
	Traffic Laws & Practices						Considers traffic laws related to bicyclist safety and practices for automated enforcement and preventing racial disparities in traffic law enforcement.
	Policies & Programs						Considers Complete Streets policies and programmatic support for implementing bicycling improvements, including staffing and integrating public health.
	Evaluation & Planning						Considers state bicycle plans, safety outcomes, guidance on bicycle facilities, data collection on bicycling and walking, and public engagement of bicyclists.

Based on the information we obtained for Virginia, the League of American Bicyclists believes the following actions will improve the safety, comfort, and accessibility of bicycling in Virginia.

Spend at least 2% of federal transportation funds on biking and walking improvements. Ensure that federal data reflects improvements in Complete Streets projects. Accurate data helps Congress understand the need to support biking and walking funding.

The Virginia General Assembly has been very active in the last few years. Numerous traffic safety laws have been adopted and the state passed its first state trails budget, providing \$10 million for trails. Traffic safety law improvements include requiring drivers to change lanes to pass bicyclists and decriminalizing jaywalking. Allowing bicyclists to yield at stop signs when other traffic is not present was approved for a study in 2021. Keep up the great momentum!

Virginia is building on the success of initiatives like the Virginia Capital Trail with projects like the Fall Line Trail near Richmond, which has received a funding commitment of \$170 million in local, state, and federal funds in the last two years. This is an incredible investment in a corridor that will be part of the East Coast Greenway and will add to Virginia's growing roster of destination-worthy trails. Numerous trails are being planned or are in progress throughout the Commonwealth with the support of the legislature and state agencies.

Virginia DOT has created great resources for biking and walking, including a statewide inventory of projects, a robust counting program, and a new page about innovative treatments.

Virginia's Complete Streets policy was adopted in 2004. Some of the accommodations allowed under this policy include two-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.

Bicycle Friendly Actions	Progress?
Complete Streets Law / Policy	Yes
Safe Passing Law (3ft+)	Yes
Statewide bike plan last 10 years	Yes
2% or more federal funds on bike/ped	No
Bicycle Safety Emphasis Area	Yes

Federal Data on Biking	Rank
Ridership 0.4% of commuters biking to work	26/50
Safety 6.6 fatalities per 10K bike commuters	18/50
Spending \$2.68 per capita FHWA spending on biking and walking	28/50

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 (202) 822-1333 or ken@bikeleague.org.