



# BICYCLE FRIENDLY STATE

## MASSACHUSETTS



### 2018 PROGRESS REPORT

#4

2017 ranking

TOTAL COUNTS  
 BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES 12  
 BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESSES 35  
 BICYCLE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES 7

REGION: EAST

### 2018 Progress Report

Massachusetts shows some very positive indicators in its federal data.

Massachusetts has the third best positive trend in its rate of bicycling to work over the last decade.

The state would also likely have a positive trend in its use of federal funding for bicycling and walking if not for 2009 being the fourth highest use of federal funds for bicycling and walking by any state in the last decade.

Unfortunately, the state does have a slightly upward trend in the rate of bicyclist traffic fatalities, although it is still one of the most safe states for bicycling based on our statistic.

Bicycle Friendly Actions ✓ = New Progress in 2018	
Complete Streets Law / Policy	Yes
Safe Passing Law (3ft+)	No
Statewide bike plan in last 10 years	Yes
Bicycle Safety Emphasis Area	Yes
2% or more fed funds on bike/ped (in last five fiscal years)	Yes

### Featured Statewide Member - The Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition (MassBike)

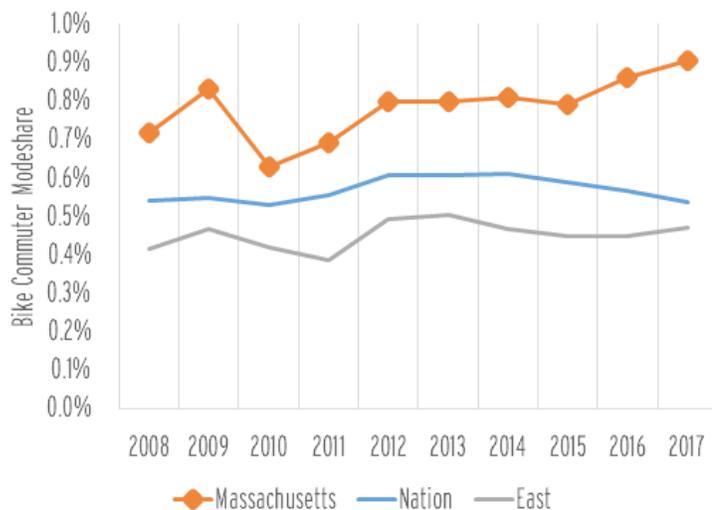


According to MassBike: "There has been great investment in multi-use off-street pathways and connections to build a network across the state, and the Governor is very much on board. However, there is very little funding attached to these projects and programs."

Massachusetts has made several attempts to increase funding in recent years, including a proposed increase in income tax on people making over \$1 million per year and tying the gas tax to inflation, which was approved in 2013 and repealed in 2014. Massachusetts, according to the Tax Foundation, has a lower gas tax than average – and the third lowest in the Northeast.

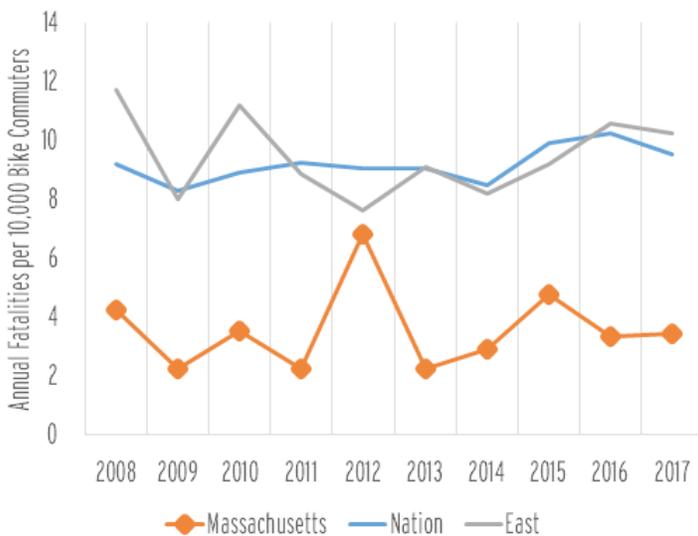
While state efforts to support bicycle network development is a bit of a mixed bag, Massachusetts is experiencing "an influx of dockless bicycle share companies operating in smaller cities, such as Wareham, New Bedford, Malden, Everett, etc" and electric bike share rolling out in some places, like Pioneer Valley.

Federal Data on Biking		Ten-Year Trend	Ten-Year Rank
Ridership	0.8% of commuters biking to work	One of 5 largest increases in bike commuting	12/50

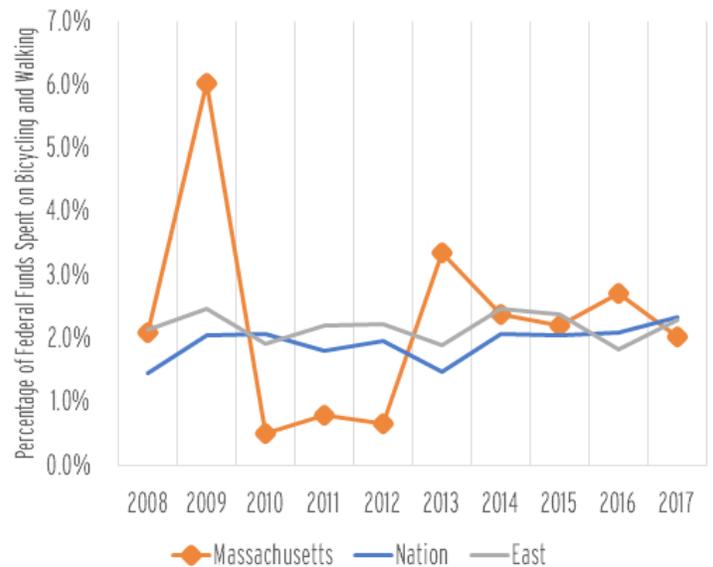


This Progress Report provides an update on Massachusetts's efforts related to bicycling. A full report card based upon a comprehensive survey is available at: <http://bikeleague.org/content/state-report-cards>

Federal Data on Biking		Ten-Year Trend	Ten-Year Rank
<b>Safety</b>	<b>3.6</b> fatalities per 10k bike commuters	<b>More dangerous, but not strongly</b>	<b>5/50</b>



Federal Data on Biking		Ten-Year Trend	Ten-Year Rank
<b>Spending</b>	<b>2.3%</b> of FHWA spending on biking and walking	<b>Slight decrease in funding</b>	<b>14/50</b>



## Featured Agency - Massachusetts Department of Transportation

Several of the legislative recommendations in the 2017 Bicycle Friendly State report card will be addressed by "The OmniBike Bill An Act to Reduce Traffic Fatalities has been passed by the Senate. Next the bill moves to the House for further consideration."

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation is keeping its bicycle planning on schedule with an update to its 2008 bicycle master plan to be published later this year. This will "Continue the Healthy Transportation Compact which began in 2009 and incorporate current design guidance in MassDOT's Project Development and Design Guide." People in Massachusetts should watch for the draft plan which will be available for public comment."

MassDOT is readying for release the Municipal Resource Guide for Bikeability, which provides an introduction to the core concepts of bikeability and outlines additional resources that are available on each topic. The Guide is intended to provide municipalities—which own and maintain 80 percent of Massachusetts streets—with the tools and information needed to provide safe, comfortable, and convenient bike networks that appeal to the broadest base of users."

"2018 will also see the official rollout of the MassTrails Funding Program, whose vision is to support the development, construction and maintenance of trail networks for non-motorized modes of transportation and promote recreational use. The MassTrails Funding Program creates one platform for project proponents seeking funding to advance trail networks through one interface rather than having to navigate multiple funding programs."



**JOIN US. #IBIKEIVOTE**

Every member organization of the League of American Bicyclists gets free access to a powerful advocacy software package. In 2017, the League facilitated over a dozen actions that engaged thousands of people. In New Jersey, these efforts led to a law that requires that drivers are educated about bicyclist and pedestrian safety as part of their driver's license training.

Learn about current actions and how your organization can use our tools at <https://bikeleague.org/TakeAction>