

# BICYCLING AND WALKING IN MISSOURI 2008

## A REPORT CARD

---



**Missouri Bicycle  
Federation, Inc.**

### Executive Summary

---

Two million Missourians bicycle regularly and 5.8 million walk. Bicycling is a billion dollar industry in Missouri, with the Katy Trail attracting around a half million visitors each year and the inaugural Tour of Missouri bringing in over 350,000 spectators.

With gasoline prices at \$3.50 per gallon and rising, international emphasis on reducing greenhouse emissions, and health problems related to obesity costing Missourians \$2 billion per year, the time is right to make Missouri a bicycle and pedestrian friendly state.

Cities across the U.S. have shown that creating a complete network of roads and trails that invite walking and bicycling is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce congestion, pollution, greenhouse emissions, improve the physical and mental health of citizens, and improve quality of life.

Other states have led the way and Missouri is, frankly, lagging in its support for walking and bicycling:

- Missourians walk and bicycle about half the national average
- Bicycling could be a \$2-4 billion industry in Missouri
- Missouri roads are still not routinely built to accommodate walking and bicycling--even simple inexpensive improvements like crosswalks and pedestrian phases for traffic signals are still routinely omitted
- Cities and states across the country are increasingly incorporating bicycling and walking into transportation and trails planning, leaving Missouri at a competitive disadvantage when attracting creative, skilled workers and the industries that depend on them

Missouri's walking and bicycling environment is poor in comparison to that found in other states around the U.S., and that situation is reflected in the low overall grade of "D".

However, this creates an opportunity: Missouri's current situation is so poor that even simple, basic changes will create very noticeable improvement and a rapid increase in the amount and safety of walking and bicycling in Missouri. Now is the time to take these steps.

*The Missouri Bicycle Federation's Vision of Active Transportation in Missouri gives a series of concrete, measurable actions that individuals, organizations, government agencies, and businesses can take to help us achieve our Vision: to build a movement of healthy neighborhoods, cities, and streets filled with healthy bicyclists and pedestrians throughout Missouri.*

*The pages below summarize Action Items and Grades from the 2008 Report Card. The full 2008 Report Card is online at [MoBikeFed.org/2008ReportCard](http://MoBikeFed.org/2008ReportCard).*

## Action Items: What Can Be Done?

---

Here are a few of the most effective and simple steps citizens, public officials, and municipalities can take to make a community more livable and help fill our Missouri streets and neighborhoods with healthy bicyclists and pedestrians:

### **Build a network**

- Create and adopt a bicycle plan, pedestrian plan, and/or trails plan
- Get your community on track to become an officially recognized Bicycle Friendly Community
- Adopt a "Complete Streets" Policy in your community
- Make sure your areas' transit system accommodates bicycles
- Adopt bicycle parking requirements in your municipality's planning and zoning requirements

### **Increase safety and reduce crashes**

- Have regular bicycle/pedestrian traffic enforcement activities
- Educate motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists using available model campaign materials
- Track bicycle and pedestrian crashes and injuries in your community; take appropriate action

### **Encourage activity**

- Celebrate National Bike Month and Bike to Work Week and encourage citizens to bicycle for fitness and transportation
- Encourage area businesses to adopt policies supporting walking, transit, and bicycling as transportation and fitness choices
- Encourage area schools to participate in the Safe Routes to School program and encourage students to walk and bicycle to school where possible

### **Create a Movement**

- Encourage the development of bicycle, walking, and running clubs in your area
- Encourage and promote bicycle, walking, running, and trail events
- Start a "Car Free Parkway" or "Car Free Boulevard" program in your community by closing a street on a regular basis and developing a carnival of walking, bicycling, and fitness activities

*Find out more about all of these programs at [MoBikeFed.org](http://MoBikeFed.org) or by emailing [director@mobikefed.org](mailto:director@mobikefed.org).*



## Overall Grade

---

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D, Progress this year C+**

Citizens across the state are beginning to understand the importance of planning and building communities that are friendly to walking and bicycling. Bicycling and walking advocacy groups around the state are growing in strength and numbers. Communities around the state are investigating the Bicycle Friendly Communities program. More citizens are walking and bicycling. Exciting extensions to the Katy Trail were announced. Missouri bicycling received unprecedented international attention due to the inaugural Tour of Missouri professional bicycle race. But far too many roads are still being built with no concern for connectivity or safety of bicycling and walking.

## Primary 10-Year Outcomes

---

Double the number of people walking, bicycling, and using mass transit

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 C-, Progress this year B**

Cut the bicycle and pedestrian crash rates in half

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D-, Progress this year D-**



## Goal: Build a World Class Bicycling and Walking Network

---

### **Overall Grade: D**

MoDOT Policy and Practice

**Grade: 2006 C, 2007 D, Progress this year D-**

Statewide/MoDOT Complete Streets Policy

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D, Progress this year D**

City and Metropolitan Complete Streets Policies

**Grade: 2006 D, 2007 D, Progress this year C**

Tracking of Bicycle/Pedestrian Accommodation in Projects

**Grade: 2006 F, 2007 F, Progress this year F**

Transportation Enhancements and Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Funds

**Grade: 2006 D+, 2007 D+, Progress this year D**

Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Plans

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D, Recent progress B+**

Statewide Trails System/Katy Trail

**Grade: 2006 C-, 2007 C+, Progress this year A+**

National Bicycle Route System

**Grade: 2006 D+, 2007 D+, Progress this year F**

Transit Systems Fully Accommodating Bicycles

**Grade: 2006 B, 2007 B+, Progress this year A-**

Amtrak Accommodates Bicycles

**Grade: 2006 C+, 2007 C-, Progress this year F**

City Bicycle Parking Requirements

**Grade: 2006 C-, 2007 C-, Progress this year B-**

Cities and Metropolitan Planning Organizations with Bicycle Planners

**Grade: Cities D, metropolitan areas B+, Progress this year B**

Bicycle Friendly Communities

**Grade: 2006 F, 2007 D-, Progress this year A**



## Goal: Increase Safety and Reduce Crashes

---

**Overall grade: D**

Continued Movement Towards Traffic Justice for Nonmotorized Users

**Grade: 2006 B-, 2007 B-, Progress in 2007: B**

Statewide Priority and Annual Reporting for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D-, Progress this year F**

Bicycle/Pedestrian Traffic Enforcement

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D, Progress this year C-**

Citizens Participating in League-Certified Bicycle Education Programs

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D-, Progress this year D**

Number of League Cycling Instructors in Missouri

**Grade: 2006 D+, 2007 C-, 2007 progress A**

Number of League Cycling Instructor (LCI) Training Programs Held in MO

**Grade: 2006 C, 2007 B, 2007 progress A**

Number of Communities with Bike Ed Classes

**Grade: 2006 D, 2007 D, Progress this year C-**



## Goal: Encourage Activity

---

---

**Overall grade: D**

Number of Missouri communities participating in Bike Month or Bike to Work Week events

**Grade: 2006 B, 2007 B+, Progress this year C+**

Businesses promote multi-modal transportation and fitness for employees

**Grade: 2006 D, 2007 D+, Progress this year B-**

Percentage of school students walking/bicycling to school

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D, Progress this year C+**

Number of Missouri schools participating in Walk/Bike to School Month, Week, and Day activities

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D, Progress this year C**

Number of Missouri Schools with Active Safe Routes to School programs

**Grade: 2006 D-, 2007 D, Progress this year C**

Number of communities with Cycloviva/Sunday Parkways/Car-Free Days in Parks

**Grade: New project beginning in 2008**

Percentage of Tourists who Bike/Hike during Missouri Trips

**Grade: 2006 C, 2007 B-, Progress this year A-**

Number of bicycling youth development programs or teams in Missouri

**Grade: 2006 D+, 2007 C-, Progress this year B**

State Bicycle Map Available

**Grade: 2006 status D, 2007 status D-, Progress this year F**

Statewide and Local Bicycling and Walking Statistics Collected

**Grade: 2006 D, 2007 D, Progress this year F**



## Goal: Build a Movement

---

---

**Overall grade: B**

Advocacy Groups

**Grade: 2006 B-, 2007 B, Progress this year B+**

Statewide and National Legislative Advocacy

**Grade: 2006 C+, 2007 B-, Progress this year A-**

Clubs, Organizations, and Events

**Grade: 2006 A, 2007 A, Progress this year A**

Bicycle, Walking, Running, and Active Recreation Related businesses

**Grade: 2006 B+, 2007 B+, Progress this year B**

Economic Impact

**Grade: 2006 B, 2007 B+, Progress this year B+**



## The Missouri Bicycle Federation



The Missouri Bicycle Federation is a coalition of bicycling, walking, running, and trails organizations representing over 15,000 Missourians and speaking for the 2 million Missourians who bicycle regularly and the 5.8 million who walk.

The Missouri Bicycle Federation is working to realize its vision of active transportation in Missouri by creating a world-class bicycle and pedestrian network in Missouri, building a movement around walking and bicycling, encouraging more walking and bicycling, and increasing safety for all road users.

Find our more or join the Federation at **[MoBikeFed.org](http://MoBikeFed.org)**.

