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## **How Bike- and Walk-Friendly Is Your Town?**

### *Bike Walk Connecticut Releases First Ever Town-by-Town Scorecard*

**Hartford, CT (July 1, 2014)** – As part of a new “complete streets” initiative, Bike Walk Connecticut released a first-of-its-kind ranking of the state’s cities and towns on how bike- and walk-friendly they are. Simsbury (1), New Haven (2), New Britain (3), Glastonbury (4), and Middletown (5) claim top honors as the five most bike- and walk-friendly communities. The scorecard appears on the following pages and online.

The scorecard and rankings are based on an online, statewide public opinion survey that ran this spring and was open to anyone who lives or works in Connecticut. The rankings are also based on municipal leadership and engagement efforts—whether cities or towns have bicycle and pedestrian master plans; citizen task forces or advisory groups; complete streets policies; and whether they have conducted any public outreach efforts related to cycling, walking or complete streets.



The surveys and scorecard are expected to be conducted annually as part of Bike Walk Connecticut’s new five-year initiative to make it safer and easier to walk and bike by implementing “complete streets” in cities and towns across Connecticut. Complete streets make it easier and safer for people to get around on foot or by bike, so they can be more physically active.

Kelly Kennedy, Executive Director of Bike Walk Connecticut, explains that “We want this project to encourage cities and towns to take a really robust approach to complete streets and being bike- and walk-friendly. Being able to get around safely by bike or on foot isn’t just a fad or a health issue or environmental issue. It’s an economic development issue. Towns that are bike- and walk-friendly are great places to live, work, shop and play.” Bike Walk Connecticut has also started to develop an online repository for complete streets resources.

### ***What are Complete Streets?***

Complete Streets are streets that are designed to be safe for everyone to use. Complete Streets make it easier and safer to walk and bike to work, to school, to transit, for errands, or just for pleasure and exercise. Connecticut’s Complete Streets law (Conn. Gen. Stat. §13-153f) requires pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users to be routinely considered in the planning, designing, construction and operation of all roads.

***About the Project:***

This project is made possible through the financial support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health through Cooperative Agreement 1305 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the purpose of which is to promote statewide implementation of policies and actions to promote health and prevent and control chronic diseases.

***About Bike Walk Connecticut:***

Bike Walk Connecticut is a statewide, member-supported 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that works to make Connecticut a better place to bike and walk. For more information and updates on this Complete Streets Initiative, visit [www.bikewalkct.org](http://www.bikewalkct.org).

***This publication does not express the views of the Connecticut Department of Public Health or the State of Connecticut. The views and opinions expressed are those of the authors.***

# Connecticut 2014 Bike-friendly, Walk-friendly Town Scorecard

LEGEND: ■ Yes, 25 points    □ No, 5 points    IDK I don't know, 1 point    △ No response, 0 points

Rank	Town	Bike Ped Plan	Bike Ped Task Force	Public Outreach Efforts	Complete Streets Policy	Municipal Leadership and Engagement Score (of 100)	Bike Walk Friendly Score (of 100)	Combined Final Score (of 100)
1	Simsbury	■	■	■	□	80.0	69.0	74.5
2	New Haven	■	■	■	■	100.0	47.1	73.5
3	New Britain	■	■	■	IDK	76.0	53.9	65.0
4	Glastonbury	■	■	□	□	60.0	59.3	59.7
5	Middletown	■	■	IDK	■	76.0	42.1	59.1
6	Canton	■	□	■	□	60.0	57.6	58.8
7	Weston	■	■	■	□	80.0	34.7	57.4
8	Hamden	□	□	■	■	60.0	52.9	56.5
9	Plainville	■	■	□	□	60.0	51.4	55.7
10	South Windsor	□	■	△	■	55.0	51.5	53.2
11	Coventry	□	■	□	■	60.0	43.8	51.9
12	Torrington	■	□	□	■	60.0	43.1	51.6
13	Meriden	■	■	IDK	□	56.0	46.3	51.1
14	Milford	■	IDK	IDK	■	52.0	49.6	50.8
14	Ridgefield	■	■	IDK	□	56.0	45.7	50.8
15	Hartford	■	□	■	IDK	56.0	41.7	48.8
15	Manchester	■	□	□	□	40.0	56.4	48.2
17	Stonington	□	■	IDK	■	56.0	39.5	47.7
18	Old Saybrook	■	□	□	□	40.0	54.6	47.3
19	Southbury	■	□	□	□	40.0	52.1	46.1
20	Colchester	■	□	IDK	□	36.0	55.7	45.9
20	Somers	□	□	□	□	20.0	71.9	45.9
21	Andover	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	75.0	45.5
21	Lebanon	□	IDK	□	□	16.0	75.0	45.5
22	East Lyme	■	□	IDK	□	36.0	53.1	44.6
23	Barkhamsted	□	□	□	□	20.0	68.8	44.4
24	Madison	□	□	□	□	20.0	68.5	44.3
25	Essex	■	□	IDK	□	36.0	49.9	43.0
25	Stratford	■	□	□	□	40.0	46.1	43.0
26	Hebron	□	□	□	□	20.0	65.6	42.8
27	Woodbridge	□	■	IDK	□	36.0	47.5	41.8
28	Groton	■	□	□	□	40.0	42.2	41.1
29	Sprague	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	65.0	40.5



Rank	Town	Bike Ped Plan	Bike Ped Task Force	Public Outreach Efforts	Complete Streets Policy	Municipal Leadership and Engagement Score (of 100)	Bike Walk Friendly Score (of 100)	Combined Final Score (of 100)
30	Wethersfield	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	64.7	40.4
31	Enfield	☐	☐	■	☐	40.0	40.6	40.3
32	Washington	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	62.5	39.3
33	East Hampton	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	60.8	38.4
34	New Milford	☐	☐	■	☐	40.0	36.0	38.0
35	Ellington	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	55.6	37.8
35	Franklin	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	55.5	37.8
35	Suffield	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	59.6	37.8
36	Windsor Locks	☐	☐	■	☐	40.0	33.9	36.9
37	Chester	☐	☐	IDK	IDK	12.0	61.3	36.6
38	Windham	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	56.5	36.3
39	Union	☐	☐	IDK	IDK	12.0	60.0	36.0
40	Columbia	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	51.3	35.6
40	Southington	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	51.2	35.6
41	East Hartford	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	54.6	35.3
42	Greenwich	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	50.4	35.2
43	Durham	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	54.2	35.1
43	Windsor	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	50.2	35.1
44	Newtown	■	☐	IDK	IDK	32.0	38.0	35.0
47	Granby	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	49.9	34.9
48	Kent	☐	☐	IDK	IDK	12.0	57.5	34.8
49	Eastford	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	53.2	34.6
50	Clinton	☐	■	IDK	☐	36.0	32.5	34.3
51	New Canaan	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	48.3	34.2
52	Middlefield	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	52.1	34.1
53	Guilford	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	52.0	34.0
54	Avon	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	47.6	33.8
55	Stafford	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	50.4	33.2
56	Bolton	☐	IDK	IDK	☐	12.0	53.9	32.9
57	Ledyard	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	49.6	32.8
58	Branford	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	49.5	32.7
59	Brookfield	☐	☐	■	☐	40.0	25.0	32.5
60	Mansfield	☐	△	△	△	5.0	58.8	31.9
60	Salisbury	△	△	△	△	0.0	63.8	31.9
61	New Hartford	☐	☐	IDK	☐	16.0	47.5	31.8
62	Haddam	☐	☐	☐	☐	20.0	42.4	31.2



Rank	Town	Bike Ped Plan	Bike Ped Task Force	Public Outreach Efforts	Complete Streets Policy	Municipal Leadership and Engagement Score (of 100)	Bike Walk Friendly Score (of 100)	Combined Final Score (of 100)
63	Vernon	△	△	△	△	0.0	62.2	31.1
64	East Haddam	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	46.0	31.0
65	Litchfield	□	□	△	△	10.0	51.2	30.6
66	Cromwell	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	45.0	30.5
66	Wallingford	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	45.1	30.5
67	Monroe	□	□	□	□	20.0	40.6	30.3
68	Plymouth	△	△	△	△	0.0	60.0	30.0
68	Willington	△	△	△	△	0.0	60.0	30.0
69	Westbrook	△	△	△	△	0.0	59.6	29.8
70	Easton	△	△	△	△	0.0	58.8	29.4
71	Deep River	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	42.5	29.3
72	Bristol	□	□	□	□	20.0	38.1	29.1
73	Bethany	△	△	△	△	0.0	57.5	28.8
74	Tolland	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	41.3	28.7
75	Cheshire	△	△	△	△	0.0	57.2	28.6
75	Farmington	△	△	△	△	0.0	57.3	28.6
76	Bethel	△	△	△	△	0.0	56.9	28.5
77	Norfolk	△	△	△	△	0.0	56.3	28.1
78	Bridgewater	■	□	IDK	■	56.0	0.0	28.0
79	Derby	□	□	IDK	IDK	12.0	43.8	27.9
80	Canaan	□	□	IDK	IDK	12.0	43.1	27.6
81	Chaplin	△	△	△	△	0.0	54.9	27.5
82	Westport	□	□	□	□	20.0	34.6	27.3
83	West Hartford	△	△	△	△	0.0	54.1	27.1
84	Orange	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	37.5	26.8
84	Woodstock	□	□	□	IDK	16.0	37.5	26.8
85	East Granby	△	△	△	△	0.0	52.5	26.3
85	Newington	IDK	IDK	□	□	12.0	40.5	26.3
86	Norwich	△	△	△	△	0.0	52.1	26.1
86	Old Lyme	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	36.1	26.1
87	Putnam	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	35.0	25.5
88	Berlin	□	□	IDK	IDK	12.0	38.6	25.3
88	Bethlehem	△	△	△	△	0.0	50.6	25.3
89	Watertown	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	34.4	25.2
90	North Branford	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	34.2	25.1
91	East Windsor	□	□	△	□	15.0	34.6	24.8



Rank	Town	Bike Ped Plan	Bike Ped Task Force	Public Outreach Efforts	Complete Streets Policy	Municipal Leadership and Engagement Score (of 100)	Bike Walk Friendly Score (of 100)	Combined Final Score (of 100)
92	North Canaan	△	△	△	△	0.0	48.8	24.4
92	Shelton	△	△	△	△	0.0	48.8	24.4
93	Burlington	IDK	IDK	△	△	2.0	46.7	24.3
94	Montville	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	32.3	24.1
95	Lisbon	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	31.7	23.8
96	East Haven	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	29.5	22.8
97	Winchester	△	△	△	△	0.0	45.3	22.7
98	Fairfield	△	△	△	△	0.0	44.8	22.4
99	Trumbull	△	△	△	△	0.0	43.8	21.9
100	Brooklyn	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	27.5	21.8
100	Cornwall	□	IDK	□	□	16.0	27.5	21.8
100	New London	△	△	△	△	0.0	43.6	21.8
101	Killingworth	△	△	△	△	0.0	43.4	21.7
101	Rocky Hill	△	△	△	△	0.0	43.3	21.7
101	Wilton	△	△	△	△	0.0	43.4	21.7
102	Redding	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	26.9	21.4
103	Marlborough	△	△	△	△	0.0	42.5	21.3
104	Bloomfield	△	△	△	△	0.0	42.0	21.0
105	West Haven	△	△	△	△	0.0	41.7	20.8
106	Darien	□	□	IDK	IDK	12.0	29.4	20.7
107	Ashford	□	□	□	□	20.0	21.3	20.6
108	Killingly	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	25.0	20.5
108	Thompson	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	25.0	20.5
109	Norwalk	△	△	△	△	0.0	40.4	20.2
110	Morris	□	□	□	□	20.0	20.0	20.0
110	Portland	△	△	△	△	0.0	40.1	20.0
111	Griswold	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	22.5	19.3
111	North Stonington	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	22.5	19.3
112	Hampton	△	△	△	△	0.0	37.5	18.8
113	Beacon Falls	■	□	IDK	□	36.0	0.0	18.0
113	Preston	■	□	IDK	□	36.0	0.0	18.0
113	Salem	□	■	IDK	□	36.0	0.0	18.0
114	Waterford	△	△	△	△	0.0	35.6	17.8
115	Stamford	△	△	△	△	0.0	34.4	17.2
116	Bridgeport	△	△	△	△	0.0	32.9	16.4
117	Prospect	△	△	△	△	0.0	32.5	16.3



Rank	Town	Bike Ped Plan	Bike Ped Task Force	Public Outreach Efforts	Complete Streets Policy	Municipal Leadership and Engagement Score (of 100)	Bike Walk Friendly Score (of 100)	Combined Final Score (of 100)
118	North Haven	△	△	△	△	0.0	31.9	15.9
119	Pomfret	△	△	△	△	0.0	29.3	14.6
120	New Fairfield	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	12.5	14.3
121	Waterbury	△	△	△	△	0.0	28.2	14.1
122	Ansonia	△	△	△	△	0.0	21.3	10.6
123	Danbury	△	△	△	△	0.0	21.0	10.5
124	Canterbury	□	□	□	□	20.0	0.0	10.0
124	Goshen	□	□	□	□	20.0	0.0	10.0
124	Naugatuck	□	□	□	□	20.0	0.0	10.0
124	Plainfield	□	□	□	□	20.0	0.0	10.0
124	Sherman	□	□	□	□	20.0	0.0	10.0
124	Wolcott	△	△	△	△	0.0	20.0	10.0
125	Harwinton	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	0.0	8.0
125	Lyme	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	0.0	8.0
125	Roxbury	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	0.0	8.0
125	Sterling	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	0.0	8.0
125	Warren	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	0.0	8.0
125	Woodbury	□	□	IDK	□	16.0	0.0	8.0
126	Bozrah	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Colebrook	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Hartland	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Middlebury	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Oxford	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Scotland	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Seymour	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Sharon	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Thomaston	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0
126	Voluntown	△	△	△	△	0.0	0.0	0.0

LEGEND: ■ Yes, 25 points   □ No, 5 points   IDK I don't know, 1 point   △ No response, 0 points

## Methodology

1. Public Opinion scores and Municipal Leadership and Engagement Scores are equally weighted in the combined final score.
2. All 169 towns are ranked. Rankings of 1 through 126 reflect tie scores.
3. The public opinion survey was based on Bikeability and Walkability Checklists developed in a joint effort of the Federal Highway Administration, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the US Environmental Protection Agency, the National Center for Safe Routes to School, and the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center.
4. The public opinion survey was designed in Survey Monkey and publicly available to anyone who lives or works in Connecticut. Respondents were limited to one response per person.
5. Nearly 2200 people completed either the public opinion Bikeability Survey, the Walkability Survey, or both.
6. Public opinions on bikeability and walkability are equally weighted and make up the "Bike Walk Friendly Score."
7. Municipal Leadership and Engagement scores are based on the presence or absence of 1) a bicycle and pedestrian master plan; 2) a bicycle and pedestrian task force or similar group; 3) any public outreach efforts on complete streets or cycling and pedestrian issues; and 4) a municipal complete streets policy. This information was self-reported by municipal staff or elected officials in an online survey or by phone to Bike Walk CT staff. Points were assigned to "No" and "I don't know" answers to distinguish nonresponding towns from responding towns.
8. Public opinion surveys were received from 155 of 169 towns. No responses were received for: Bozrah, Canterbury, Hartland, Harwinton, Naugatuck, Oxford, Preston, Roxbury, Salem, Scotland, Seymour, Sharon, Sherman, or Voluntown.
9. Municipal leadership and engagement information was received from 121 of 169 towns.

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