

Bicycling in Milwaukee -- Evaluation

Three different studies were conducted to evaluate bicycle behaviors and attitudes.

The Milwaukee Survey of Bicyclist Attitudes and Behaviors was conducted by the Institute for Survey and Policy Research at UW-Milwaukee. It was jointly sponsored by the City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works and the Wisconsin Bicycle Federation. Efforts were made to make this a statistically representative survey of Milwaukee residents, and questions matched those of a Nationwide survey so that results could be compared to national statistics.

The City of Milwaukee Bicycle Demand and Benefits Analysis was conducted to model and project future demand and analyze the current bicycle and infrastructure network to prioritize improvement projects.

Finally, the Milwaukee Bike Plan Survey was an informal qualitative survey conducted by the Bicycle Federation. The survey targeted existing cyclists in Milwaukee to learn about their opinions on bicycling in Milwaukee. While the placement and distribution of surveys was oriented more towards Milwaukee cyclists, the survey was open to all members of the public.

How many people ride bicycles in Milwaukee?

- 49% of Milwaukee residents 16 and older report riding during the summer *
 - 69% of those road for exercise or recreation*
 - 9% of those road for transportation*

.7% of all journey to work trips in 2007 were made by bicycle, up from .5% in 2006**
 1,629 people reported commuting to work in 2007, up 29% from 2006. Nationally bike commuting is only up 6%**

There are **77,104 trips** made each day by bicycle in Milwaukee if all users are accounted for.***

*2008 survey by UWM Institute for Policy Research at UWM
 ** US Census American Community Surveys for 2006, 2007
 ***2008 City of Milwaukee Bicycle Demand & Benefits Analysis conducted by Alta Planning + Design

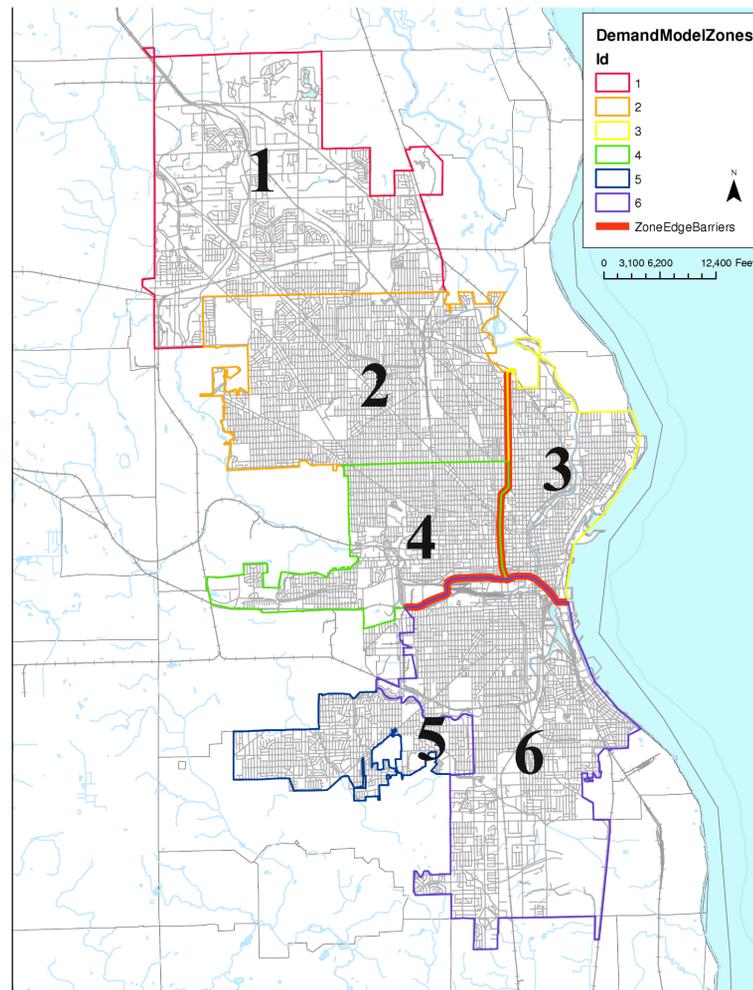
How Often?

Variable	Current	Future
Employed Adults, 16 Years and Older		
a. Study Area Population (1)	602,782	619,838
b. Employed Persons (2)	245,021	253,800
c. Bicycle Commute Mode Share (2)	0.5%	4.5%
d. Bicycle Commuters (b*c)	1,225	11,421
e. Work-at-Home Percentage (2)	2.5%	2.5%
f. Work-at-Home Bicycle Commuters (3) [(b*e)/2]	3,063	3,173
School Children		
g. Population, ages 6-14 (4)	82,850	85,194
h. Estimated School Bicycle Commute Mode Share (5)	2.0%	3.0%
i. School Bicycle Commuters (g*h)	1,657	2,556
College Students		
j. Full-Time College Students (6)	43,903	45,150
k. Bicycle Commute Mode Share (7)	10.0%	10.0%
l. College Bicycle Commuters (j*k)	4,391	4,515
Work and School Trips Sub-Total		
m. Daily Bicycle Commuters Sub-Total (d+f+i+l)	10,336	21,664
n. Daily Bicycle Commute Trips Sub-Total (m*2)	20,672	43,329
Other utilitarian and recreational trips		
o. Ratio of "Other" Trips in Relation to Commute Trips (8)	2.73	2.73
p. Estimated Non-Commuter Trips (n*o)	56,434	118,287
Total Estimated Daily Bicycle Trips (n+p)	77,104	161,616

Where?

Table 5 - Cycle Zone Scores

Factor Scores	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6
Barrier Score / Perimeter Foot ²	20.0	10.0	3.3	3.3	20.0	13.3
Road Network Per Acre	10.2	16.9	19.3	18.0	14.6	13.2
Bike Network Density (per acre)	2.8	4.5	15.6	7.7	4.4	5.8
Connectivity	7.1	11.6	12.8	12.2	8.3	10.9
Land Use Mix	4.0	14.2	20	13.3	9.0	14.3
Composite Zone Score	44.2	57.2	71.1	59.5	56.5	57.5



What has changed?

	City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin				United States			
	2006 Estimate	Mode share	2007 Estimate	Annual % Change	2006	Mode share	2007	Annual % Change
Total:	245,021	100.00%	248,894	1.00%	138,265,905	100.00%	139,259,684	0.71%
Car, truck, or van:	198,971	81.21%	206,638	3.71%	119,898,146	86.72%	120,442,188	0.45%
Drove alone	173,087	70.64%	179,237	3.43%	105,046,395	75.97%	105,954,656	0.86%
Carpooled:	25,884	10.56%	27,401	5.54%	14,851,751	10.74%	14,487,532	-2.51%
In 2-person carpool	19,682	8.03%	21,310	7.64%	11,408,421	8.25%	11,139,037	-2.42%
In 3-person carpool	2,870	1.17%	3,816	1.53%	1,992,101	1.44%	1,963,018	-1.48%
In 4-person carpool	1,560	0.64%	1,715	0.69%	746,017	0.54%	743,895	-0.29%
In 5- or 6-person carpool	1,073	0.44%	560	-0.22%	378,547	0.27%	372,505	-1.62%
In 7-or-more-person carpool	699	0.29%	0	0.00%	326,665	0.24%	269,077	-21.40%
Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	24,396	9.96%	21,210	-8.52%	6,684,040	4.83%	6,800,512	1.71%
Bus or trolley bus	24,289	9.91%	21,089	-8.47%	3,704,610	2.68%	3,716,517	0.32%
Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico)	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	89,978	0.07%	81,131	-10.90%
Subway or elevated	0	0.00%	71	0.03%	2,137,980	1.55%	2,231,851	4.21%
Railroad	0	0.00%	50	0.02%	709,794	0.51%	731,124	0.53%
Ferryboat	107	0.04%	0	0.00%	41,678	0.03%	39,889	-4.48%
Taxicab	510	0.21%	151	-0.06%	178,314	0.13%	179,147	0.13%
Motorcycle	47	0.02%	680	0.27%	272,433	0.20%	283,879	0.20%
Bicycle	1,154	0.47%	1,629	0.65%	623,039	0.45%	664,859	0.48%
Walked	12,776	5.21%	11,516	-0.94%	3,951,534	2.86%	3,954,210	0.07%
Other means	967	0.39%	724	-0.29%	1,247,291	0.90%	1,258,267	0.87%
Worked at home	6,200	2.53%	6,346	2.30%	5,411,108	3.91%	5,676,622	4.88%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 & 2007 American Community

How Many?

Table 1: Percent Bicycling in Past 30 Days and Mean Number of Days Rode, by Gender and Age

	National Survey			Milwaukee Survey		
	Percent Riding Past 30 Days	SE ^a	Number Days Rode	Percent Riding Past 30 Days	SE	Number Days Rode
Pop. 16+	27%	0.5	5.0	39%	2.3	8.5
Male	34%	0.9	5.8	43%	3.5	10.5
Female	21%	0.6	3.9	36%	3.2	6.4
Age. 16-24	39%	1.6	N.A.	62%	5.2	13.1
25-34	33%	1.3	N.A.	41%	5.5	5.7
35-44	34%	1.2	N.A.	47%	5.6	6.3
45-54	26%	1.2	N.A.	33%	5.6	9.2
55-64	18%	1.2	N.A.	28%	6.5	7.4
65+	9%	0.8	N.A.	6%	3.2	8.5

^a Standard errors of estimates were calculated for both questions in the Milwaukee survey but were reported only for the first question (i.e., percent riding during past 30 days) in the national survey.

What should be changed?

According to The Milwaukee Survey of Bicyclist Attitudes and Behaviors conducted by the Institute for Survey and Policy Research at UW-Milwaukee, 25% of Milwaukee bicycle riders report feeling concerned for their personal safety on their most recent bike ride. In a similar survey conducted nationwide, only 13% reported this concern. 90% of the riders in Milwaukee that reported feeling concerned for their safety reported that the behavior of motorists was the reason for their concern.

This concern also surfaces in the survey conducted by the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin.

8. What factors discourage you from bicycling?	Slightly	Moderately	Strongly	Response Count
	Motorists not following the laws of the road	29.8% (195)	35.3% (231)	
Bicycle Unfriendly roadways	16.1% (107)	35.0% (233)	48.9% (325)	665
No bicycle parking at destinations	43.3% (277)	38.4% (246)	18.4% (118)	640
Lack of greenway trails	34.6% (221)	47.2% (301)	18.3% (117)	638
Lack of interest	71.5% (376)	16.0% (84)	12.7% (67)	526
			answered question	672
			skipped question	17

9. How would the factors below affect your decision to bicycle more?	Not at all	Moderately	Strongly	Response Count
	More on-street facilities (bike lanes, paved shoulders, etc.)	8.1% (51)	32.2% (202)	
More greenway trails	12.5% (77)	37.1% (229)	51.0% (315)	618
More bicycle parking	25.3% (156)	42.8% (264)	32.6% (201)	617
Increased enforcement of laws applying to motorists and cyclists	16.3% (101)	42.6% (264)	41.1% (255)	620
Education programs for bicycle safety	40.0% (245)	36.3% (222)	23.9% (146)	612
A map of bicycle facilities for planning routes	19.5% (115)	42.6% (252)	38.1% (225)	591
			answered question	633
			skipped question	56