



Bike Facilities Profile: 2001-2008, 2009

Overview:



The Transportation Division of the New York City Department of City Planning conducts annual counts on bicycle lanes and paths in Manhattan. This study uses data collected from 2001 to 2008 to profile several on-street bicycle lanes and greenway paths. The report highlights include information on cyclist volumes, helmet usage, on-street versus off-street percentages and bike lane usage. [View the study area.](#)



The report is divided into two sections: on-street bicycle lanes and off-street bicycle paths. Findings are highlighted in their respective sections, however, some trends are found when looking at the data collectively. Here are a few of the major findings:

On-Street Bicycle Lanes

- The volume of cyclists increased 30 percent between 2001 and 2008;
- Fifty-four percent of cyclists were observed using the bicycle lanes when they were available;
- Cyclists were more likely to use the bicycle lane on streets with heavy vehicular traffic, such as Sixth Avenue;
- Helmet usage increased from 22 percent in 2001 to 40 percent in 2008;
- The number of female cyclists is increasing faster than the number of male cyclists and the male to female ratio has dropped every year since 2003.

Off-Street Bicycle Paths

- The volume of users on the greenways has increased 26 percent between 2002 and 2008;
- The volume of users on the greenways is higher on the weekends than during the week;
- More than 50 percent of cyclists on the greenways were observed using helmets;
- Route 9A Greenway and the East River Greenway have different use patterns: 58 percent of Route 9A users were cyclists, while only 22 percent of the East River Greenway users were cyclists.

Comparison of On-Street Bicycle Lanes and Off-Street Bicycle Paths

- Cyclists on the greenway paths are more likely to be observed using helmets than cyclists of on-street bicycle lanes;
- Females are twice more likely to use the greenway than to use the on-street bicycle lanes.

Report:

The profile is available as a [complete document](#) (3.7 mb) or by sections in PDF format:

- [Cover, Introduction and Findings](#) (0.6 MB)
- [On-Street Bicycle Lanes Analysis](#) (1.7 MB)
- [Off-Street Bicycle Paths Analysis](#) (1.4 MB)
- [Appendices](#) (0.4 MB)

Related Notes

-  Items accompanied by this symbol require the [free Adobe Acrobat Reader](#).