

DRAFT Report on the 2022 Bike and Pedestrian Count

Each year the Asheville Bike-Pedestrian Task Force administers a survey for which we tabulate the number of pedestrians and cyclists entering intersections. All surveys are done in the second week of September on either Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Saturday. This year's date were Sep 13 thru Sep 15 and Sep 17. The weekday surveys are either in the morning hours from 7 to 9 AM, or in the afternoon from 5 to 7 PM. Saturday surveys are from 9 to 11 AM. and last for two hours, a few are done in the mornings from 7 to 9 AM.

Results

This year we had 28 volunteers that collected data from 27 sites. Weather, for the most part, was warm and sunny with early morning fog.

Cycling

The number of cyclists rose compared to previous years. This is partly due to more bicycle group activities where several dozen cyclist might drive by a station. *Table 1* compares this year's results to the previous 5-year average. Each region has at least two 2 values, with the exception of West Asheville where there was only one afternoon observation.

Table 1: Comparison of Bike Count Data to previous 5-Year Average by Regions

Regional Average (2 to 3 locations)	N	Bike Counts 2017-2021	Bike Counts 2022	Percent Increase
Downtown (City Hall Area)	2	19.5	37.0	90%
Downtown (Pritchard Park Area)	2	26.6	19.0	-29%
South Slope (Hilliard St.)	2	25.4	21.5	-15%
North Asheville (Chestnut St.)	3	28.5	33.0	16%
North Asheville (W.T.Weaver / Broadway)	3	25.1	50.3	101%
River District (Riverside Dr. / Amboy Rd.)	3	39.7	79.3	100%
West Asheville (Haywood Rd.)*	2	38.6	55.0	42%

Additionally:

- Helmet use has increased to 90%. (The previous 3 years had rates: 78%, 83%, 76%)
- Similar to past years, 31% of the cyclists were female. (Previous rates were: 29%, 24%, 26%)
Comment: This statistic correlates to a perception of safety. Value significantly below 50% imply that there is still a perceived safety risk.
- Overall bike use has increased by 45% over the previous 5-year average.

Walking

Table 2: Comparison of Pedestrian Count Data to previous 5-Year Average by Regions

Regional Average (2 to 3 locations)	N	Ped. Counts 2015-2019	Ped. Counts 2020	Percent Increase
Downtown (City Hall Area)	2	131.5	160.5	22%
Downtown (Pritchard Park Area)	2	900.9	1124.0	25%
South Slope (Hilliard St.)	2	195.2	194.5	0%
North Asheville (Chestnut St.)	3	97.9	87.0	-11%
North Asheville (W.T.Weaver / Broadway)	3	76.9	90.0	17%
River District (Riverside Dr. / Amboy Rd.)	3	115.6	218.3	89%
West Asheville (Haywood Rd.)	2	268.9	285.0	6%

Additionally:

- As in previous years roughly half, 49%, of all pedestrians were females.
- Similar to past years the Downtown and West Asheville areas had the most pedestrian traffic.
- Overall pedestrian traffic increase by 23% over the past 5-year average. The biggest increase was in the River Arts District.

Additional Comments

- There were a several examples of alternative modern transportation modes (hover boards and electric scooters). In addition e-bikes are beginning to be more common.

Acknowledgements

We wish to thank all the volunteers that collected the data, their dedication was invaluable. We also wish to thank the City of Asheville and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force for organizing the counts.

Respectfully resubmitted by Lothar A. Dohse on November 30th, 2022.

Table 4: Complete Bike Count Data

Region	Street 1	Street 2		2012-16 Average	2017-21 Average	2022
D	Central Ave	Woodfin	PM	38	20	19
D	College St	Oak St. (Rndabout)	PM	19	19	55
D	College St	Lexington	PM	33	18	17
D	College St	Haywood St.	PM	39	35	21
SS	Hilliard Ave	Coxe	PM	22	17	17
SS	Hilliard Ave	S. French Broad	PM	47	34	26
N	Chestnut St	Merrimon	PM	16	8	27
N	Chestnut St	Broadway	PM	31	21	39
			Sat			30
N	Chestnut St	Monford	PM	20	57	33
N	WT Weaver	Merrimon	PM	23	14	40
N	WT Weaver	UNCA (Rndabout)	PM	34	32	46
N	Broadway	WT Weaver	PM	43	30	65
N	Broadway	Reed Creek (Cauble)	PM	32	22	24
N	Kimberly	Evelyn St	PM	29	--	46
N	Kimberly	Gracelyn/Griffing	PM	20	19	144
RA	Amboy Rd	S. Michigan/Greenway	PM	54	31	121
			Sat			66
RA	Riverside Dr	Lyman	PM	22	46	91
RA	Haywood Rd	Clingman (Rndabout)	PM	44	42	26
			AM	--	22	24
W	Haywood Rd	Brevard	PM	62	26	--
			Sat	--	--	28
			AM	--	--	21
W	Haywood Rd	Vermont	PM	50	52	55
			Sat	--	--	32

Table 4: Complete Pedestrian Count Data

Region	Street 1	Street 2		2012-16 Average	2017-21 Average	2022
D	Central Ave	Woodfin	PM	135	108	125
D	College St	Oak St. (Rndabout)	PM	146	155	196
D	College St	Lexington	PM	771	716	1187
D	College St	Haywood St.	PM	1192	1086	1061
SS	Hilliard Ave	Coxe	PM	156	250	285
SS	Hilliard Ave	S. French Broad	PM	157	140	104
N	Chestnut St	Merrimon	PM	103	99	88
N	Chestnut St	Broadway	PM	99	72	58
			Sat			122
N	Chestnut St	Monford	PM	98	122	115
N	WT Weaver	Merrimon	PM	95	60	94
N	WT Weaver	UNCA (Rndabout)	PM	73	107	86
N	Broadway	WT Weaver	PM	81	64	90
N	Broadway	Reed Creek (Cauble)	PM	77	92	118
N	Kimberly	Evelyn St	PM	83	--	59
N	Kimberly	Gracelyn/Griffing	PM	77	40	61
RA	Amboy Rd	S. Michigan/Greenway	PM	327	176	295
			Sat			139
RA	Riverside Dr	Lyman	PM	41	66	343
RA	Haywood Rd	Clingman (Rndabout)	PM	74	105	17
			AM	--	86	104
W	Haywood Rd	Brevard	PM	248	254	--
			Sat	--	--	397
			AM	--	77	51
W	Haywood Rd	Vermont	PM	279	284	285
			Sat	--	--	241