

2022 Pedestrian/Bicycle Counts – Summary

Data Collection

Volunteer Counts: This year, volunteers conducted **57 counts at 35 different locations**: 36 counts at street screenlines (at 22 different locations), 14 counts at intersections (at 7 different locations), and 7 counts at rail trail screenlines (at 6 different locations). The Walkway Over the Hudson also conducted 4 counts at 2 locations along the Walkway, for a grand total of **61 counts at 37 different locations**—our highest ever! We removed several previous locations to keep the program manageable. In the future, we will consider a rotating schedule, so each location would be counted every few years.

Volunteer counts occurred in 18 municipalities, with the most counts taking place in the Town of Dover (9) and Village of Rhinebeck (8), followed by the Town of Poughkeepsie (7) and City of Beacon (7). The Dover and Rhinebeck counts were done to help inform DCTC planning studies in those municipalities.

Video & Tube Counts: In October, a contractor for DCTC conducted automated pedestrian/bicycle counts on 14 street segments and at 10 intersections in Dover, Rhinebeck, and the City and Town of Poughkeepsie to support DCTC planning studies. The data was not available in time for this report.

2022 Results (Volunteer Counts)

External factors: Weather this year was generally good and for the most part did not affect counts. There were many events on Saturdays in September, so we adjusted dates to avoid them as much as possible, counting on both 9/17 and 9/24. In Red Hook, Hardscrabble Day increased the bicycle count at one location by an estimated 20%.

High ped: For screenlines, the highest pedestrian count was on the west end of **Main Street in Beacon** on Saturday, with more than 1,090 pedestrians in two hours. This was followed by the **Walkway's west gate** on Saturday, with more than 870 pedestrians in two hours, and the east end of **Main Street in Beacon** on Saturday, with more than 840 pedestrians in two hours. The highest weekday screenline count was the **Walkway's east gate**, with 345 pedestrians.

The highest intersection count was the **Raymond/Colleview** roundabout in Arlington, with more than 500 pedestrians on Saturday, followed by the **Main/Market** intersection in Poughkeepsie, with more than 390 pedestrians on a weekday.

High bike: Similar to previous years, the highest bike counts were on the **Walkway** on Saturday: the east gate (more than 200 cyclists) and west gate (more than 160 cyclists). The **DRT southeast of Overocker Rd** was the highest non-Walkway location, with 160 cyclists on Saturday. The highest weekday bike count was on the Walkway, at the east gate (100 cyclists).

The highest non-trail bike count was at **Main St near Cherry St** in the City of Poughkeepsie, with more than 40 cyclists on a weekday, followed by the **Raymond/Colleview** roundabout in Arlington, with 40 cyclists on a weekday.

Low ped: The lowest pedestrian counts were at the Platt Ave/Route 9 intersection in Rhinebeck (1 pedestrian crossing on a weekday) and a screenline on Route 22 in Dover Plains (2 pedestrians on a Saturday).

Low bike: A screenline on Route 22 in Dover Plains had no bicyclists, and another screenline on Route 22 in Dover Plains had 1-2 bicyclists. We also counted at several crosswalks in Rhinebeck for crossings only, which had no bicyclists.

High total: The highest combined ped/bike volume was on the west end of **Main Street in Beacon** on Saturday, with almost 1,100 people in two hours. This was followed by the Walkway's west gate on Saturday, with more than 1,030 people, and the east gate on Saturday, with almost 970 people.

Low total: The lowest combined ped/bike volumes were both in **Dover Plains on Route 22**, with 3-4 people.

Attributes:

Gender: On streets, more than half of people walking were female, but less than 20% of bicyclists were female (similar to previous years). On rail trails, more than half of people walking were female, and almost 30% of bicyclists were female. This points to women's greater comfort with bicycling on a rail trail, and the need for better bicycle facilities on our local streets.

Helmet use: On streets, less than 30% of people bicycling wore a helmet (similar to previous years). Women were more likely than men to wear a helmet: more than 40% of women wore helmets, while 24% of men wore helmets. On rail trails, 63% of bicyclists wore a helmet, and use was more even by gender: almost 60% of males wore helmet, as did 65% of females.

Sidewalk cycling (non-rail trails): Overall, almost half of bicyclists rode on the sidewalk. However, this varied widely by location. In Beacon, about 20% of cyclists rode on the sidewalk, while in the Town and City of Poughkeepsie about 70% of cyclists rode on the sidewalk (similar to previous years).

Comparison over Time:

Of the 61 volunteer counts done this year, 32 have at least three years' worth of data to compare. Comparing the 2022 volumes for these counts to the past years' average, overall pedestrian volumes fell 1% and overall bike volumes increased by 4%, resulting in an overall total increase of 0%.

For streets and intersections, pedestrian volumes fell 2% and bike volumes fell 1%, resulting in a total decrease of 2%.

For rail trails excluding the Walkway, pedestrian volumes rose 3% and bike volumes increased by 24%, for an overall increase of 16% (more than last year). For the Walkway, pedestrian volumes rose 2% but bike volumes decreased 4%, for an overall increase of 1%.

Addenda:

1. Summary table for the 2022 volunteer counts.
2. Table showing change over time for the locations counted this year with at least three years of data.
3. Series of charts showing change over time for the locations counted this year with at least three years of data.