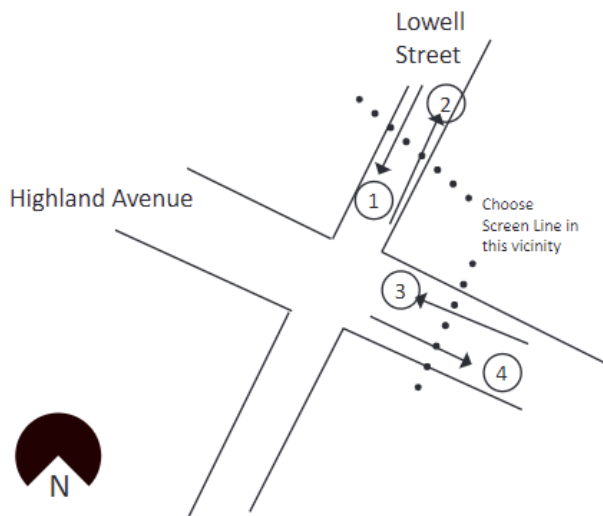


Bike/Pedestrian Counts

About the bike and pedestrian count

The annual bike and pedestrian count is a volunteer data collection effort each fall that helps the City understand where and how many people are biking and walking in Somerville, and how those numbers are changing over time. This program has been taking place each year since 2010.

Counts are collected Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday for one hour in the morning and evening using a “screen line” method, whereby cyclists and pedestrians are counted as they pass by an imaginary line across the street and sidewalks. Morning count sessions begin between 7:15 and 7:45 am, and evening count sessions begin between 4:45 and 5:15 pm. Counts are collected for four movements at each location: two screen lines, counting cyclists and pedestrians traveling in both directions. See an example location below.



Bike counts capture the number of people riding bicycles, so an adult and child riding on the same bike would be counted as two counts even though it is only one bike. Pedestrian counts capture people walking or jogging, people using a wheelchair or assistive device, children in strollers, and people using other micro-mobility devices, such as skateboards, scooters, or roller skates.

While the City and its amazing volunteers do their best to collect accurate and complete data each year and the City does quality control to catch clear errors, it is not possible to ensure 100% accuracy of the data and not all locations have been counted every year of the program. There are

also several external factors impacting counts that are not consistent year-to-year, such as nearby construction and weather. For these reasons, the counts are intended to be used to observe high-level trends across the city and at count locations, and not to extrapolate that biking and walking in Somerville has changed by a specific percentage or number.

Columns

Year

Data Type: Number

Description: Year of count

Possible Values: 2010-2023

Location ID

Data Type: Number

Description: ID number of the intersection where the count took place. Corresponds to the location in “Location Name.”

Possible Values: 1-42

Location Name

Data Type: Text

Description: Description of the intersection where the count took place, as Street Name 1 & Street Name 2. Corresponds to the ID number in “Location ID.”

Latitude

Data Type: Number

Description: Latitude of the intersection where the count took place

Longitude

Data Type: Number

Description: Longitude of the intersection where the count took place

AMPM

Data Type: Text

Description: The time of day in which the count occurred. Count shifts occur during either AM or PM rush hour. Morning count sessions begin between 7:15 and 7:45 am, and evening count sessions begin between 4:45 and 5:15 pm.

Possible Values:

- AM
- PM

Movement

Data Type: Number

Description: Identifies the direction of travel within the intersection. For each intersection, the numbers 1 and 2 are assigned to one street, and 3 and 4 assigned to the other. The assignments for each street and direction can be found in the count sheets.

Possible Values: 1-4

Mode

Data Type: Text

Description: Mode of travel (whether the count is for bike or pedestrian)

Possible values:

- Bike
- Ped

Count

Data Type: Number

Description: The count of individuals for this year, location, time of day, movement, and mode (that is, count of pedestrians if mode = Ped, count of bikes if mode = Bike)