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SPOTLIGHT ON RESULTS

Three predictors of Complete Streets policy adoption:

1 State Obesity Rate

Those states with a higher obesity rate were more likely to adopt a Complete Streets policy.

2 Percentage of people who bike or walk to work in the state

Those states that had a higher percentage of people who bike or walk to work were more likely to adopt a Complete Streets policy.

3 Presence of bordering communities with Complete Streets Policies

Those states that had a higher percentage of people who bike or walk to work were more likely to adopt a Complete Streets policy.

Diffusion of Complete Streets Policies Across US Communities

Overview

Complete Streets policies guide planning in communities by making the transportation system accommodating to all users—cars, pedestrians, bicyclists and those using public transportation. While the number of Complete Streets policies has increased over the past decade, no research has explored the factors contributing to the widespread diffusion of these policies.

The Main Question

What factors affect Complete Streets policy adoption?

The Study

We used the Diffusion of Innovation Theory and previous literature results to identify factors that have the potential to affect Complete Street policy diffusion, including: rural/urban status, state obesity rate, state funding for transportation, state obesity prevention funding, percentage of people who walk or bike to work in the state, presence of a state Complete Streets policy and the number of bordering communities with Complete Streets policy.

The Bottom Line

Information about communities that are more likely to adopt a policy can be a tool for advocates and policy makers interested in Complete Streets.

What You Can Do

- **Communicate with Advocates and Policy makers:** Use the results of this study to communicate with advocates and policy makers about how and why Complete Streets policies are adopted in other communities.
- **Develop Strong Networks:** Review information from the National Complete Streets Coalition to obtain resources and opportunities to learn from other communities.

Source: Moreland-Russell S, et al. Diffusion of Complete Streets Policies Across US Communities. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*, 19(3):S89-S96, May/June 2013.

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