

8 Facts to Know About the Circuit

A progress report on *Connecting the Circuit*, June 2014

The Circuit is Greater Philadelphia's multi-use trail network connecting communities throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey and beyond. It bridges both sides of the Delaware River, stretches up the Schuylkill River, and encompasses numerous trails along creeks, canals, and old railroad beds. The Circuit provides access to some of the region's largest employment and retail centers, most prized natural areas, tourist destinations, and historical attractions.

Here are 8 facts to know about progress being made toward connecting the Circuit.

1) 275 miles are open for use; 445 still need to be built.

When fully built out, more than 50% of the region's population (approx. 3,199,448 people) will live within a mile of a Circuit trail.

2) 30 miles of trail have been built since January 2012

- Highlights: Schuylkill River Park Connector Bridge, Schuylkill River Trail at Shawmont, Penn Street Trail, Chester Valley Trail and Camden City bike lanes.
- Neighborhoods and towns with new access include Southwest Philadelphia, Roxborough, Fishtown, Tacony, Port Richmond, Haverford, Upper Providence, Tullytown, Camden, Fieldsboro, and Bordentown.

3) Exciting trail segments slated for completion in the near future include:

2014: the Schuylkill River Trail Boardwalk, Chester Creek Trail, and the Pennypack Trail in Montgomery County.

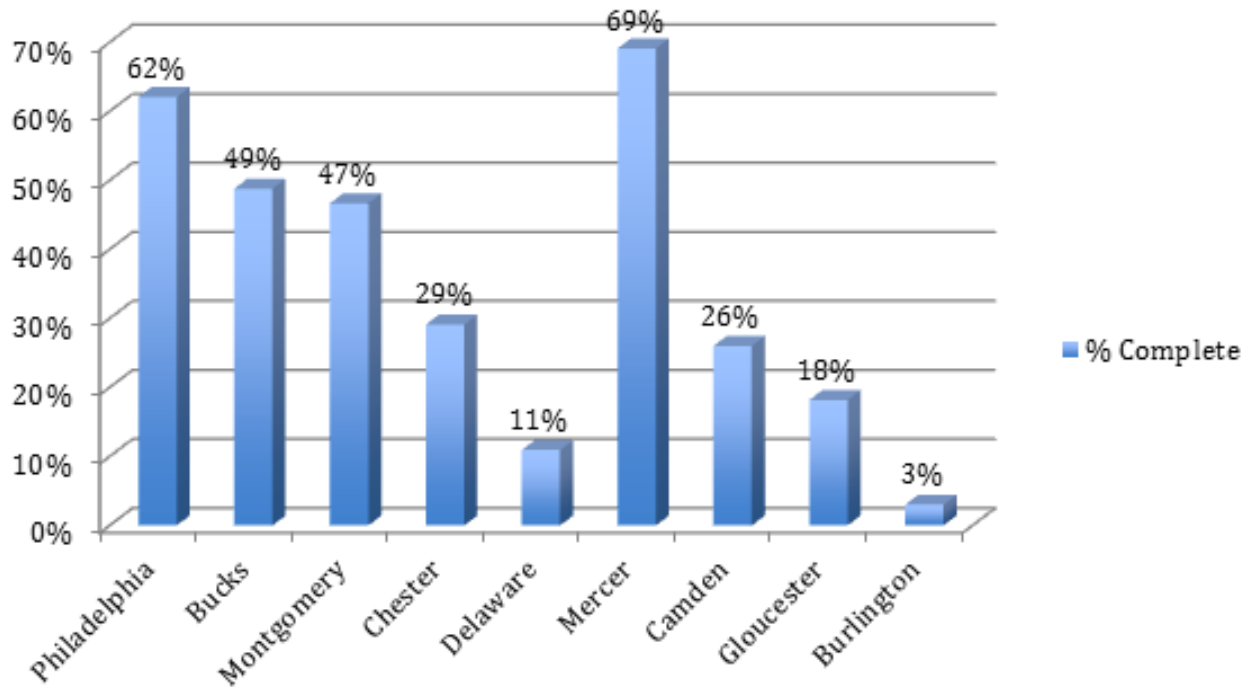
2015: the Manayunk Bridge and Bartram's Mile.

2016: the Ben Franklin Bridge ramp, the Baxter Trail, Chester Valley Trail in Montgomery County and a new bridge over the Schuylkill River at Valley Forge.

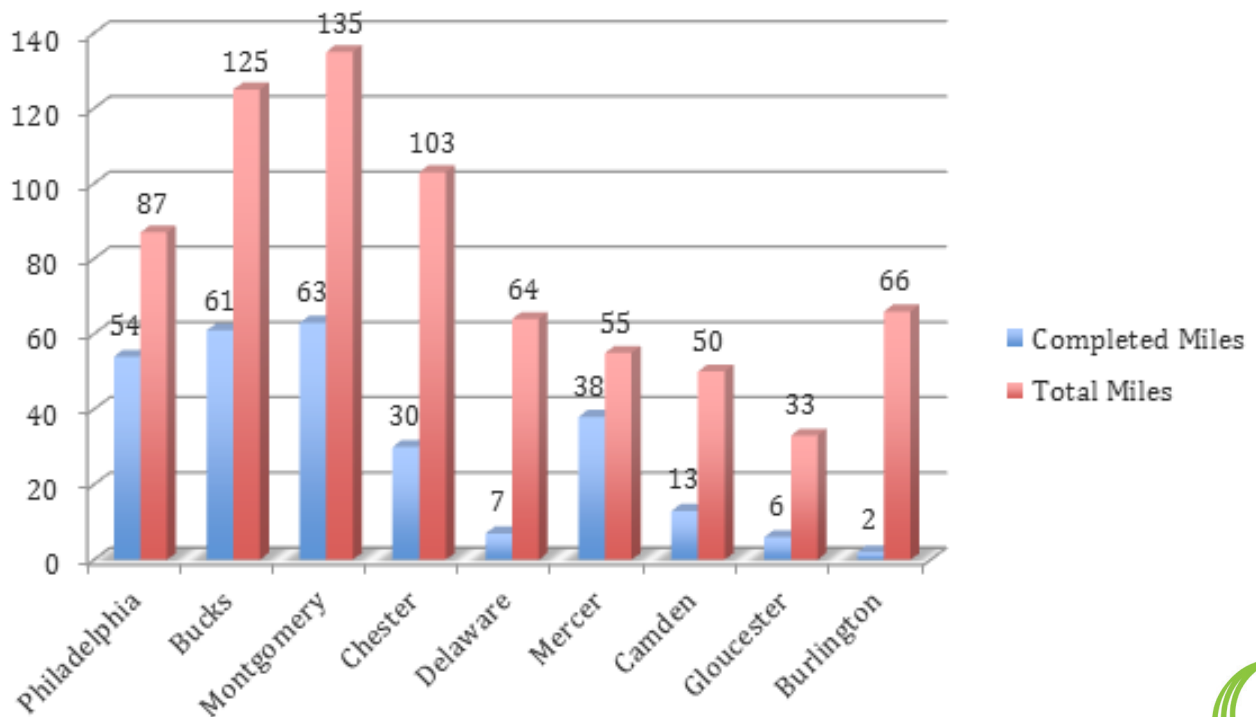


4) The region's counties vary greatly in making progress toward completing the Circuit.

% Circuit Trails Complete by County



Miles of Circuit Trails Completed by County



5) Currently **only 1%** of the region's transportation capital dollars are designated to help build thirteen Circuit trail segments over the next four years. The five Southeastern PA counties have designated only 0.9% of their \$4.9 billion capital budget and the four South Jersey counties have designated only 0.1% of their \$1.7 billion capital budget for trail projects.

6) To reach the region's goal of finishing the Circuit by 2040, **18 miles** of trail must be built every year. This requires the 9 counties to increase their capital investment in trails.

7) At least **75 Circuit trail** segments are ready for design and are awaiting capital funding.

8) Trail segments in need of funding include:

- Gaps found on the Schuylkill River Trail between Fort Mifflin & Manayunk in Philadelphia, and around Phoenixville and Pottstown in Chester Counties.
- The Forge to Refuge, Darby Creek, Chester Creek, Octoraro, and Newtown Square Branch trails in Delaware County.
- The East Coast Greenway in Chester, Tinicum, Philadelphia, Bensalem, and Bristol.
- Neshaminy Creek Trail in Bucks County.
- Rancocas and Kinkora Trails in Burlington Counties.
- Cooper River and Gloucester to Mt. Ephraim Trail in Camden.
- Delaware River Heritage Trails in Mercer, Burlington and Camden Counties.
- Multiple trails in Gloucester County.





The Ivy Ridge Trail in the Roxborough neighborhood of Philadelphia and the Kincora Trail in Burlington County are two of the many trails currently in need of funding.

The Circuit Coalition is a collaboration of non-profit organizations, foundations, and agencies working to advance completion of a connected network of trails – the Circuit – in the Greater Philadelphia region. The Circuit Coalition’s goal is to raise the profile of bicycle/pedestrian trails and their public benefits so that building the Circuit becomes a significant regional priority.

The Circuit Coalition is lead by a Steering Committee chaired by Sarah Clark Stuart of the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia. The PA Vice-Chair is Patrick Starr of Pennsylvania Environmental Council and the NJ Vice-Chair is Matthew Norris of Tri-State Transportation Campaign.

For a list of all members of the Circuit Coalition, please visit <http://connectthecircuit.org/coalition>

