
Meanwhile, *CP Rail System* is upgrading the Windsor-Detroit tunnel for improved intermodal service.

The following total transit times to Laredo were provided by *CN North America* and *CP Rail System*. Please note that these transit times are approximations and exact shipping and routing information must be obtained from the different rail carriers on a case by case basis:

<i>From</i>	<i>Estimated Transit Times to Laredo, Texas</i>
Vancouver, B.C.	via Chicago: 10-11 days
Calgary, Alta.	via Chicago: 9-10 days
Toronto, Ont.	via Detroit: 6-7 days
Montreal, Que.	via Detroit: 7-8 days

Comparable transit times can be achieved for traffic originating in British Columbia and Alberta via *BN*, from Vancouver, B.C. or Sweetgrass, Montana. Shipments with *BN* would transfer to *SP* at Eugene, Oregon for border destinations like Mexicali, Nogales or El Paso or at Chicago, Illinois for Eagle Pass or Laredo. The *BN* since April 1993 offers a rail-barge service between Texas and major Mexican ports to provide another competitive option for shippers.

The *UP* interlines with *CN North America* and *CP Rail System*, and offers similar transit times from major Canadian cities to Laredo. The *UP* is the principal railroad handling Mexican-bound shipments through the United States. It runs shipments through Laredo, Brownsville and El Paso. Approximate *UP* transit times within the United States are Chicago-Laredo in 4 days and Detroit-Laredo in 5 days.

The *Southern Pacific (SP)* operates lines as far north as Portland and as far east as Chicago. *SP* is one of *UP*'s main competitor for Mexican-bound traffic, operating six of the ten rail crossings into Mexico (El Centro, Nogales, Douglas, El Paso, Eagle Pass and Brownsville). *SP* also routes through Laredo with *Texas-Mexican Railway*. In two recent moves, *SP* has sought to heighten its share of the market by initiating a twice-weekly double-stack service from Los Angeles to El Paso and by signing an agreement to loan *FNM* locomotives running on specific *SP/FNM* transportation corridors in Mexico.

Sante Fe Railway, another competitor for Mexican traffic, serves Canada and Mexico via El Paso through partnerships with major Canadian, U.S. and Mexican railways and trucking companies, such as *JB Hunt*. In addition, *Santa Fe* provides intermodal service to Mexico through alliances with a variety of motor carriers and Canadian intermodal marketers.