

Peace Bridge Crossing Summary

Overview

The Peace Bridge connects Buffalo, New York with Fort Erie, Ontario and crosses the Niagara River. The bridge links the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW) in Canada and provides with I-190 and other major roadways in the U.S. The QEW extends to Toronto, Ontario and also links with Highway 401, one of the major East-West Canadian expressways. I-190 provides a link to I-90, the main artery of the New York State Thruway, connecting the area to the major population centers on the East Coast.

The Peace Bridge contains only a single, three-lane span. The center lane is reversible and can be used to ease congestion during peak travel conditions. The bridge was built in 1927 and is 5,800 feet long. The bridge is governed by a ten-member board consisting of five members from New York State and five members from Canada. All capital improvements and operating expenses are funded by tolls and rentals of Peace Bridge-owned property and buildings, not public funds. While a single organization, the Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority manages two tightly linked groups of bridge operators and maintenance workers.

Crossing Times

	Baseline Time ¹	Average Crossing Time ²	95 th Percentile Time ³	Buffer Time ⁴	Buffer Index ⁵
Outbound	9.0	21.7	38.0	16.2	74.7
Inbound	8.3	21.5	83.4	61.9	265.7

Notes: ¹Baseline time (in minutes) to travel the study distance (between the starting point in the exporting country and the initial inspection point in the importing country) in free-flow traffic conditions.

²Average crossing time (in minutes) to travel the study distance.

³Time (in minutes) for 95 percent of trucks to travel the study distance.

⁴Time (in minutes) between the average time and the 95th percentile time for trucks to travel the study distance. This is the "extra time" that must be budgeted to cross the border relative to the average time.

⁵Buffer time necessary expressed as a percentage of average time. This is the extra percentage of average time that must be budgeted to cross the border.

