

# Understanding the Impact of the 2023 and 2024 Solar Eclipses

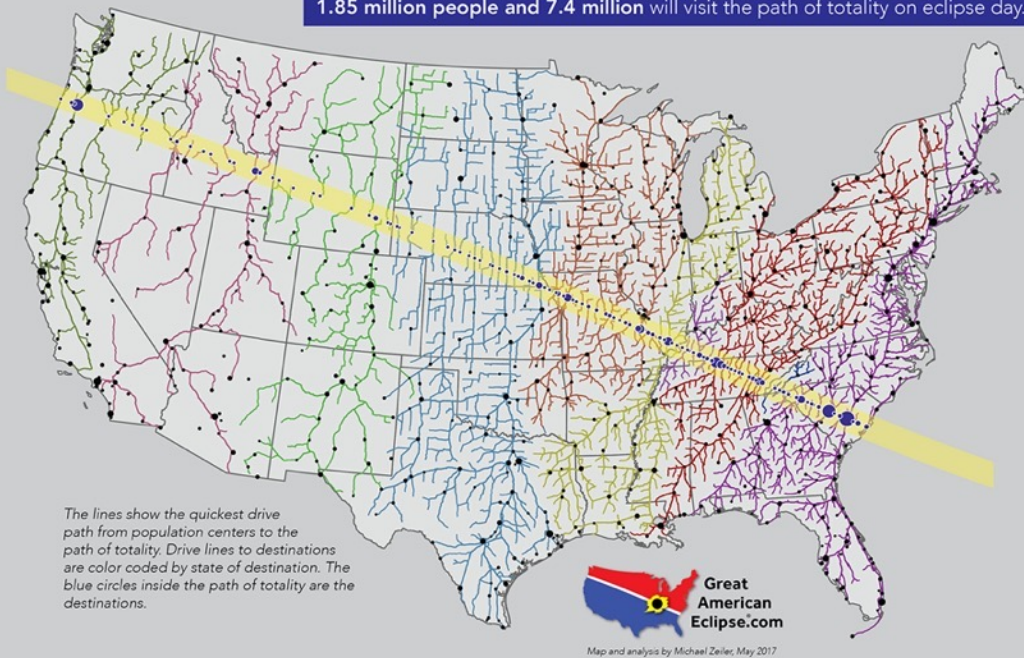


Michael Zeiler, [GreatAmericanEclipse.com](http://GreatAmericanEclipse.com)  
June 9, 2023 - AAS Solar Eclipse Planning Workshop  
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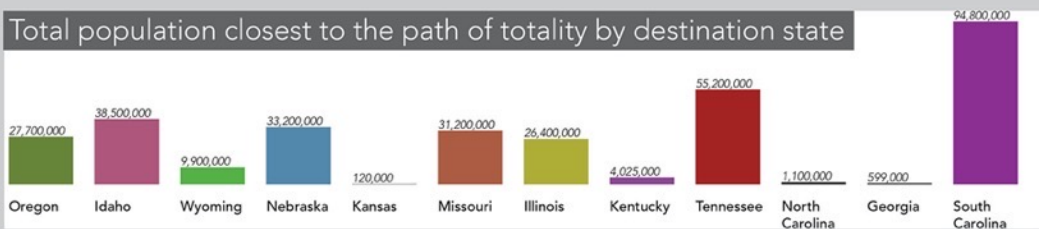
# Population access and estimated visitation on eclipse day

On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse crosses the United States from Oregon to South Carolina. The closest destinations for the contiguous United States are summarized, as well as high and low estimates for how many people will travel to the path of totality. The methodology for our estimates is summarized at [www.GreatAmericanEclipse.com/Statistics](http://www.GreatAmericanEclipse.com/Statistics).

12.25 million people live inside the path of totality. We estimate that **between 1.85 million people and 7.4 million** will visit the path of totality on eclipse day.

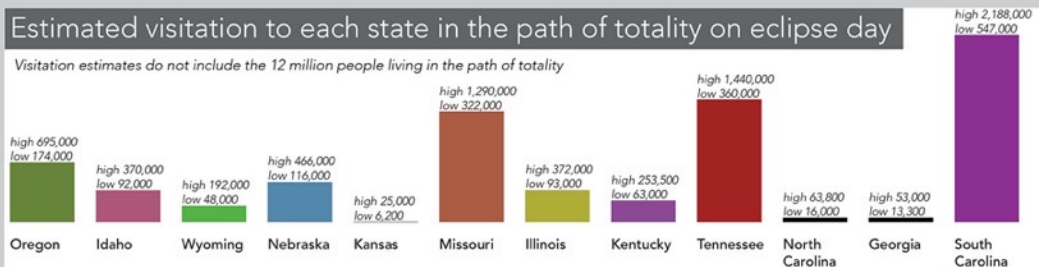


## Total population closest to the path of totality by destination state



## Estimated visitation to each state in the path of totality on eclipse day

Visitation estimates do not include the 12 million people living in the path of totality



# THE GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE WAS BIG BUSINESS FOR NEBRASKA

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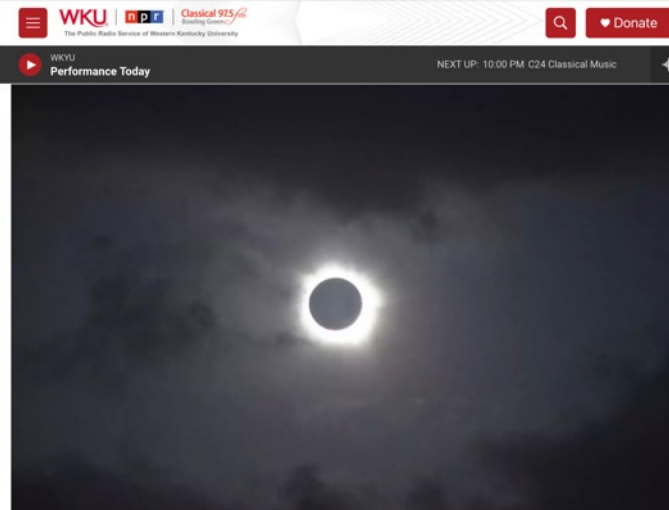
La Vista, Neb. (Oct. 17, 2017)— When the moon brought the state into darkness, Nebraska's tourism industry was in the spotlight. Tuesday, the Nebraska Tourism Commission along with Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts announced the remarkable results of an economic impact study done by Dean Runyan Associates and Destination Analysts, Inc. regarding the Great American Eclipse.

It is estimated that over 708,000 people traveled to watch the 2017 Solar Eclipse in Nebraska. Approximately 87 percent of those from out-of-state. Making the eclipse, Nebraska's greatest single tourist event on record.

"This data confirms the magnitude of the solar eclipse's impact and we couldn't be more pleased," said John Ricks, Nebraska Tourism executive director. "The amazing one-time event was big business for our industry and beyond. We hope travelers were inspired to share stories about their Nebraska experience and to visit again."

## Quick Facts:

- The economic impact across the state totaled an estimated \$127 million, from lodging and travel expenditures



It's been five years since western Kentucky experienced a total solar eclipse, and some in the region are already looking forward to the next one.

Aug. 21 marked the fifth anniversary of the [2017 Solar Eclipse](#), when west Kentucky residents saw thousands flock to the region to witness an astronomical event. Hopkinsville was one of the major centers of eclipse tourism at that time – even going so far as dub itself "[Eclipseville](#)" – with people there seeing nearly three minutes of total eclipse.

Brooke Jung is the executive director of Visit Hopkinsville, the town's convention and visitors bureau. She says the eclipse drew in 116,000 visitors.

## Solar Eclipse Traffic Report

Posted on August 18, 2017 by Office of Communication



### UPDATE: Tuesday, August 22

Here are the preliminary numbers of total cars traveling to and through Idaho for the 2017 Solar Eclipse: Our traffic counters near the state borders counted 449,530 cars entering the state between August 18 and August 21. This number was an increase of 71,140 during that same time frame last year when 361,270 cars were counted entering Idaho at those same locations. ITD estimates more than 160,000 visitors came from out of state for the event (see methodology below).

The bulk of the visitors came from Utah and Oregon. Areas where the traffic was busiest include I-15 between Utah and Idaho Falls, US-93 near Craters of the Moon, US-20 near Arco, ID-95 from Payette to Riggins, and ID-55 north of Eagle.

Many locations in the mountains saw a steady stream of increased traffic throughout the weekend, up until the morning of the eclipse. Monday morning, routes along the I-15 corridor saw the biggest spike for day-of traffic. Travel home did cause congestion along the above routes. Most of that cleared up by 5:00 p.m. Monday, though congestion lingered on I-15 until 9:30 p.m.

## Categories

Posts

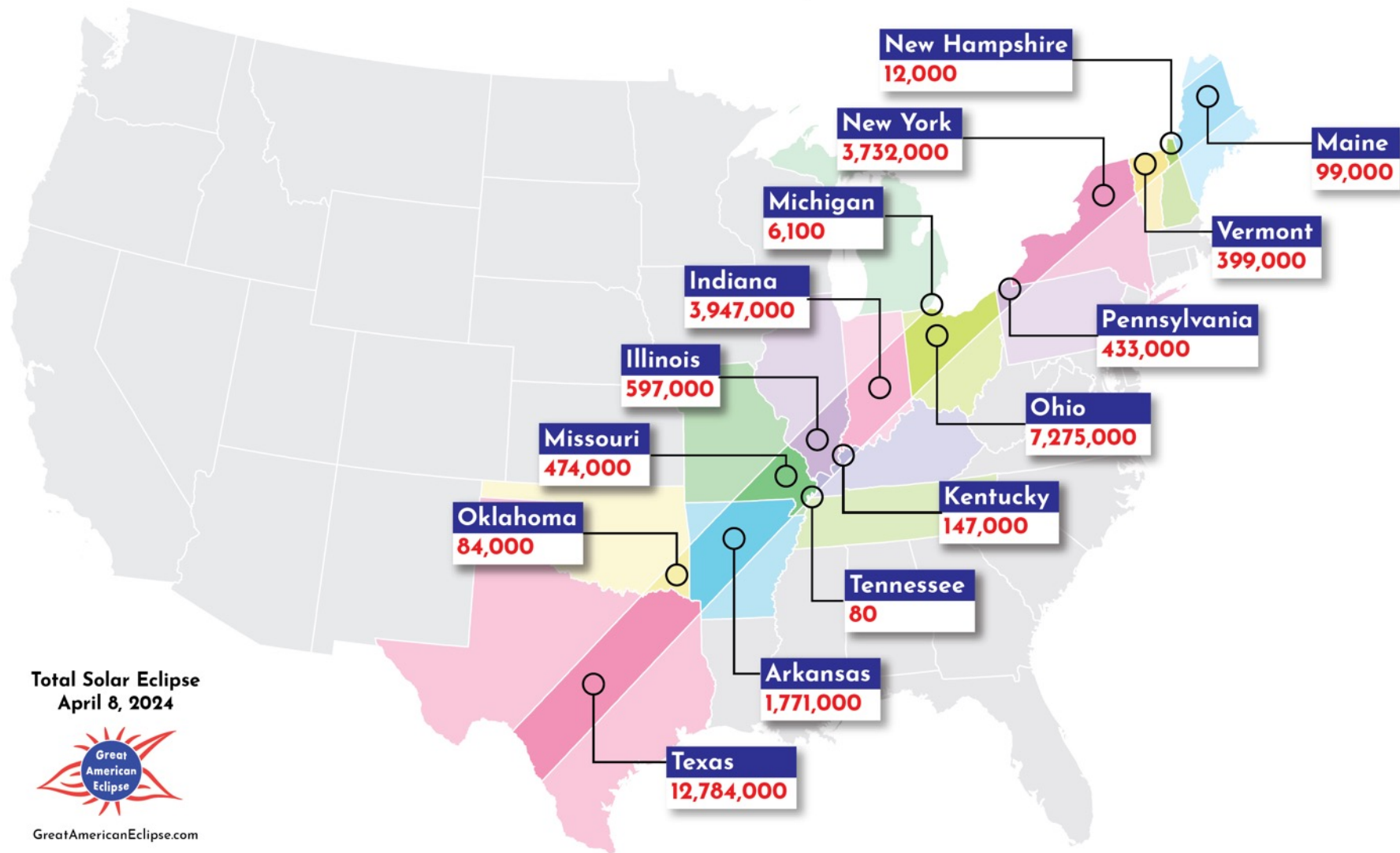
## Recent Posts

- National Travel and Tourism Week 2023 "Welcome Chiefs" Signs Available
- Tuesday Night Talks to return to Pony Express National Museum after earlier cancellation
- Show Me St. Jo Workshop
- St. Joseph Convention & Visitors Bureau receives top honor from Adspouse Transit Awards



Despite the unwelcome clouds, St. Joseph, MO saw an unprecedented amount of visitors to the area to experience one of the most incredible events in history. Thousands of people, (an estimated 500,000), descended upon St. Joseph over the week of August 21, 2017. Visitors were represented from all 50 states and over 25 foreign countries. Local museums, attractions as well as shopping, hotels and dining establishments recorded record attendances, as well.

How many people, by state, live inside the path of total solar eclipse?

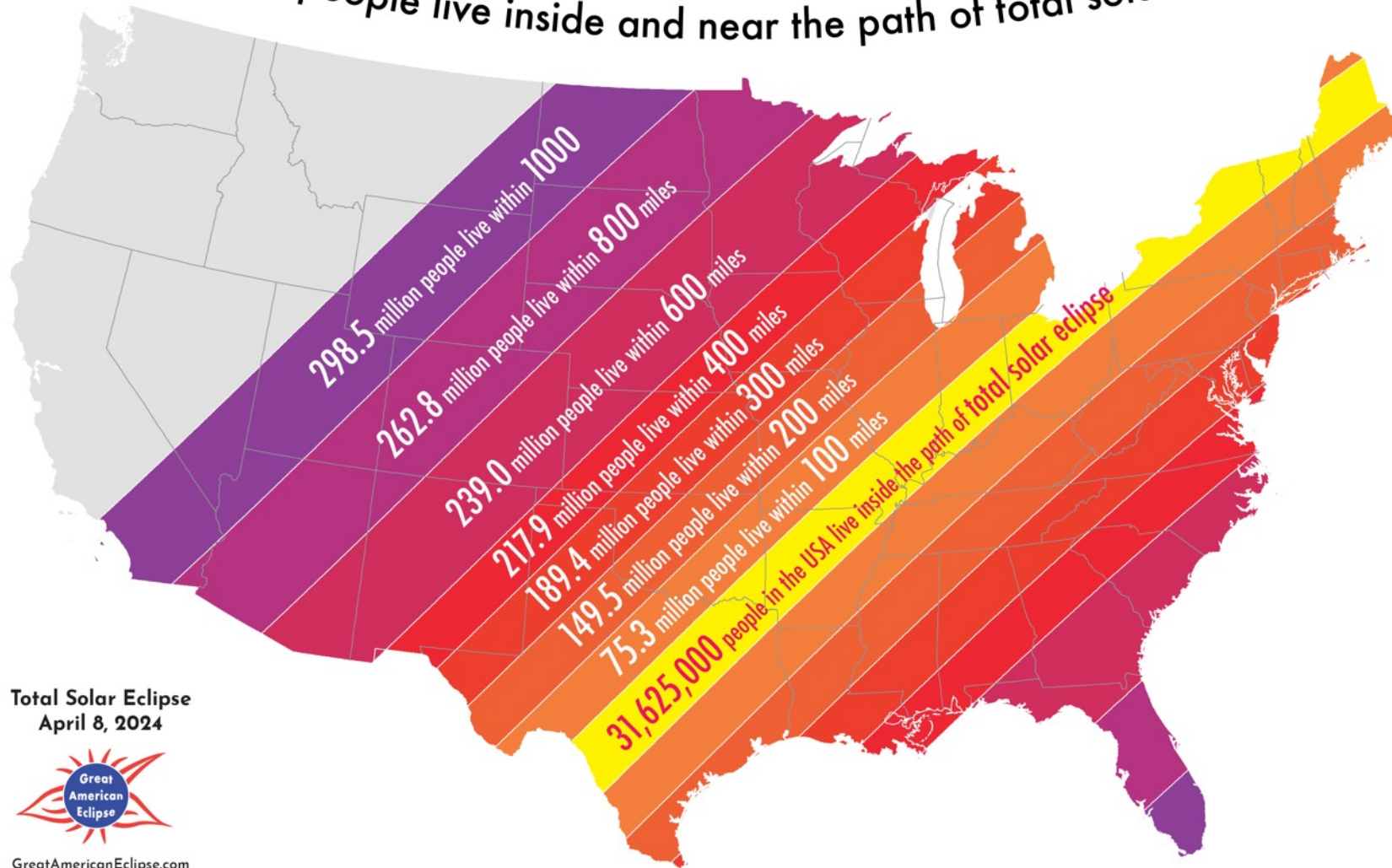


Total Solar Eclipse  
April 8, 2024



GreatAmericanEclipse.com

# How many people live inside and near the path of total solar eclipse?

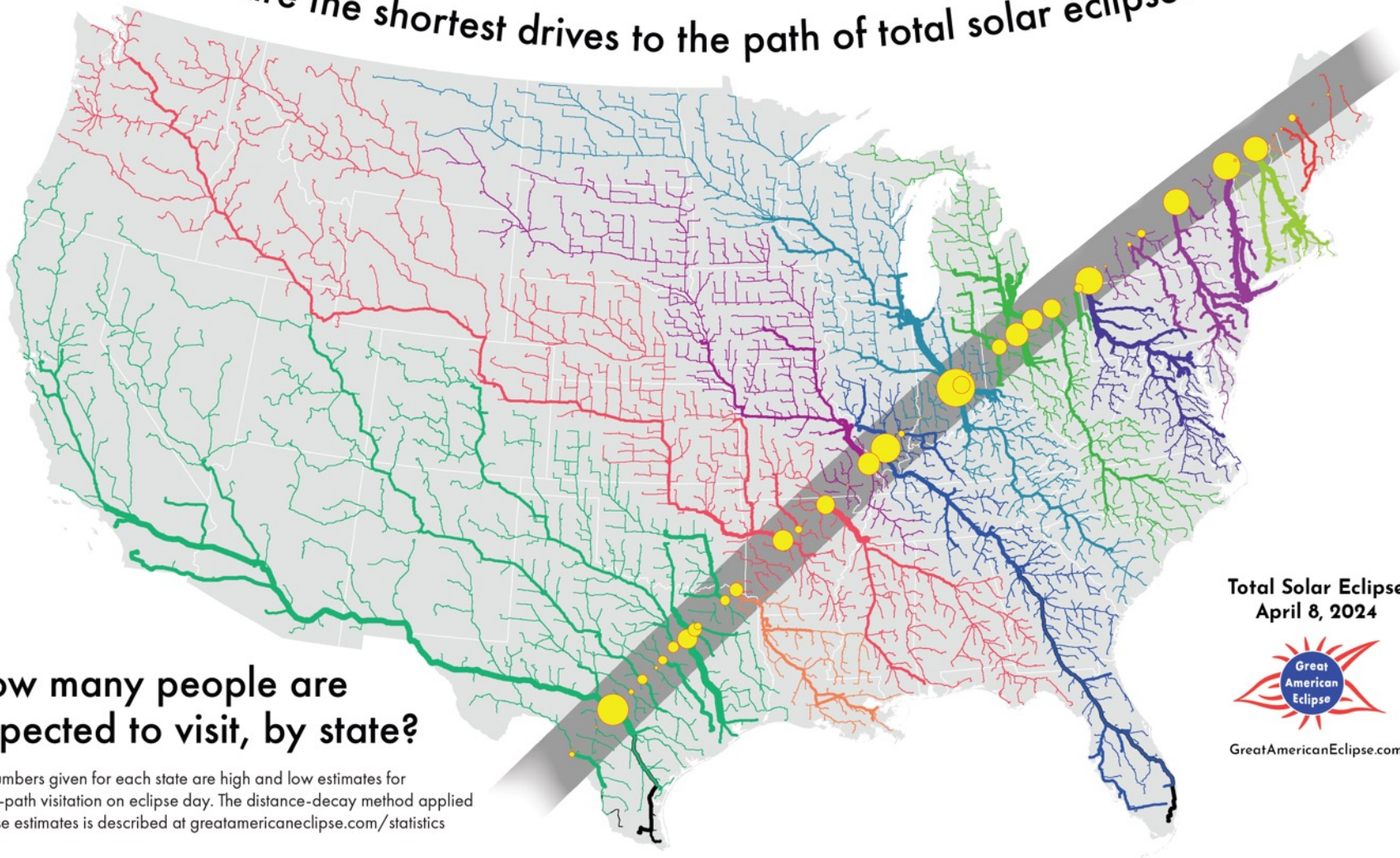


Total Solar Eclipse  
April 8, 2024



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# What are the shortest drives to the path of total solar eclipse?

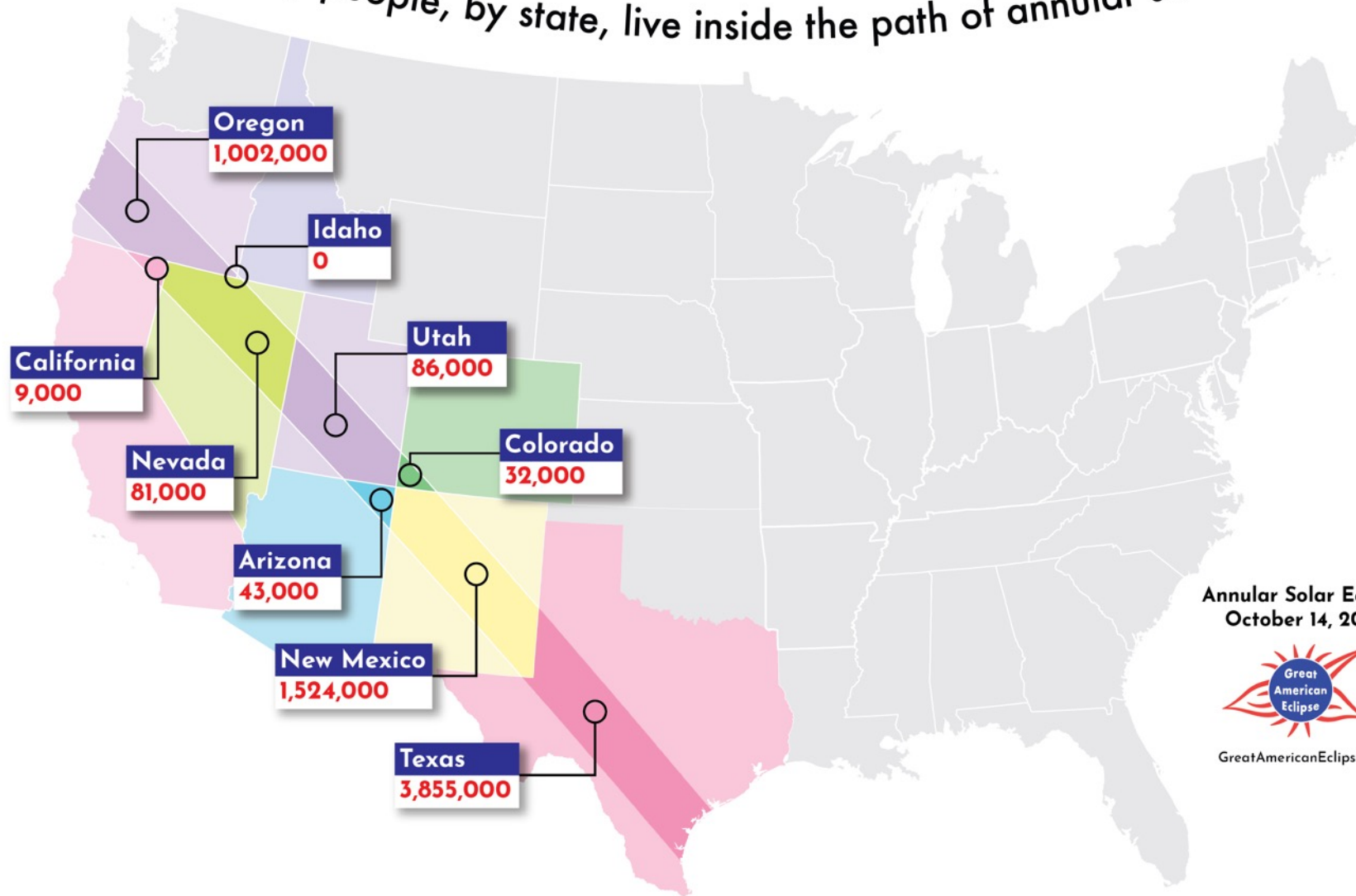


## How many people are expected to visit, by state?

The numbers given for each state are high and low estimates for out-of-path visitation on eclipse day. The distance-decay method applied in these estimates is described at [greatamericaneclipse.com/statistics](http://greatamericaneclipse.com/statistics)



How many people, by state, live inside the path of annular solar eclipse?

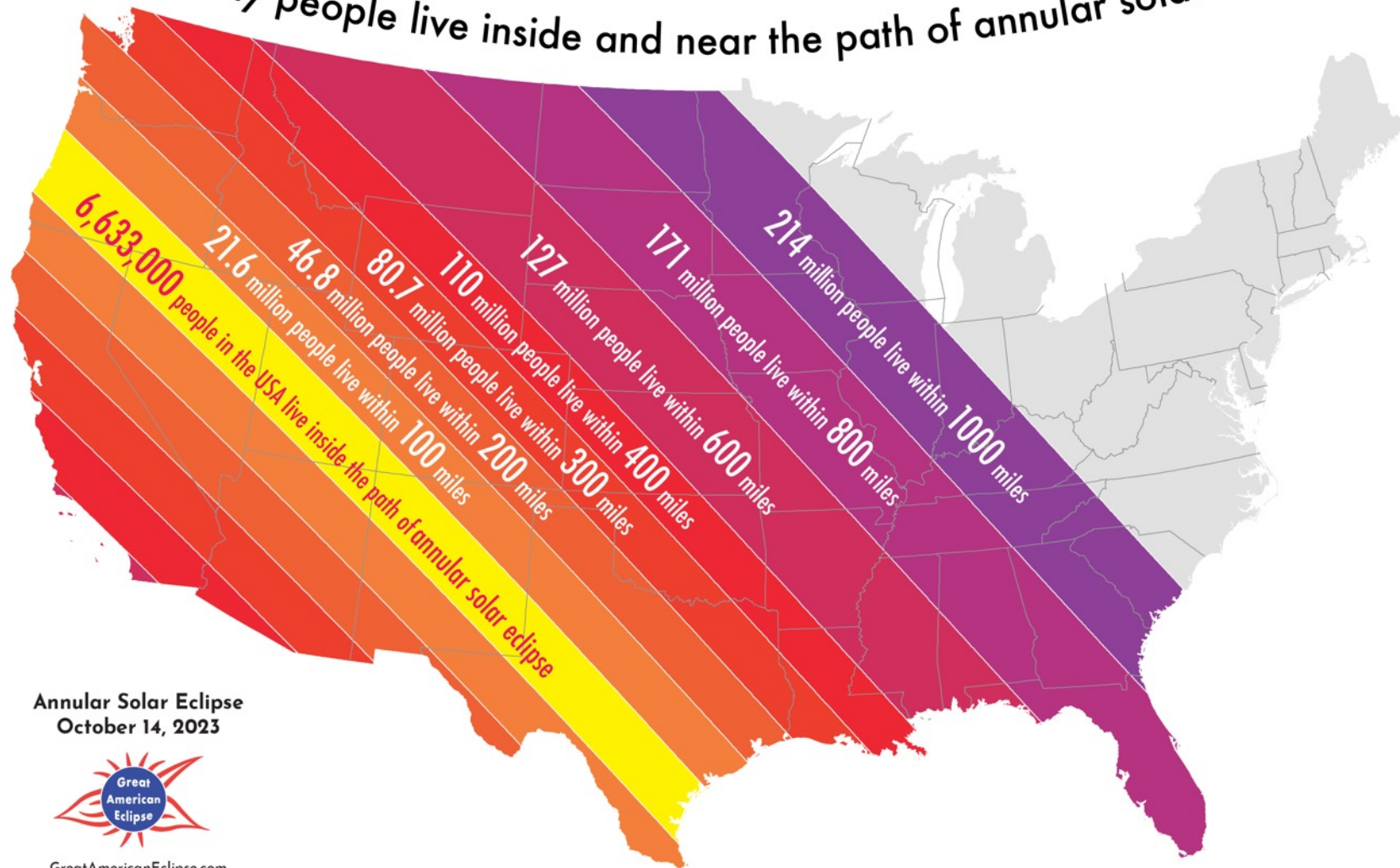


Annular Solar Eclipse  
October 14, 2023



GreatAmericanEclipse.com

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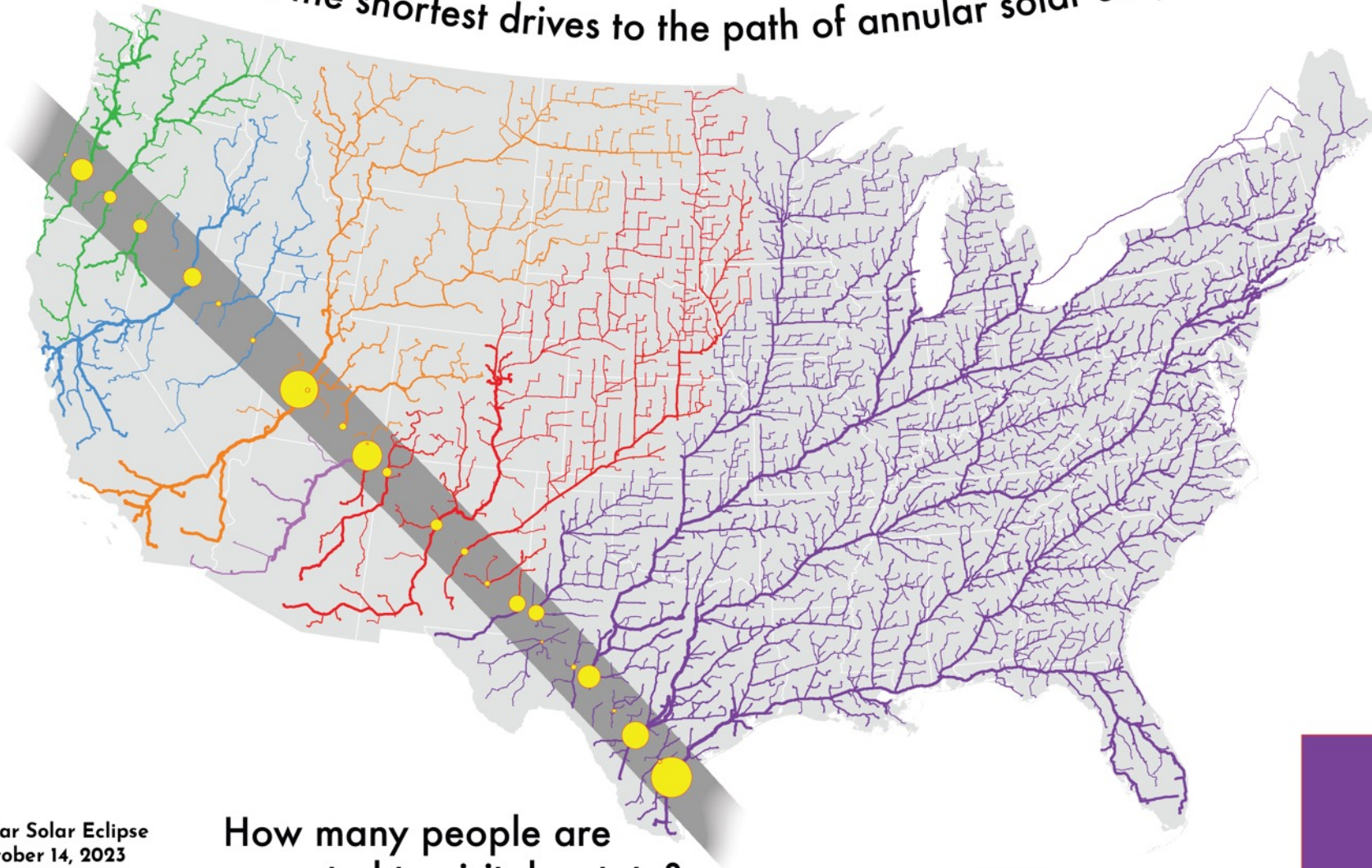


Annular Solar Eclipse  
October 14, 2023



[GreatAmericanEclipse.com](http://GreatAmericanEclipse.com)

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