

# The Economic Impact of the Solar Eclipse on the US and Affected States March 2024

On Monday, April 8, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada. The path of totality enters Texas around Eagle Pass and crosses the nation to the northeast, exiting the northeast near Houlton, Maine. More than 30 million people reside in the path of totality (including about 12 million in Texas alone).

Although there was a total eclipse in August 2017, the upcoming one will be even more impressive. In particular, the moon will be closer as it passes between the sun and earth, thus causing totality to be longer in duration and occur across a wider path. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk for several minutes. In addition, the next total solar eclipse that will be visible in the United States will not occur until August 2044.

Because of the unique nature of the upcoming eclipse, millions of people are expected to travel to witness the phenomenon. From small towns to large population centers, the numbers of visitors are projected to be unusually large. These travelers will spend money locally for accommodations, meals, gasoline, and retail items. The result will be a substantial economic stimulus.

The Perryman Group estimated the potential economic benefits associated with the eclipse and found that the United States is likely to see an increase in direct expenditures by visitors of almost \$1.6 billion. When the downstream/multiplier effects through the economy are considered, expected economic impacts rise to \$6.0 billion, with a gain of \$3.0 billion in gross product and \$1.8 billion in personal

## **Estimated Economic Impact of the 2024 Solar Eclipse on US Business Activity**

Region	Direct Expenditures	Total Expenditures*	Gross Product*	Personal Income*
United States	\$1,558.9 m	\$5,985.7 m	\$3,026.1 m	\$1,818.9 m
States in Path of Totality	\$1,489.7 m	\$4,660.1 m	\$2,531.6 m	\$1,538.0 m
Remaining States	\$69.2 m	\$1,325.7 m	\$494.5 m	\$280.9 m

**Source**: US Multi-Regional Impact Assessment System, The Perryman Group

**Notes**: Monetary values in millions of 2024 US dollars. Total Expenditures, Gross Product, and Personal Income include downstream multiplier effects. For more information, see methodology on page 3.

income flowing to US residents. (Methods used are described on page 3.) Of these amounts, the total expenditures (including downstream/multiplier effects) in the restaurant industry group are expected to include \$685.1 million, with \$1.1 billion in retail and \$810.8 million in short-term rentals and hotels.

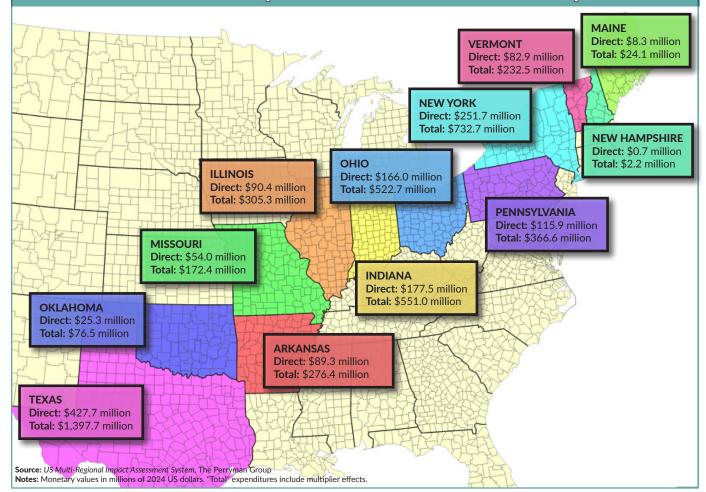
Benefits will be concentrated in the largest metropolitan areas within the path of totality due to the availability of hotel rooms and other needed infrastructure.

Total spending (including multiplier effects) is projected to range from \$2.1 million in New Hampshire to \$1.4 billion in Texas. Effects on other states along the route are included on page 3.

While the eclipse is a one-day event, many areas are hoping that the influx

of visitors from across the nation and beyond will lead to lasting benefits. Areas that rarely receive much in the way of widespread or national media coverage are likely to be featured, enhancing the prospects for future tourism as well as other developmental benefits.

# **Estimated State Expenditures due to the 2024 Solar Eclipse**



Estimated Economic Impact of the 2024 Solar Eclipse on Business Activity in the US

Region	Direct Expenditures	Total Expenditures*	Gross Product*	Personal Income*
Texas	\$427.7 m	\$1,397.7 m	\$749.5 m	\$453.6 m
Arkansas	\$89.3 m	\$276.4 m	\$150.1 m	\$91.2 m
Oklahoma	\$25.3 m	\$76.5 m	\$42.1 m	\$25.6 m
Missouri	\$54.0 m	\$172.4 m	\$92.3 m	\$56.0 m
Illinois	\$90.4 m	\$305.3 m	\$162.9 m	\$98.9 m
Indiana	\$177.5 m	\$551.0 m	\$299.8 m	\$182.6 m
Ohio	\$166.0 m	\$522.7 m	\$283.7 m	\$172.9 m
Pennsylvania	\$115.9 m	\$366.6 m	\$199.6 m	\$121.5 m
New York	\$251.7 m	\$732.7 m	\$406.8 m	\$247.3 m
Vermont	\$82.9 m	\$232.5 m	\$130.4 m	\$79.5 m
New Hampshire	\$0.7 m	\$2.2 m	\$1.2 m	\$0.7 m
Maine	\$8.3 m	\$24.1 m	\$13.4 m	\$8.1 m
Remaining States	\$69.2 m	\$1,325.7 m	\$494.5 m	\$280.9 m
United States	\$1,558.9 m	\$5,985.7 m	\$3,026.1 m	\$1,818.9 m

Source: US Multi-Regional Impact Assessment System, The Perryman Group

**Notes:** Monetary values in millions of 2024 US dollars. Total Expenditures, Gross Product, and Personal Income include downstream multiplier effects. For more information, see methodology below.

#### **METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

The Perryman Group's US Multi-Regional Impact Assessment System was used to estimate the total (not only direct, but also indirect and induced) effects of incremental visitor spending associated with the eclipse. The System was developed by the firm about 40 years ago and has been used in hundreds of analyses for clients ranging from major corporations to government agencies and has been peer reviewed on multiple occasions. The impact system uses a variety of data (from surveys, industry information, and other sources) to describe the various goods and

services (known as resources or inputs) required to produce another good/service. This dynamic process allows for estimation of the total economic impact (including multiplier effects) of the increase in direct visitor spending. The direct outlays were based on projected visitors, daily spending patterns, and typical allocations by visitors among various categories of purchases. Gravity modeling was used to allocate spending across areas.

Total economic effects are quantified for key measures of business activity. Note that these are different ways of looking at the same economic effects: they are not additive. Total expenditures (or total spending) measures the dollars changing hands as a result of the economic stimulus. Gross product (or output) is production of goods and services that will come about or be foregone as a result of the activity. Personal income is dollars that end up in the hands of people in the area; the vast majority of this aggregate derives from the earnings of employees, but payments such as interest and rents are also included.

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