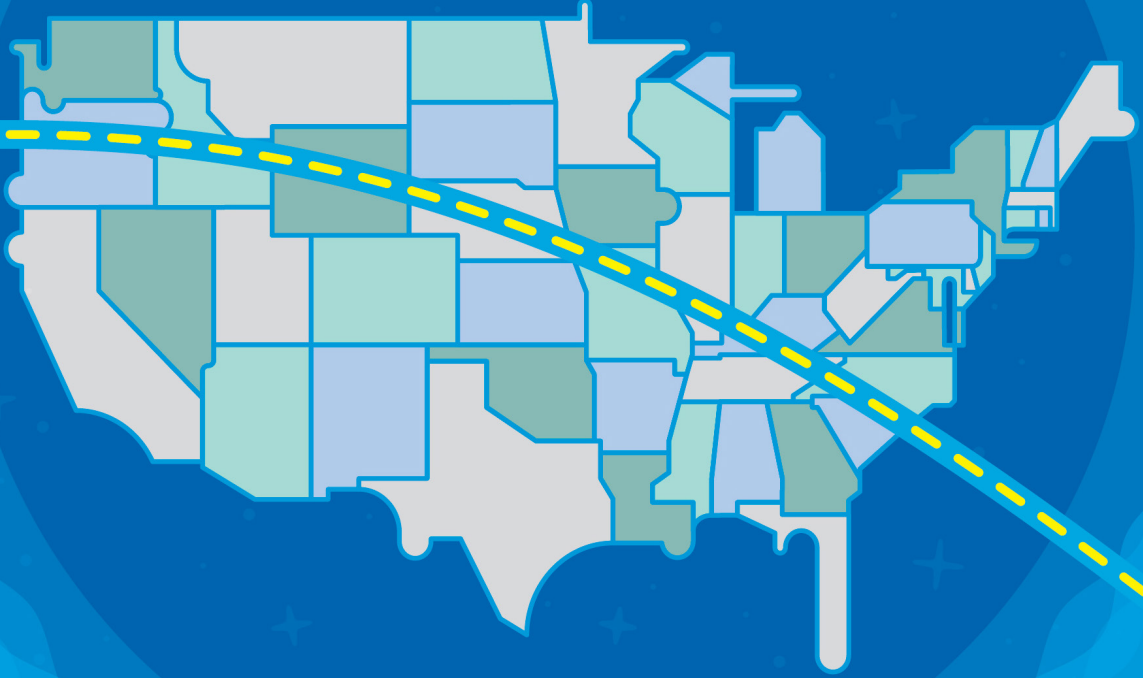




ARE YOU READY FOR THE SOLAR ECLIPSE ACROSS AMERICA?



ON AUGUST 21, A SOLAR ECLIPSE WILL ENVELOP THE NATION. HERE'S THE BUZZ:



This will be the first total solar eclipse to touch the U.S. mainland since 1979 and the first to cross from coast to coast since 1918



The partial eclipse will last between two and three hours, and the total eclipse (within the path) will last just under three minutes



Tens of millions of people will experience total eclipse, while hundreds of millions more will see the partial eclipse



The next total solar eclipse in the U.S. will occur on April 8, 2024

THE AMERICAN OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION (AOA) OFFERS THESE TIPS TO SAFELY VIEW THE CELESTIAL EVENT OF THE DECADE:

DON'T look directly at the sun without eye protection, even briefly, except during total totality



DO consider purchase of specially made 'eclipse glasses' or other ISO-certified filters



DON'T use sunglasses, photographic film, neutral density filters, smoked glass or other materials

