



## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 29, 2022  
Phone: (916) 822-8131  
Email: [PIO@calottery.com](mailto:PIO@calottery.com)  
Twitter: [@calotterypress](https://twitter.com/calotterypress)

### ***California State Lottery 2022 – A Year for the History Books***

**SACRAMENTO** – This past year – 2022 – will go down as one of the most significant years in California State Lottery (CSL) history. Believe it or not, the Powerball® jackpot experience that unfolded in Southern California is just part of this year’s transformative story.

#### **Record-breaking Powerball Prize**

Yes, the eyes of the world centered on Altadena (Los Angeles County) in early November after one ticket out of millions sold across the country matched all five numbers, plus the Powerball number, to win \$2.04 billion. That’s a world record amount!

Joe Chahayed, owner of Joe’s Service Center, also scored the maximum bonus of \$1 million from the Lottery for selling that winning ticket – a story shared hundreds of times worldwide.

But the bigger story is the amount of money over the 41 draws that Powerball ticket sales in our state raised for public schools – \$156.3 million! That also set a record for California for a draw sequence.

With staggering figures like this, it is easy to forget the millions in other money raised and won.

#### **Other Premium Paydays**

The big wins actually started in early January. This table highlights other premium paydays this year.

January 5, 2022	Powerball	\$316.3 million	Sacramento
January 8, 2022	SuperLotto Plus	\$13 million	Moreno Valley
January 28, 2022	Mega Millions	\$426 million	Woodland Hills
April 30, 2022	SuperLotto Plus	\$38 million	San Diego
July 13, 2022	SuperLotto Plus	\$27 million	Oxnard
October 14, 2022	Mega Millions	\$251 million	San Jose
November 7, 2022	Powerball	\$2.04 billion	Altadena
November 12, 2022	SuperLotto Plus	\$41 million	Sacramento

Through the end of November, the California Lottery had already created **125** new millionaires (and one billionaire) in both draw and Scratchers games, producing quite a few memorable moments.

#### **Spectacular Scratchers® and Memorable Moments**

- Who can forget the woman who [bought a ticket she didn't even want](#) after someone bumped into her and caused her to push the wrong button on a Lottery vending machine in Tarzana (Los Angeles County)? It was meant to be. She won \$10 million on that 200X Scratchers!
- Then there's the man who [chose a bright orange Instant Prize Crossword Scratchers](#) at a store in South San Francisco simply because it matched the color of his wife's Leukemia awareness bracelet. Thinking of her at that moment landed this family \$2 million!
- Another man [won \\$1 million while on a gas run](#) in Vista (San Diego County).
- One guy [won \\$20 million](#) while out shopping for shorts and beer in Auburn (Placer County). The game he played is notable because the new [Set for Life Millionaire Edition](#) ticket, which debuted in February, features the largest cash prize the California Lottery has ever offered for a Scratchers game.

### **Accomplishing the Mission**

The Lottery operates on a fiscal year calendar which runs from July 1 through June 30 the following year. As we close out 2022, we are reminded of this [press release](#) highlighting record earnings for public education!

In **Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21**, the Lottery achieved record-setting sales of more than \$8.4 billion. That also translated to a record total of more than \$1.88 billion for California public schools. Announcements like this tend to lag a little bit because the numbers must be audited – a careful and lengthy process.

We hope to have the numbers for FY 2021-22 soon and will proudly share those when the audit is completed. At present we are looking at **projected estimated sales of more than \$8.8 billion**, translating into even more for public education!

### **Distinctive Awards**

The California Lottery received two awards for financial reporting this year, including the highly regarded Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the U.S. and Canada. You can view our most recent financial reports [here](#).

California Lottery's [Marketing team recently claimed three international advertising awards](#) from the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries (NASPL). Effective advertising serves to elevate the California Lottery brand as an entertainment option for players and further propels the Lottery's mission to generate money for California public education.

### **New Tools Promote Public Awareness**

In June, the California Lottery unveiled a new interactive tool on its [website](#) that lets you see how much Lottery funding goes to schools by county and by school district.

The Lottery is also visiting public schools to produce [videos](#) demonstrating how individual campuses use their Lottery dollars.

Lottery is also looking out for the public by warning them about [potential scams](#), raising awareness about [responsible gifting](#), how to [avoid problem gambling](#) and where to seek help if needed.

### **Happy New Year!**

The California Lottery is well poised to welcome in the New Year. The department is unique in that we rely on ticket sales – and *not* public funds – to operate. In 2023, the California Lottery is committed to building upon the things that amplify who we are as a public agency and demonstrate measurable results as they relate to our mission – raising money for public schools, kindergarten through the university level.

###

*The California Lottery's mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transferred to public education totaled more than \$1.88 billion for fiscal year 2020-21, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated almost \$8.4 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. As the jackpots continue to grow, the California Lottery would also like to remind players to play responsibly and within their budgets. If you feel you have a gambling problem or know someone who does, you can get free confidential help by calling the California Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLER.*

[www.calottery.com](http://www.calottery.com)