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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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### ***Tonight's Mega Millions® Jackpot Hits an Estimated Half-Billion Dollars***

**SACRAMENTO** – With last month's record-setting [\\$2.04 billion Powerball® jackpot win in Altadena](#) barely in the review mirror, the California Lottery's other popular multi-state game, Mega Millions®, now has a jackpot that has quietly grown to more than a half-billion dollars.

Tonight's estimated \$510 million jackpot has been growing since mid-October, after two tickets split a \$502 million jackpot. [Those tickets were sold in San Jose and Fort Myers, Florida.](#)

The California Lottery does not know who the winners of any game are until they come forward and claim their prize. Claim packets are then vetted by Lottery's security and law enforcement team to ensure the legitimacy of the win. Big winners are not announced until after that review period is complete.

Mega Millions draws take place Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. PT. Players have to buy tickets before 7:45 p.m. on the day of the draw in order to be included. Any tickets purchased after 7:45 p.m. would be eligible for the following draw. Players can find all the details about Mega Millions, including odds of winning any prize level, on the [California Lottery website](#).

For updates on any potential jackpot winners in California, media should follow the Lottery's media team on Twitter at [@calotterypress](https://twitter.com/calotterypress).

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*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)