

PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2022

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Half a Billion Dollars up for Grabs This Weekend!

SACRAMENTO – It could turn out to be a mega weekend for California Lottery players, as three of the state's most popular games have jackpots that add up to **\$569 million!**

Tonight's estimated Mega Millions® jackpot has grown to an astounding \$480 million! The Mega Millions jackpot hasn't been hit since April 15, 2022, when one lucky ticket in Tennessee matched all six numbers, winning \$20 million.

There's another chance to win big on Saturday. The Powerball® jackpot has grown to an estimated \$82 million.

And don't forget about the original California millionaire-maker, SuperLotto Plus®, which is exclusive to the Golden State. Someone who bought a ticket in Oxnard (Ventura County) earlier this week hit the jackpot worth \$27 million, so it returns to its starting point of \$7 million for this weekend's draw.

Details about all three games, including draw times, various prize levels, and odds of winning, can all be found on the <u>California Lottery's website</u>.

As jackpots rise, the California Lottery would like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget, or using money set aside for other things can lead to significant problems for players and their families. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem or if someone knows of someone who may have a problem, the Lottery recommends calling the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER.

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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 \$1.8 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

jackpots rise, the California Lottery would like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget, or using money intended for other purposes can ultimately lead to significant problems for players and their families. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem or if someone knows of someone who may have a problem, the Lottery recommends calling the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER.

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