



PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JACKPOT ALERT: Powerball® Top Prize Climbs Above \$600 Million!

SACRAMENTO – After not being hit 30 times in a row, the Powerball jackpot for tonight has reached an estimated \$613 million to kick off the week.

Sales for tickets have been brisk as the California Lottery has sold roughly \$108.4 million in tickets for this run, which started back in late November. Those sales mean real dollars for our state's public education, with schools earning \$43.3 million in funding thanks to California Lottery players getting in on the action for those 30 draws.

“With jackpots increasing more and more frequently, schools are having a banner year,” said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. “We appreciate our players, our retail partners, and our entire Lottery team for helping us raise millions more for students across the state.”

Powerball tickets are \$2 each and are sold at any of California Lottery's [more than 23,000 retail partners](#) across the state.

Here are the latest fast facts about tonight's draw:

- The current Powerball jackpot started at \$20 million on November 21, 2022, and no one has hit it since.
- The lump sum amount – also known as the cash value – should a single ticket hit the jackpot tonight is estimated to be \$329 million. If more than one ticket matches all six numbers, the jackpot is split. Winners have the choice of either taking the cash value up front or 30 annual payments ultimately totaling the jackpot amount over time.
- California holds the Powerball jackpot record, having sold the [only winning ticket](#) for a historic \$2.04 billion jackpot in November 2022.
- In California, players have 180 days from the date of the draw to claim a Powerball prize. However, if someone wins the **Powerball jackpot**, they have **up to a year** from the date of the draw to claim it.

As tonight's draw approaches, it is important for players to remember that they have until 7 p.m. PT to buy Powerball tickets; the drawing happens at 7:59 p.m. PT. Shortly after the drawing, the winning numbers will be published on the California Lottery [website](#), and up-to-the-minute word of any big winners here will be shared on the [@calotterypress social media channel](#).

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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