

700 North Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
calottery.com



P R E S S R E L E A S E

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 21, 2023
Email: PIO@calottery.com
Twitter: [@calotterypress](https://twitter.com/calotterypress)

Mega Millions® Continues to Climb Toward Another Billion-Dollar Jackpot With Tonight's Draw Worth an Estimated \$720 Million!

The Identity of Wednesday's \$1.08 Billion Powerball® Winner Still Unknown

SACRAMENTO – What an exciting past few days it's been for California Lottery players, as well as public education here in the Golden State. The fun is far from over as the *Mega Millions* jackpot has soared to an estimated \$720 million for tonight's drawing.

Tonight's jackpot is the fifth largest for *Mega Millions*; interestingly, the top four are all \$1 billion-plus wins. Here in California, *Mega Millions* sales from this jackpot sequence alone have totaled more than \$130 million as of Friday morning, allowing the California Lottery to raise an estimated \$52 million in additional funding for public schools just from this game, as the jackpot started rolling more than three months ago.

Top 5 *Mega Millions* Jackpots

\$1.537 billion	10/23/2018	South Carolina
\$1.348 billion	1/13/2023	Maine
\$1.337 billion	7/29/2022	Illinois
\$1.050 billion	1/22/2021	Michigan
\$720 million	7/21/2023	???

If nobody wins tonight's jackpot, it's projected to roll to an estimated \$820 million for Tuesday's draw.

For each *Mega Millions* ticket sold in California, about eighty cents goes toward helping fund public schools. *Mega Millions* tickets are \$2 each. Players can buy them safely in person at one of California Lottery's more than [23,000 partner retail locations](#). The draw is slated for 8 pm tonight.

There are two other big draws this weekend. Tomorrow night's *SuperLotto Plus®* jackpot is worth a guaranteed \$78 million, which is the highest it's been in more than 15 years. That game is *only* played in California.

Powerball® has now rolled back to its starting jackpot after someone matched all six numbers Wednesday night with a ticket sold in downtown Los Angeles; that prize wound up being worth \$1.08 billion. The California Lottery won't know who that winner is until they've come forward and Lottery law enforcement officers verify that they are the rightful winner, a standard process for all large prize claims. The Powerball jackpot for Saturday starts back at \$20 million.

The California Lottery wants to remind the public that playing Lottery 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.

###

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 approximately \$2 billion for fiscal year 2021-22, 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 more than \$8.8 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.

www.calottery.com