



## PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***Powerball® Jackpot Rolls Into New Year at \$810 Million***

**SACRAMENTO** – It could potentially be a very happy new year for California Lottery players getting in on the action for tonight’s *Powerball* draw. With the jackpot projected to be worth \$810 million, 2024 is already in the record books with the fifth-largest jackpot ever for *Powerball* and the tenth-largest in U.S. lottery history.

“Here in California, we were lucky enough to sell two back-to-back billion-dollar winning *Powerball* tickets last year, so we are eagerly watching this jackpot sequence to see what happens in 2024,” said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. “No matter what happens, where the jackpot is hit, or how long it keeps rolling – California’s public schools are already winning.”

For every \$2 *Powerball* ticket sold in California, about 80 cents goes toward funding for public education. So far, in this sequence of 34 drawings without a *Powerball* jackpot winner, **California Lottery has raised nearly \$62 million for public schools** just from sales of this game alone.

Tonight’s top prize has been growing since October when a small market in the small town of Frazier Park (Kern County) sold the last *Powerball* jackpot-winning ticket worth more than [\\$1.7 billion](#). That giant win came on the heels of another huge win when one lucky ticket sold at a shop in downtown Los Angeles also hit the big one, winning [\\$1.08 billion](#) in July. If the current jackpot reaches the billion-dollar threshold, it would be the third in a row to do so – something that’s never happened before.

#### **Top 10 Powerball Jackpots**

1. \$2.04 billion – November 7, 2022 – CA
2. \$1.765 billion – October 11, 2023 - CA
3. \$1.586 billion – January 13, 2016 – CA, FL, TN
4. \$1.08 billion – July 19, 2023 – CA
5. **\$810 million (est.) – January 1, 2024**
6. \$768.4 million – March 27, 2019 – WI
7. \$758.7 million – August 23, 2017 – MA
8. \$754.6 million – February 6, 2023 - WA
9. \$731.1 million – January 20, 2021 – MD
10. \$699.8 million – October 4, 2021 – CA

If someone hits the jackpot tonight, they’ll have the option to take a lump sum prize payment of \$408.9 million, or they can take annuity payments over 30 years, adding up to the final jackpot

amount. Both prize options are before taxes. If the winner selects the annuity option, they will receive one immediate payment followed by 29 annual payments that increase by 5 percent each year.

Tonight's draw happens at 7:59pm PT, and the draw entry period closes at 7pm. Results will be posted within minutes on the [California Lottery website here](#).

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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 \$2.07 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 \$8.85 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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