



PRESS RELEASE

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BREAKING NEWS: Mega Millions® Jackpot Just Increased to an Estimated \$893 Million

SACRAMENTO – Thanks to strong sales across the country, the *Mega Millions* estimated jackpot for tonight’s drawing has just been increased to \$893 million, up from \$875 million, which was advertised after no one won the top prize in the last drawing on Friday.

“With both *Mega Millions* and *Powerball* jackpots inching towards another billion-dollar jackpot, we’re seeing more people come out to play,” said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. “This is exciting not only for our players but also for California’s public schools. When sales skyrocket like this, we’re able to raise even more money for education, which is the sole purpose and mission of the California Lottery.”

The [Mega Millions](#) jackpot has been growing since early December, and in that time – just from sales of this game – California Lottery has been able to raise an estimated **\$65.7 million for public education**. For every *Mega Millions* ticket sold in California, about 80 cents goes [toward schools](#).

If no one wins the jackpot tonight, the next advertised jackpot for Friday will be \$977 million.

Mega Millions is the only lottery game that has awarded five jackpots exceeding \$1 billion – all in different states. South Carolina was the first in 2018, followed by Michigan in 2021, Illinois in 2022, Maine in early 2023, and Florida last August.

Tonight’s drawing is at 8pm PT. Players can buy their tickets at one of more than [23,000 California Lottery retail partner locations](#).

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The mission of the California Lottery is to raise additional funding for public education, helping to supplement school budgets for K-12 as well as colleges and universities. **The California Lottery has raised more than \$43.8 billion for public schools** through the responsible sale of its games since 1985. Lottery funding for schools is largely discretionary, so administrators and educators can use Lottery money for instructional programs and services they may not otherwise afford. The California Lottery features eight [draw games](#) and dozens of new instant [Scratchers](#) games each year. More than 95% of California Lottery sales revenue goes back to the community in the form of prize payments, [retailer commissions and bonuses](#), and contributions to education. More information about who benefits can be found [here](#). 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.



education
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