



## PRESS RELEASE

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### ***Matching Five Numbers Still Makes Millionaires***

#### *Mega Millions® Draw Nears \$300 Million*

**SACRAMENTO** – A quick stop for gas, a snack, or maybe a donut. A quick pick up of a little play. It's a California Lottery story that happens seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.

You might be filling your gas tank at the Circle K and think to yourself, “Hey, that jackpot for [Mega Millions](#) this Friday looks like fun.”

Big jackpots are always the front-row attraction, but they are not the only prize out there. Last Friday, a five-number match in the *Mega Millions* draw would have delivered one lucky player over \$2.6 million. This Friday, with no winner for either the jackpot or the second-place prize, both have grown, with the *Mega Millions* jackpot now an estimated \$296 million, and that second-place prize growing until the sales close at 7:45 p.m. on the night of the draw.

#### The Top Five Friday Five-Number Matches since 2015

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Friday, June 17, 2022     | <b>\$7,727,088</b> |
| Friday, December 5, 2025  | <b>\$5,104,961</b> |
| Friday, August 8, 2025    | <b>\$4,607,223</b> |
| Friday, July 29, 2022     | <b>\$4,234,962</b> |
| Friday, February 13, 2015 | <b>\$3,471,009</b> |

#### ***How Do You Spell “Lucky Streak?” These Winners Know***

These winners know what it's like to uncover a big win. Whether it's *Mega Millions*, *Scratchers*®, or *Powerball*, lucky players find their wins with the games they love to play.



These three scratched their way to [Instant Prize Crossword](#) wins of **\$2 million** each:

- **John Decker**, whose ticket was picked up from Vons, 500 E. Manchester Blvd. in Inglewood.
- **Allonda Woods**, who spelled out millions with a game from Circle K at 2115 W. Yosemite Ave. in Manteca.
- **Laura Brito**, who won with a ticket purchased at Lee's Market, 4801 S. Avalon Blvd. in Los Angeles.

Joining these *Scratchers* winners is **Eric Tend**, who picked up his [Powerball](#) win at the Circle K store in Dublin at 7850 Amador Valley Blvd. His ticket matched five numbers in the September 6, 2025 draw. His prize was worth **\$1,564,348**. Not bad for second prize.

## ***How Lottery Play Supports California Students***

When people play the California Lottery, public schools at every level benefit. Many schools across the state use these funds to strengthen their career technical education programs, at both [the high school](#) and the [community college level](#).

Lottery funds provide critical program support, as well as funding that [eases the material burden for students so they can stay in school](#).

To find out more about the funds distributed by the California Lottery to public education across the state, visit [www.calottery.com/who-benefits](http://www.calottery.com/who-benefits).

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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 \$48 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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