PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mega Millions®: $673 Million - The Best Black Friday Deal

Jackpots Make Headlines – Five-Number Matches Make Millionaires

SACRAMENTO – This Friday, ***Mega Millions*** will draw for more than half-a-billion dollars. In the last 24 Black Friday drawings since 2002, a jackpot win has eluded draw game shoppers. So far, five-number matches have also eluded Californians on the Friday after Thanksgiving. This Friday, a single five-number match, missing only the Mega Ball could bring one lucky player more than $6.8 million, for the third highest five-number win since 2015.

Compared to a jackpot win, a multi-million five-number match is downright common, with this Friday's possibly being the second big win of 2026. Recent big wins that missed only the Mega Ball:

- **June 17, 2022:** Los Angeles player wins **$7,727,088** on a ticket sold at **CVS**.
- **July 21, 2026:** Palmdale player wins **$7,326,643** on a ticket sold at **Alrabadi Gas & Mini Mart**.
- **December 5, 2025:** Corona del Mar player wins **$5,104,961** on a ticket sold at **CVS Pharmacy**.
- **August 8, 2025:** Tarzana player wins **$4,607,223** on a ticket sold at **Spirits World Liquor**.
- **July 29, 2022:** Fresno player wins **$4,234,962** on a ticket sold at **Vons**.
- **January 10, 2023:** Hacienda Heights player wins **$3,970,609** on a ticket sold at **Park's Liquor**.
- **March 24, 2026:** Torrance player wins **$3,665,298** on a ticket sold at **Chill Out Smoke Shop**.
- **August 8, 2023:** Hilmar player wins **$3,383,371** on a ticket sold at **Super Mac Food & Gas**.
- **October 7, 2022:** Culver City player wins **$3,135,094** on a ticket sold at **Culver City Elks #1917**.

Mega Millions is not alone. Tonight a *Powerball*® winner could miss the

jackpot by only the Powerball and still have a prize worth more than $3 million. California's pari-mutuel payout system, where each tier's prize pool is created by ticket sales, divides prize pools into shares for the draw winners. Tonight's *Powerball* jackpot is an estimated $31 million.

Know Your Draw Times

Mega Millions draws on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. Draw entry closes at 7:45 p.m. on the day of the draw. *Powerball* draws take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 7:59 p.m. Draw entry **closes at 7 p.m.**

Scratchers® Players Have A Holiday Draw To Watch For Too

Scratchers players are not left out of the festivities of the season. The ***Holiday Scratchers 2nd Chance Bonus Draw*** is in full swing right now. Through January 10, Scratchers players can enter their non-winning Holiday Scratchers in the *Holiday Scratchers 2nd Chance Bonus Draw* for a chance at $25,000. The first draw already awarded a prize, with $25,000 going to **Eliu Mendoza** who submitted a non-winning 2027 Scratchers game to 2nd Chance. The entry periods for the remaining three draws are:

- **Draw #2:** November 8, 2026 – November 27, 2026
- **Draw #3:** November 28, 2026 – December 18, 2026
- **Draw #4:** December 19, 2026 – January 10, 2027

Full details and games eligible for automatic entry into the bonus draw can be found at calottery.com/promotions/holiday-2nd-chance.

The Sole Purpose Of The California Lottery

Established by voters though Proposition 37 in 1984, the California Lottery offered its first Scratchers game on October 3, 1985. From the beginning and by statute, California Lottery funds are available for instructional use in California Public Schools from kindergarten to the University of California system and all levels in between. Schools all across the state use the extra money to improve athletics programs, support arts programs, support career-focused programs, and even train firefighters. An interactive map and the latest financial reports are available on the California Lottery website at calottery.com/who-benefits. Those interested can use the map and reports to see specific funding by school district and school.

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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.