

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Media Relations, 512-344-5131

[mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us](mailto:mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us)



SUPPORTING TEXAS EDUCATION  
AND VETERANS

# DRAWING FOR WORLD RECORD POWERBALL® JACKPOT IS TONIGHT!

---

(AUSTIN) – The annuitized jackpot for tonight’s [Powerball®](#) drawing is an estimated \$1.5 billion with a cash value of \$929.9 million. This is the largest jackpot of any lottery game on record in the world. If there are no winners for tonight’s drawing, the annuitized jackpot for Saturday’s drawing will be an estimated \$2 billion with a cash value of \$1.24 billion.

“We continued to see very strong sales throughout the day on Tuesday and expect to see the same today,” said Gary Grief, chair of the Powerball game and executive director of the Texas Lottery. “Sales for this jackpot roll alone have now generated more than \$1 billion for the important causes supported by lotteries across the country including public education, scholarships, the environment, veterans programs and senior citizens.”

National sales for Tuesday totaled \$326,581,830 bringing sales for this draw to \$609,239,012. Sales in Texas for Tuesday totaled \$25,605,254 with sales for this draw totaling \$43,929,952. Texas saw its best hour of Powerball sales yesterday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. with \$3,011,972 in sales for the hour.

“Powerball sales for this morning in Texas are already over \$1 million an hour,” said Grief. “Historically, when we have record jackpots we see an increase in sales across our entire portfolio of games as well.”

Tonight’s jackpot started at \$40 million on Nov. 7, 2015, and is the result of 20 drawings with no jackpot winner.

Texas has had two Powerball jackpot winners since joining the multistate Powerball game in 2010. The jackpot is not the only way to win big. Texas has had 18 second-tier Powerball winners of \$1 million or \$2 million since January 2015.

“We want to encourage players to have fun with this jackpot but to play responsibly. It only takes one ticket to win,” said Grief.

## HOW TO PLAY

Powerball jackpots start at \$40 million and roll until the jackpot is won. Players win the jackpot by matching five numbers from a field of 69 numbers and one Powerball number from a field of 26 numbers. Plays cost \$2 each. The Power Play® option, which multiplies any prize you win except the jackpot, is available for an extra \$1 per play.

## **DRAWING FOR WORLD RECORD POWERBALL® JACKPOT IS TONIGHT**

### **OCTOBER MATRIX CHANGE**

In Oct. 2015, an updated version of the Powerball game debuted with changes aimed at delivering big jackpots while upping other significant prizes in the game. Powerball has been redesigned several times in its 23-year history, with updates designed to continue to deliver the bigger jackpots people expect, while also giving players the chance to win other significant prizes. This latest revamp was the eighth since the game's debut in April 1992. The updated game started with the Oct. 7 drawing, and a \$144 million jackpot was hit in Tennessee after just eight rolls. More about the matrix change can be found here:

[http://www.txlottery.org/export/sites/lottery/Documents/news\\_releases/2015/Powerball\\_Press\\_Release.pdf](http://www.txlottery.org/export/sites/lottery/Documents/news_releases/2015/Powerball_Press_Release.pdf)

### **MORE ABOUT POWERBALL**

Powerball drawings are at 9:59 p.m. CT on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and are broadcast live from Tallahassee, FL.

While there was no grand prize winner on Saturday, Jan. 9, the drawing created 28 new millionaires. Three tickets won \$2 million and 25 tickets won \$1 million. A total of 18,315,365 prizes were won in the Jan. 9 drawing, with a value of \$159,080,965. Saturday's drawing generated approximately \$372 million for the various beneficiaries supported by lottery revenue. These good causes include schools, college scholarships, senior citizen programs, veterans programs, the environment, health care, capital construction projects, and cultural activities.

There are 47 lotteries currently selling the Powerball game to a population of 304,195,207 (304.2 million), with tickets being sold through more than 210,000 lottery terminals.

Overall odds of winning any prize are one in 24.9. Odds of winning the jackpot are one in 292,201,338.

Most players choose Quick Picks and most players select the cash value option.

Annual National Powerball Sales for past five years:

|       |                 |  |
|-------|-----------------|--|
| FY 11 | \$3,099,633,888 | (Includes PP sales of \$464,376,992) Matrix change 01/18/12; 5/59 + 1/35 |
| FY 12 | \$3,956,938,317 | (Includes PP sales of \$410,126,420)                                     |
| FY 13 | \$5,953,924,235 | (Includes PP sales of \$393,668,959)                                     |
| FY 14 | \$4,817,439,650 | (Includes PP sales of \$327,044,288)                                     |
| FY 15 | \$3,987,098,580 | (Includes PP sales of \$310,624,344)                                     |
| FY 16 | \$3,293,091,698 | (Includes PP sales of \$235,881,836; through 01/09/16)                   |

### **ANNUITY AND CASH VALUE**

Investments are purchased by MUSL or by the selling lotteries to provide for the payment of annuity Powerball jackpot prizes. All annuitized prizes are paid annually in thirty graduated payments (increasing each year) with the initial payment being made in a single payment, to be followed by twenty-nine payments funded by the annuity.

The estimated cash value amount of a jackpot is determined from the annuity's interest factor using current market investment rates. Once the annuity's interest factor is known, the cash value is calculated as the annuity value divided by the interest factor.

## DRAWING FOR WORLD RECORD POWERBALL® JACKPOT IS TONIGHT

| <b>Top 10 Powerball Jackpots</b> |            |                 |                |           |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|
| Rank                             | State      | Prize Amount    | Draw Date      | Game      |
| 1                                | ???        | \$1.5 billion   | Jan. 13, 2016  | Powerball |
| 2                                | FL         | \$590.5 million | May 18, 2013   | Powerball |
| 3                                | AZ, MO     | \$587.5 million | Nov. 28, 2012  | Powerball |
| 4                                | TX, NC, PR | \$564.1 million | Feb. 11, 2015  | Powerball |
| 5                                | MN, NJ, NJ | \$448.4 million | Aug. 7, 2013   | Powerball |
| 6                                | CA         | \$425.3 million | Feb. 19, 2014  | Powerball |
| 7                                | SC         | \$399.4 million | Sept. 18, 2013 | Powerball |
| 8                                | NE         | \$365.0 million | Feb. 18, 2006  | Powerball |
| 9                                | CA, OR     | \$340.0 million | Oct. 19, 2005  | Powerball |
| 10                               | NJ         | \$338.3 million | March 23, 2013 | Powerball |

| <b>Top 10 U.S. Lottery Jackpots</b> |            |                 |                |               |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Rank                                | State      | Prize Amount    | Draw Date      | Game          |
| 1                                   | ???        | \$1.5 billion   | Jan. 13, 2016  | Powerball     |
| 2                                   | KS, IL, MD | \$656.0 million | March 30, 2012 | Mega Millions |
| 3                                   | CA, GA     | \$648.0 million | Dec. 17, 2013  | Mega Millions |
| 4                                   | FL         | \$590.5 million | May 18, 2013   | Powerball     |
| 5                                   | AZ, MO     | \$587.5 million | Nov. 28, 2012  | Powerball     |
| 6                                   | TX, NC, PR | \$564.1 million | Feb. 11, 2015  | Powerball     |
| 7                                   | MN, NJ, NJ | \$448.4 million | Aug. 7, 2013   | Powerball     |
| 8                                   | CA         | \$425.3 million | Feb. 19, 2014  | Powerball     |
| 9                                   | FL, MD     | \$414.0 million | March 18, 2014 | Mega Millions |
| 10                                  | SC         | \$399.4 million | Sept. 18, 2013 | Powerball     |

### About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$24 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$47 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$18 billion to the Foundation School Fund, which supports public education in Texas. As authorized by the Texas Legislature, certain Texas Lottery revenues benefit state programs including the Fund for Veterans' Assistance. Since the first veterans' themed scratch ticket game was launched in 2009, the Texas Lottery has contributed more than \$52 million for programs supporting Texas veterans.

The Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including Powerball®, Mega Millions®, Lotto Texas®, All or Nothing™, Texas Two Step®, Pick 3™, Daily 4™, Cash Five®, Texas Triple Chance™ and scratch ticket games. For more information visit us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube or at [www.txlottery.org](http://www.txlottery.org).

###