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## ***JACKPOT ALERT*** <br> MEGA MILLIONS ${ }^{\circledR}$ ROARS TO \$1.13 BILLION FOR TUESDAY'S DRAWING

 $5^{\text {th }}$ largest jackpot in Mega Millions history; $8^{\text {th }}$ largest in U.S. lottery history
#### Abstract

AUSTIN - March is nearing its end and the Mega Millions jackpot is roaring with an estimated annuitized $\$ 1.13$ billion for the Tuesday, March 26 drawing. As the fifth largest in game history and the eighth largest in U.S. lottery history, the cash value for the current jackpot is worth an estimated $\$ 537.5$ million. If there is no jackpot winner in tonight's Mega Millions drawing, the jackpot for the Friday, March 29 drawing will roll to an estimated $\$ 1.29$ billion.


"It's an extraordinary time for Texas Lottery ${ }^{\circledR}$ players, as both Mega Millions and Powerball ${ }^{\circledR}$ are now over $\$ 800$ million simultaneously for the first time in U.S. Iottery history," said Ryan Mindell, deputy executive director of the Texas Lottery. "As excitement continues to build for tonight's Mega Millions drawing, the Texas Lottery is hoping to have our first billion-dollar winner. The higher these jackpots rise, the higher our sales climb, which is important for the Texas Lottery's mission of generating revenue for public education. We know this is a thrilling time for our players, but we want to remind everyone to play responsibly. Also, if you are fortunate to be holding the winning ticket after tonight's drawing, we encourage the winner to sign the ticket, put it in a safe place, seek legal and financial advice, and then call the Texas Lottery to set up an appointment to claim the prize."

Tuesday's drawing will be the $31^{\text {st }}$ in the current Mega Millions jackpot run since starting as an estimated annuitized $\$ 20$ million for the Dec. 12, 2023 drawing. This is the largest Mega Millions jackpot up for grabs since the Aug. 8, 2023 drawing when a $\$ 1.602$ billion - the game's largest jackpot prize - was won by an out of state player.

Texas has had 14 Mega Millions jackpot prize winners since it joined the game in 2003. Its most recent winner came in October 2023 when The Blue Yucca Trust won an estimated annuitized $\$ 360$ million prize. The claimant chose the cash value option and received $\$ 157,367,045$ before taxes; the largest prize ever paid out to a single Texas Lottery player.

Since the start of 2024, four Texas Lottery players have won second-tier Mega Millions prizes of $\$ 1$ million or larger, including one in each of the drawings held last week on March 19 and March 22.

| Second-Tier Mega Millions Prizes Won in Texas in 2024 |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
| Draw Date | Prize Amount | Retailer City | Claimant City |
| Jan. 2, 2024 | $\$ 2$ million | Longview | Longview |
| March 8, 2024 | $\$ 1$ million | Richwood | Richwood |
| March 19, 2024 | $\$ 1$ million | Houston | (not yet claimed) |
| March 22, 2024 | $\$ 1$ million | Creedmoor | (not yet claimed) |

Mega Millions is played by choosing five numbers from a field of 70 and one Mega Ball number from the second field of 25 numbers. To win the Mega Millions jackpot, players must match all six numbers drawn including the Mega Ball. Players matching fewer numbers may not win the jackpot, but could still walk away winners. Mega Millions currently offers a $\$ 20$ million starting jackpot and a second-tier (Match $5+0$ ) prize of $\$ 1$ million. By choosing the Megaplier ${ }^{\circledR}$ feature for $\$ 1$ more per Play, players can multiply their non-jackpot winnings by two, three, four or five times, winning as much as $\$ 5$ million.

Drawings are broadcast each Tuesday and Friday at 10:12 p.m. CT. Texas Lottery players can purchase Mega Millions tickets at more than 20,000 Texas Lottery retailers across the state. Ticket sales for the next Mega Millions drawing will close at 9:45 p.m. CT on Tuesday, March 26. The retailer that sells a jackpot-winning Mega Millions ticket may be eligible to receive up to a $\$ 1$ million retailer bonus.

|  | Top 10 | Mega Millions Jackpots |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Rank | State | Prize Amount | Draw Date |
| 1 | FL | $\$ 1.602$ billion | Aug. 8, 2023 |
| 2 | SC | $\$ 1.537$ billion | Oct. 23, 2018 |
| 3 | ME | $\$ 1.348$ billion | Jan. 13, 2023 |
| 4 | IL | $\$ 1.337$ billion | July 29, 2022 |
| 5 | $? ?$ | $\$ 1.13$ billion (est.) | March 26, 2024 |
| 6 | MI | $\$ 1.05$ billion | Jan. 22, 2021 |
| 7 | KS, IL, MD | $\$ 656$ million | March 30, 2012 |
| 8 | CA, GA | $\$ 648$ million | Dec. 17, 2013 |
| 9 | CA | $\$ 543$ million | July 24, 2018 |
| 10 | IN | $\$ 536$ million | July 8, 2016 |

## Top 10 U.S. Lottery Jackpots

| Rank | Prize Amount | Game | Draw Date | State |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | $\$ 2.04$ billion | Powerball | Nov. 7, 2022 | CA |
| 2 | $\$ 1.765$ billion | Powerball | Oct. 11, 2023 | CA |
| 3 | $\$ 1.602$ billion | Mega Millions | Aug. 8, 2023 | FL |
| 4 | $\$ 1.586$ billion | Powerball | Jan. 13, 2016 | CA, FL, TN |
| 5 | $\$ 1.537$ billion | Mega Millions | Oct. 23, 2018 | SC |
| 6 | $\$ 1.348$ billion | Mega Millions | Jan. 13, 2023 | ME |
| 7 | $\$ 1.337$ billion | Mega Millions | July 29, 2022 | IL |
| 8 | $\$ 1.13$ billion (est.) | Mega Millions | March 26, 2024 | ?? |
| 9 | $\$ 1.08$ billion | Powerball | July 19, 2023 | CA |
| 10 | $\$ 1.05$ billion | Mega Millions | Jan. 22, 2021 | MI |

MEGA MILLIONS® ROARS TO \$1.13 BILLION FOR TUESDAY'S DRAWING//Page 3

|  | Powerball \& Mega Milions Jackpot Mins By Texas Lottery Players |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Game | Draw Date | Advertised <br> Jackpot | Claimant | Claimant City | Retailer | Retailer |
| City |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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## About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated more than $\$ 38$ billion in revenue for the state and distributed more than $\$ 85$ billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed $\$ 32.6$ 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 $\$ 235$ million for programs supporting Texas veterans.

The Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including Powerball ${ }^{\circledR}$, Mega Millions ${ }^{\circledR}$, Lotto Texas ${ }^{\circledR}$, All or Nothing ${ }^{T m}$, Texas Two Step ${ }^{\circledR}$, Pick $3^{T m}$, Daily $4^{\text {Tm }}$, Cash Five ${ }^{\circledR}$ and scratch ticket games. For more information visit us on Facebook, X, Instagram, Linkedln, YouTube or at texaslottery.com. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

Editors/News Directors, note: A high-res image of the Mega Millions logo can be downloaded here and an image of the Mega Millions prize chart can be downloaded here.


[^0]:    ${ }^{\wedge}$ - indicates jackpot prize was shared with one or more out-of-state winners.

