



# NEWS RELEASE

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**\*\*\* JACKPOT ALERT \*\*\***

## **LAST MEGA MILLIONS® JACKPOT OF 2022 HAS BEEN RAISED TO \$685 MILLION AHEAD OF FRIDAY'S DRAWING**

**The 6th largest jackpot prize in Mega Millions history is up for grabs**

**AUSTIN** – Texas Lottery® players have a chance to win big before the year ends, as the Mega Millions® jackpot has reached an estimated annuitized \$685 million for the [Friday, Dec. 30 drawing](#). Tonight's drawing, which is the 6th largest in the game's history, offers a cash value worth an estimated \$347.8 million. If there is no jackpot winner for tonight's Mega Millions drawing, the jackpot prize for the Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023, drawing will roll to an estimated annuitized \$785 million.

"Before we flip the calendar to a new year, we're hoping a Texas Lottery player becomes a big Mega Millions jackpot winner," said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery. "2022 has been a year filled with large jackpots, which has been fun for lottery players. As jackpot prizes increase to exciting levels, so do Texas Lottery sales, which creates much needed revenue for public education in Texas. We just want to remind our players to play responsibly. It only takes one ticket to win."

Friday's drawing will be the 22<sup>nd</sup> in the current Mega Millions jackpot run since starting as an estimated annuitized \$20 million for the Oct. 18 drawing. This is the largest Mega Millions jackpot up for grabs since the July 29 drawing when it reached an advertised \$1.28 billion – the game's second-largest jackpot prize, which was won by an out of state player.

Texas has had 13 Mega Millions jackpot prize winners since it joined the game in 2003. Its most recent jackpot winner came in September 2019 when a Leander resident won an estimated annuitized \$227 million, the largest prize ever paid out to a single Texas Lottery player.

Since the start of 2022, 13 Texas Lottery players have won second-tier Mega Millions prizes of \$1 million or larger, including two during the current jackpot run. A Whitesboro resident claimed a \$3 million second-tier prize for the [drawing held on Nov. 1](#) and a Texas Lottery player won a second-tier prize worth \$1 million for the Dec. 20 drawing; the ticket was sold in Round Rock.

(more)

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® 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 Friday, Dec. 30. The retailer that sells a jackpot-winning Mega Millions ticket may be eligible to receive up to a \$1 million retailer bonus.

#### About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$36.1 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$78.5 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$30.1 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 \$199 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® and scratch ticket games. For more information visit us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube or at [texaslottery.com](https://www.texaslottery.com). PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

**Editors/News Directors, note:** A high-res image of the Mega Millions logo can be downloaded [here](#). (Right-click on the image for saving options.)

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