



Chris Christie, Governor  
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor  
Ford M. Scudder, State Treasurer  
Carole Hedinger, Executive Director  
*Benefits Education and Institutions*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:** Judith L. Drucker  
Chief Communications Officer  
Judith.Drucker@lottery.nj.gov  
Phone: (609) 599-5875

## **Powerball Jackpot Increased to \$700 Million for Wednesday's Drawing**

**TRENTON (Aug. 22, 2017)** – The Powerball Jackpot has been increased to \$700 million for the Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> drawing. The jackpot is the second highest in both Powerball history and all North American games' history. If the winning ticket is purchased as an annuity, the estimated \$700\* million jackpot prize will be paid out over 30 years. The first payment would be \$10,536,005 \* and the 30<sup>th</sup> payment would be \$43,367,623\*. The cash value is \$443.3\* million.

"The excitement and public awareness created by the increased jackpot is a good time to remind players to play responsibly. Yearlong, the New Jersey Lottery promotes responsible play through its cooperation with the Council on Compulsive Gambling of NJ and by promoting the helpline 1-800-GAMBLER® phone number on all Lottery marketing and advertising material. I will once again remind players to bet with their heads and not over it," said Carole Hedinger, executive director, New Jersey Lottery.

This is the largest jackpot since the January 13, 2016 drawing when three tickets split the \$1.586 billion prize. The jackpot-winning tickets were sold in California, Florida, and Tennessee. Wednesday's drawing will be the 21<sup>st</sup> since the Powerball jackpot was last hit on June 10<sup>th</sup> in California. That jackpot was \$447.8 million.

New Jersey players have won millions of dollars during the 21 drawing run. There have been two \$1,000,000 and 27 \$50,000 prizewinning tickets sold. In total, 1,080,889 New Jersey Lottery tickets won a total of \$9,433,291.

Perhaps Wednesday's drawing will bring the jackpot home to New Jersey. The New Jersey Lottery has had seven jackpot winning tickets for six draws (two NJ tickets received a share of one jackpot) since adding Powerball in January 2010. New Jersey's most recent win was on May 7, 2016 when the Smith Family won \$429.6 million with a cash value of \$284 million. They have created the Smith Family Foundation to assist people in the Trenton area and abroad with education and other good causes.

Powerball is played in 47 jurisdictions (44 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands), and is not played in Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Mississippi, Nevada, or Utah. Players select 5 numbers from 1-69 and 1 Powerball number from 1-26. The odds of hitting the jackpot are 1 in 292 million. The odds of winning any prize are 1 in 25.

\*Taxes will be deducted from the final jackpot amount.

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New Jersey Lottery • PO Box 041 • Trenton, NJ 08625 • NJLottery.com Must be 18 or older to buy a lottery ticket. Please play responsibly. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call 1-800-GAMBLER.

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Top 10 Jackpots, All Games					
Rank	Jackpot	Date	Game	Winning Tickets	Winning States
1	\$1.586 billion	January 13, 2016	Powerball	3	CA, FL, TN
	<b>\$700 million</b>	<b>current</b>	<b>Powerball</b>		
2	\$656 million	March 30, 2012	Mega Millions	3	KS, IL, MD
3	\$648 million	December 17, 2013	Mega Millions	2	CA, GA
4	\$590.5 million	May 18, 2013	Powerball	1	FL
5	\$587.5 million	November 28, 2012	Powerball	2	AZ, MO
6	\$564.1 million	February 11, 2015	Powerball	3	NC, PR, TX
7	\$536 million	July 8, 2016	Mega Millions	1	IN
8	\$487 million	July 30, 2016	Powerball	1	NH
9	\$448.4 million	August 7, 2013	Powerball	3	MN, NJ (2)
10	\$447.8 million	June 10, 2017	Powerball	1	CA

**ABOUT THE LOTTERY**

Since its inception in 1970, the New Jersey Lottery (NJLottery.com) has contributed nearly \$25 billion to the State in support of education and institutions.



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