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Draw game jackpots top \$300M

Mega Millions® and Powerball® both on the rise; NSJ too

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LITTLE ROCK – The year 2017 is ending with a bang – more bang for your draw game buck, that is! Friday night’s Mega Millions® jackpot is an estimated \$306 million, while Saturday night’s Powerball® jackpot is an estimated \$384 million.

“This is only the second time in history that both national draw games have gone over \$300 million at the same time, but it’s the fourth time this year that Powerball® has topped \$350 million,” Arkansas Scholarship Lottery Director Bishop Woosley said. “To add to the jackpot frenzy, the top prize for our Arkansas-only Natural State Jackpot tonight is \$115,000!”

And while these jackpots are huge, they’re not entirely unexpected: Mega Millions® underwent changes in October allowing for higher average jackpots, higher starting jackpots, and better odds to win \$1 million. The game is offered in 44 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Washington D.C. Meanwhile, Powerball® is sold in 47 lotteries across the nation, with players buying more than \$4 billion in tickets annually. Arkansas’s draw game, Natural State Jackpot, changed in March to have higher starting jackpots and larger rolls, as well.

The state has a winning history: Arkansas has had million dollar-plus Powerball® winners in Fayetteville, Uniontown, Conway, Hot Springs, Grubbs, De Queen, Little Rock, Searcy, Berryville and Jacksonville. And in March, the state had the largest jackpot ticket ever sold here: a \$177 million Mega Millions® jackpot winner in Stuttgart.

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions and other expenses in the state. Since the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery began in 2009, the Lottery has provided more than \$724 million for more than 275,000 scholarships to Arkansas students to 51 colleges, universities and technical schools in the state. It has provided more than \$2.4 billion in prizes to players, and more than \$206 million in commissions to Lottery retailers.

Follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Visit [MyArkansasLottery.com](#) for more information on scholarships, winners, games, odds, promotions -- and to join The Club for free. To hear winning numbers, call the Winning Numbers Hotline at 501-682-IWON (4966). To get help with problem gambling, contact the National Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-522-4700.

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