



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

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## **New Jersey Lottery Beneficiaries Receive Record-Breaking Contribution for Fiscal Year 2016**

**TRENTON – (Dec. 22, 2016)** – The New Jersey Lottery announced that it generated record ticket sales of more than \$3.29 billion for Fiscal Year 2016, marking the seventh consecutive year-over-year increase for the Lottery. Sales topped the prior year’s results of \$3.0 billion.

Increased sales resulted in a record-breaking contribution of \$987 million to the State on behalf of Lottery beneficiaries, up from \$960 million in Fiscal Year 2015. The Lottery is the State’s fourth largest revenue producer.

Players also had a notable prizewinning year with more than \$2 billion claimed besting the \$1.8 billion claimed in Fiscal Year 2015.

“Record-breaking sales enabled the Lottery to make a record-breaking contribution to its beneficiaries,” Carole Hedinger, New Jersey Lottery Executive Director, said. “Increasing revenue required innovation, such as introducing a new play-style with Fast Play; relaunching players’ favorite instant games, resulting in new sales achievements; and, bolstering winner awareness and jackpot excitement around the draw-based game category.”

Since its inception in 1970, the Lottery has contributed more than \$24.8 billion to programs and institutions that benefit millions of New Jersey residents. Some beneficiaries include: the School Nutrition Program, operating aid to public colleges and universities, higher education tuition aid grants, the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf, operational aid for centers working with developmentally disabled residents, and homes for disabled soldiers. A complete list of beneficiaries can be found at [www.NJLottery.com](http://www.NJLottery.com) in the Giving Back section.

Additionally, the Lottery plays a key role in supporting businesses throughout the State. Retailers benefit from the Lottery’s brand recognition and the consistent stream of customers it attracts to their stores. Retailers also earn a 5 percent commission on their Lottery ticket sales in addition to numerous bonus opportunities. In Fiscal Year 2016, Lottery retailers received \$186 million, up from \$170 million the prior year, in commissions and bonuses. The Lottery closed the year with 7,600 issued retailer licenses.

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New Jersey Lottery • PO Box 041 • Trenton, NJ 08625 • [NJLottery.com](http://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.