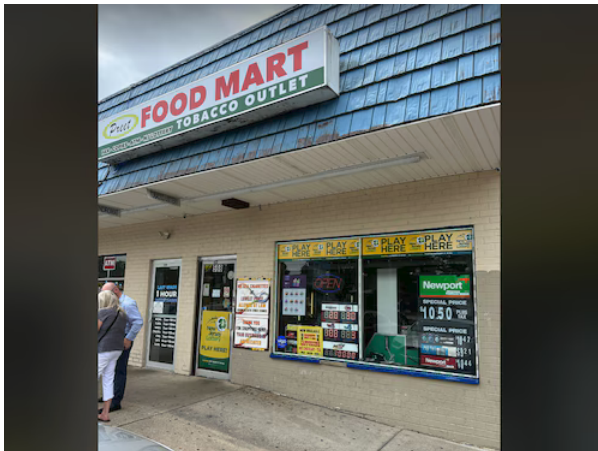


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Powerball \$221M jackpot winner in N.J. is a school bus driver, store worker says

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4–5 minutes



Preet Food Mart in Lindenwold where the jackpot-winning ticket for Monday's \$221 million Powerball drawing was sold. Matt Enuco/NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

By

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The [\\$221 million Powerball jackpot winner](#) for Monday's [lottery](#) drawing is a school bus driver and regular customer at the [New Jersey convenience store that sold the winning ticket](#), an employee said Tuesday.

Harish Patel, who works at Preet Food Mart on Chews Landing Road in Lindenwold, said he sold what turned out to be the lucky Quick Pick ticket to the winner at around 10:30 p.m. Monday, just minutes before the big drawing.

The man stops in the store often and usually buys about \$60 in tickets, Patel said,

[New Jersey Lottery](#) officials are hosting a press conference Tuesday to present the owner of Preet Food Mart with a \$30,000 bonus check for selling the jackpot winner, but the name of the person who could claim a much larger lottery payout may never be known publicly.

Gov. Phil Murphy signed a law more than four years ago [allowing lottery winners to remain anonymous](#) in New Jersey.

The winner has a year to claim the winnings, which has a cash option of \$104 million. The winner would take home about \$71 million after federal and state taxes are deducted, lottery officials said .

The Powerball win is the second big multi-state lottery winning ticket sold in New Jersey this year.

Less than three months ago, someone who [bought a ticket at ShopRite in Neptune Township hit a massive \\$1.13 billion Mega Millions jackpot](#). No winner in that monster jackpot has been announced so far.

The Powerball ticket sold at Preet Food Mart for Monday's drawing was the only ticket sold across the country to match five numbers plus the Powerball and has an estimated cash option of \$104.7 million.

[Monday's winning Powerball numbers](#) were: **3, 10, 33, 58** and **59**.

The Powerball drawn was **9** with a Power Play of **2x**.

The winner overcame odds of 292,201,388 to 1 to win the jackpot.

The Powerball jackpot had been growing since a [ticket purchased in Florida hit the \\$214.9 million jackpot](#) in Florida on May 6.

No tickets across the country won second-prize amounts in Monday's drawing. There were no third-prize, \$50,000 tickets sold in New Jersey.

Before Monday, the last time someone in New Jersey hit a Powerball jackpot was Jan. 30, 2021.

A player who bought a ticket at QuickChek on Ridgedale Avenue in the Cedar Knolls section of Hanover [won the \\$33.2 million prize](#) that night. The winner claimed the prize anonymously. The ticket had a cash option of \$24.8 million, according to Powerball officials.

It marked the second consecutive week a jackpot-winning Powerball ticket was bought in North Jersey. Someone who bought a ticket at a Clifton convenience store [won the \\$23.3 million jackpot](#) on Jan. 23, 2021.

There have been 13 Powerball jackpots won in New Jersey since the game's inception in 1992, according to lottery records.

The \$1.13 billion prize won in Monmouth County on March 26 is the biggest prize ever won in New Jersey and the eighth largest in U.S. lottery history.

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