

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012
CONTACT: Media Relations, 512-344-5131
mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us



TEXAS LOTTERY® REVENUE FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION JUMPS \$133 MILLION IN 2012

Record-setting year results in more than \$1 billion to Foundation School Fund

(AUSTIN) – The Texas Lottery Commission today reported record results for fiscal year 2012, gaining \$133 million in revenue over last year for the state’s Foundation School Fund, an increase of 13.8 percent. Record sales of \$4.19 billion shattered the previous sales record of \$3.81 billion set in 2011 and resulted in a total contribution of \$1.096 billion to the Foundation School Fund, which supports public education in Texas.

“With sales up 10 percent over last year, this is the ninth consecutive year that the Texas Lottery generated more than \$1 billion in contributions to the state of Texas,” said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery. “This is our largest transfer to the Foundation School Fund since 1998, and I want to thank all of our players, retailers, vendors and staff for this outstanding performance.”

The Texas Lottery saw sales increases across its game portfolio. Scratch-off ticket sales totaled more than \$3.09 billion and accounted for 73.6 percent of fiscal year 2012 sales. Sales for the Texas Lottery’s draw games, which include *Powerball*®, *Mega Millions*®, *Lotto Texas*®, *Texas Two Step*®, *Pick 3*™, *Daily 4*® and *Cash Five*®, totaled more than \$1.10 billion and accounted for 26.4 percent of sales.*

Sales of the *Veterans Cash* scratch-off game resulted in \$4.7 million for the Fund for Veterans’ Assistance, which is administered by the Texas Veterans Commission. Other Texas Lottery funds, including unclaimed prizes, resulted in a transfer of \$46 million to the state’s General Revenue Fund. In all, approximately 96 percent of the record \$4.19 billion in sales was returned to the state in prizes, retailer commissions and bonuses, and transfers to various state funds.

(more)

Texas Lottery players had a great year as well, with a record \$2.68 billion collected in cash and merchandise prizes, easily surpassing the past record of \$2.39 billion set in fiscal year 2011.

For the state's more than 17,000 Texas Lottery retailers that collect a 5 percent commission on every lottery sale, those commissions amounted to a record \$209.8 million in 2012. On top of the record-setting sales, prizes, commissions and revenue increases, other Texas Lottery highlights for fiscal year 2012 include:

- The new \$2 *Powerball* game launched in January, featuring bigger prizes, better odds of winning and more chances to win.
- In February, the Texas Lottery surpassed \$14 billion in transfers to the Foundation School Fund.
- A world-record \$656 million *Mega Millions* jackpot in March helped the Texas Lottery achieve several new records, including highest draw sales per minute, highest total sales day, highest total sales week and highest total sales month.
- In May, the Texas Lottery celebrated its 20th anniversary.
- In August, the Texas Lottery established its social media presence on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

“We are extremely pleased with the results of the last fiscal year,” said Mary Ann Williamson, chair of the Texas Lottery Commission. “The Texas Lottery continues to set new standards for success in its mission to generate revenue for the state of Texas, and we’re looking forward to building on that success in the future.”

###

Note to Editors: Please see attached .pdf document for detailed, game-specific information.

*Sales for the Texas Lottery's newest draw game, *All or Nothing*[™], did not begin until after the close of FY 2012