

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - February 28, 2001

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\$45 MILLION *LOTTO TEXAS* JACKPOT KEEPS SALES BRISK THROUGHOUT THE DAY

(Austin, February 28) - Tonight's \$45 million *Lotto Texas* jackpot has grabbed players' interest and kept sales climbing all day.

This is the highest *Lotto* jackpot since we climbed to \$48 million last November," said Texas Lottery Executive Director Linda Cloud. "Our sales got a fast start this morning and have been increasing all day."

During the lunchtime rush, players were buying 7,887 tickets per minute. The count between 2 and 3 p.m. showed tickets were selling at 9,700 tickets per minute. In the first 30 minutes of the 3 o'clock hour, tickets were going at approximately 12,500 per minute.

"I don't get tired of telling people that *Lotto* is a jackpot-driven game," Cloud said. "The higher the jackpot goes, so our sales also go."

The next rush of sales is expected during drive time between 5 and 7 p.m.

"We can expect sales to top the lunchtime rush," Cloud said. "We will probably get close to selling one million tickets per hour."

Cloud said tonight's *Lotto Texas* jackpot is the second highest in the nation behind California, which has a \$60 million prize for its six-of-six game.

If there is no winner tonight, the *Lotto Texas* jackpot will roll to \$56 million for Saturday's drawing.

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The Texas Lottery, the 4th largest selling lottery in North America, is "Focusing on the Future of Education, One Ticket At A Time." By providing the 'Games of Texas' for more than 10 years, the Texas Lottery Commission (TLC) has generated more than \$10 billion for the state and paid nearly \$17 billion to players in prizes. For more information about the TLC, please visit the official website at <http://www.txlottery.org>