

# Powerball jackpot winner instantly a member of the top 0.01%, worth more than some countries





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### **By Matt Rocheleau**

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Win a \$758-million jackpot and you will instantly ...

# Become a member of the top 0.01 percent

According to a <u>study</u> published last year by a pair of top economists, the top 0.01 percent of families in the United States, as of 2012, were those with more than \$100 million.

The study said that only about 16,000 families nationwide had that level of wealth as of 2012.

# And be worth more than the gross domestic product of at least 10 small countries

The GPD (a key measure of a country's economy) in 2016 for each of the following places, all of which are island nations, was lower than the lottery jackpot payout, based on available data from the World Bank:

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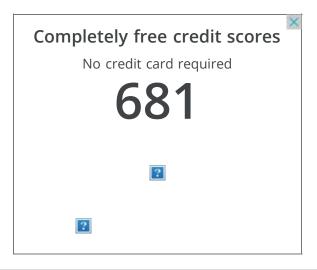
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# Another interesting note: Most jackpot winners take the lump-sum cash option

Based on available data for Powerball jackpot <u>winners since 2003</u>, 187 out of the 195 jackpot prizes, or 96 percent, were taken as a one-time, lump-sum cash payment. (Not counting the jackpot won

## Wednesday.)

In only four cases since 2003 did winners chose to receive their prize in 30 annual payments.

In two other cases, some of the winnings were taken as a lump-sum cash payment and the rest as annuity payments.

In one of those cases <u>in Aug. 2006</u>, 100 co-workers at a Wisconsin cheese company who pooled their money to buy Powerball tickets split the \$208.6 million prize, with each getting the option to pick either annuity or lump-sum payments.

In the other case in April 2006, a group of 13 state employees in Missouri split a \$224.2 million jackpot. Media reports at the time said the workers agreed to take the lump-sum payment, but Powerball records indicate a mix of payout options were selected.

And, believe it or not two jackpots went unclaimed.

One of three winning tickets sold for a \$50-million drawing in May 2013 was <u>never claimed</u>. The ticket, worth \$16 million, was sold at a Tampa Bay-area convenience store. (The other two winning tickets for that drawing, sold in Delaware and Louisiana, were claimed.)

The other <u>unclaimed jackpot</u>, the lone winning ticket for \$77.1 million, was sold in Georgia for a drawing in June 2011.

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