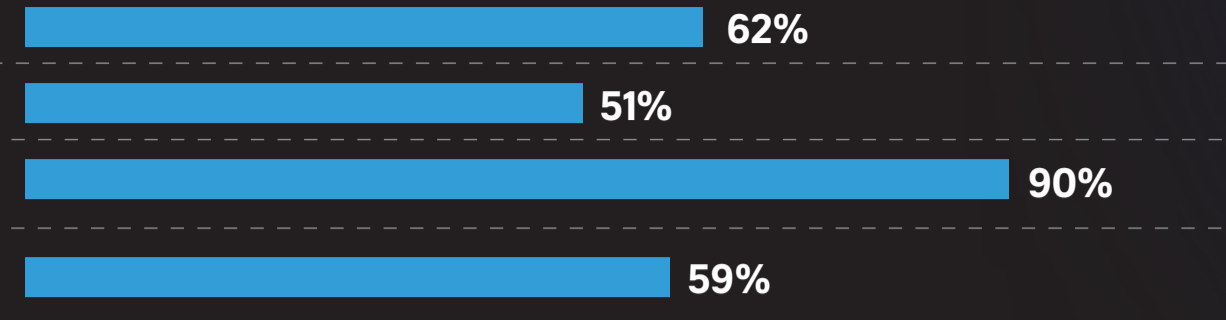
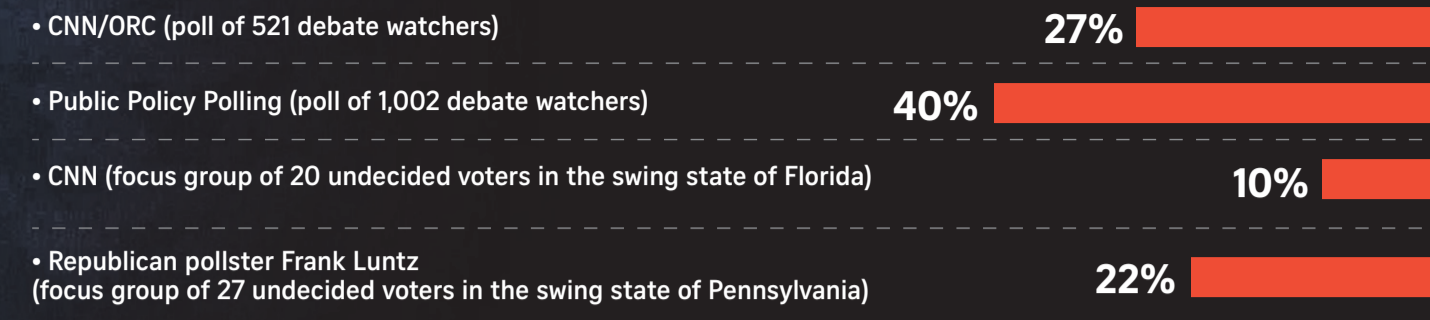


## WHO WON?

It will be a few more days before methodical polls are out but surveys of small focus groups and debate watchers showed

Mrs Clinton the winner of the first presidential debate. But online polls conducted by news websites such as Time and CNBC showed Mr Trump far ahead.



## FIVE KEY MOMENTS

It was not the all-out brawl that some had expected, but there were still plenty of snippy exchanges between Mrs Hillary Clinton and Mr Donald Trump at their first presidential debate. ST's US bureau chief Jeremy Au Yong highlights some of the key moments.

### FREE TRADE

**WHAT HE SAID:**  
"Now you want to approve Trans-Pacific Partnership. You were totally in favour of it. Then you heard what I was saying, how bad it is, and you said, I can't win that debate. But you know that if you did win, you would approve that."

**WHAT SHE SAID:**  
"There are different views about what's good for our country, our economy and our leadership in the world. And I think it's important to look at what we need to do to get the economy going again."

**WHO WON:**  
Mr Trump clearly came out on top on the issue of free trade. With trade deals politically unpopular in the US, his harsh criticism of them put him on firmer ground. He was thus able to push Mrs Clinton on her flip-flopping as well as paint her as an ineffective political insider.

### TAX RETURNS AND E-MAILS

**WHAT HE SAID:**  
"That (Mrs Clinton's use of a private e-mail server) was not a mistake. That was done purposely. When you have your staff taking the Fifth Amendment, taking the Fifth so they're not prosecuted, when you have the man that set up the illegal server taking the Fifth, I think it's disgraceful."

**WHAT SHE SAID:**  
"You've got to ask yourself, why won't he release his tax returns? And I think there may be a couple of reasons. First, maybe he's not as rich as he says he is. Second, maybe he's not as charitable as he claims to be... Or maybe he doesn't want the American people, all of you watching tonight, to know that he's paid nothing in federal taxes."

**WHO WON:**  
It was an exchange on who had the bigger transparency problem – was it Mrs Clinton and her e-mails, or Mr Trump and his tax returns? Mrs Clinton got the better of her rival here as her calculated undermining of his business acumen clearly got under his skin. Mr Trump ended up spending most of his time defending his own business practices and almost no time on the e-mail scandal.

### PREPARATION

**WHAT HE SAID:**  
"And I will tell you, you look at the inner cities – and I just left Detroit, and I just left Philadelphia, and I just – you know, you've seen me, I've been all over the place. You decided to stay home, and that's OK."

**WHAT SHE SAID:**  
"I think Donald just criticised me for preparing for this debate. And, yes, I did. And you know what else I prepared for? I prepared to be president. And I think that's a good thing."

**WHO WON:**  
It was perhaps apt that an exchange about preparation favoured the more prepared candidate. In a line that got some of the loudest applause of the night, Mrs Clinton turned a jab at her being missing from the campaign trail into an attack on Mr Trump's lack of preparation.

### BIRTHERISM

**WHAT HE SAID:**  
"When you talk about healing, I think that I've developed very, very good relationships over the last little while with the African-American community. I think you can see that. And I feel that they really wanted me to come to that conclusion. And I think I did a great job and a great service not only for the country, but even for the President, in getting him to produce his birth certificate."

**WHAT SHE SAID:**  
"Well, just listen to what you heard."

**WHO WON:**  
Another good moment for Mrs Clinton. Mr Trump struggled to come up with a coherent answer as to why he continued to perpetuate a lie about Mr Barack Obama's birthplace years after the President had produced his birth certificate. And as the billionaire fumbled through his answer, Mrs Clinton smiled, kept silent and then delivered a cutting reply that drew laughter from the audience.

### TEMPERAMENT

**WHAT HE SAID:**  
"Well, I have much better judgment than she does. There's no question about that. I also have a much better temperament than she has, you know?"

**WHAT SHE SAID:**  
"Whew, OK."

**WHO WON:**  
Perhaps more devastating than anything in Mrs Clinton's reply on this matter was the reaction of the crowd. When Mr Trump decided to declare himself the owner of the better temperament, the audience laughed.

PHOTOS: AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

TRUMP

CLINTON