

# ITMG 350 Prediction Report

## SUPER BOWL LII



MY PREDICTION  
Patriots 24 Eagles 17

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## ***MY ANALYSIS***

My main motive for predicting the winner of Super Bowl LII was due to my own belief and knowledge of football. I consider myself a very avid football fan because I follow football very closely throughout the entire season.

Sadly, my prediction was very wrong for not only the score of the game, but also for who won. I predicted that the Patriots would win 24 – 17, while the real outcome of the game favored the Eagles by a score of 41 – 33.

I believed the Patriots were going to win primarily off of the fact that they have the greatest quarterback of all time under center, along with the greatest head coach of all time manning the helm (both my opinions). Tom Brady came back from a 25-point deficit during 2017's Super Bowl, and I believe Bill Belichick played a major role with helping Tom Brady succeed because of his halftime adjustments. Therefore, I believed that the Patriots game plan was going to be better than that of the Eagles.

Secondly, I believed that the Eagle's "top ranked" defense wasn't as good as the numbers displayed because they lacked solid defensive backs. I believed that the secondary of the Eagles was not going to be able to contain Tom Brady and the Patriot's passing game – which in part was correct. Tom Brady threw for over 500 yards and 3 touchdowns, but the Patriots' defense could not stop the potent Eagle's offense, and ultimately Tom Brady's effort wasn't enough.

Lastly, superstition also played a role in my prediction that the Patriots were going to win. In the last thirteen Super Bowls, the team wearing the white jersey has won twelve of them.

Therefore, due to those three reasons, I predicted that the Patriots would be victorious, but unfortunately, I was wrong.

(link to article displaying that white jerseys have won 12 of the last 13 - <https://www.sbnation.com/2017/2/6/14522772/super-bowl-2017-white-jerseys-streak>.)

# **EXPERT ANALYSIS**

Patriots were favored by 4.5 points according to OddsShark.  
(<http://www.oddsshark.com/super-bowl>.)

## Expert Picks

### *Picked the Patriots (8)*

Gary Davenport, **NFL analyst**

Tyler Dunne, **NFL lead features writer**

Doug Farrar, **NFL lead scout**

Mike Freeman, **NFL national lead Writer**

Brad Gagnon, **NFL analyst**

Matt Miller, **NFL draft lead Writer**

Dan Pompei, **NFL columnist**

Sean Tomlinson, **NFL analyst**

### *Picked the Eagles (2)*

Brent Sobleski, **NFL analyst**

Mike Tanier, **NFL national lead Writer**

(<http://bleacherreport.com/articles/2754759-bleacher-reports-expert-super-bowl-ii-picks-predictions>.)

# PREDICTION MACHINE

Prometheus NFL Stat Program															
If you do not already know the rankings of the teams click on this U <a href="http://www.stats.nfl.com">http://www.stats.nfl.com</a> Look under standing/teams and select team rankings.															
Team	prediction	%	off	or	op	def	dr	dp	ven	omo	ormor	opmop	defmdef	drmdr	dpmdp
Patriots	Win	73.86%	1	10	2	29	20	30	0	-6	7	-11	25	19	13
Eagles	Loss	50.53%	7	3	13	4	1	17		6	-7	11	-25	-19	-13

Instructions

Enter Team A Data

Enter Team B Data

As shown, the prediction machine also favored the Patriots purely based off of regular season statistics.

Thus, I believe that the Patriots should have won Super Bowl LII and the Eagles pulled off an amazing upset.

NFL Stats

(<http://www.nfl.com/stats/team?seasonId=2017&seasonType=REG&Submit=Go.>)

# ***WHY THE PATRIOTS LOST***

I believe that the Patriots lost due to three key factors: Time of Possession, Rushing Attack, and 4<sup>th</sup> Down Efficiency.

## ***Time of Possession –***

The Eagles controlled the tempo of the football game from the very first snap all the way until the final whistle was blown. They had possession of the ball for over 34 minutes, which is over 56% of the entire game. This statistic allowed the Eagles to tire out the Patriots defense, which in turn was only able to force the Eagles to punt the ball one time.

## ***Rushing Attack –***

The rushing game for the Eagles was phenomenal throughout the game and accounted for 164 yards with an average of 6.1 yards per rush and one rushing touchdown. Both of those statistics are very impressive and played a major role in not only the Eagles' success, but also for why the Eagles possessed the ball for so much time during the game.

## ***4<sup>th</sup> Down Efficiency –***

Lastly, the Eagles were 2 for 2 on 4<sup>th</sup> down during the game, and both times they went for it on 4<sup>th</sup> down, it added major momentum for their team. One of the 4<sup>th</sup> down conversions in particular was deep in Patriots territory and they ended up scoring a touchdown on the play. If the Eagles would have failed to convert on 4<sup>th</sup> down, they not only would have lost possession of the ball, but they also would have lost an opportunity to at least kick a field goal and score three points.