



More crazy stats about Patriots win

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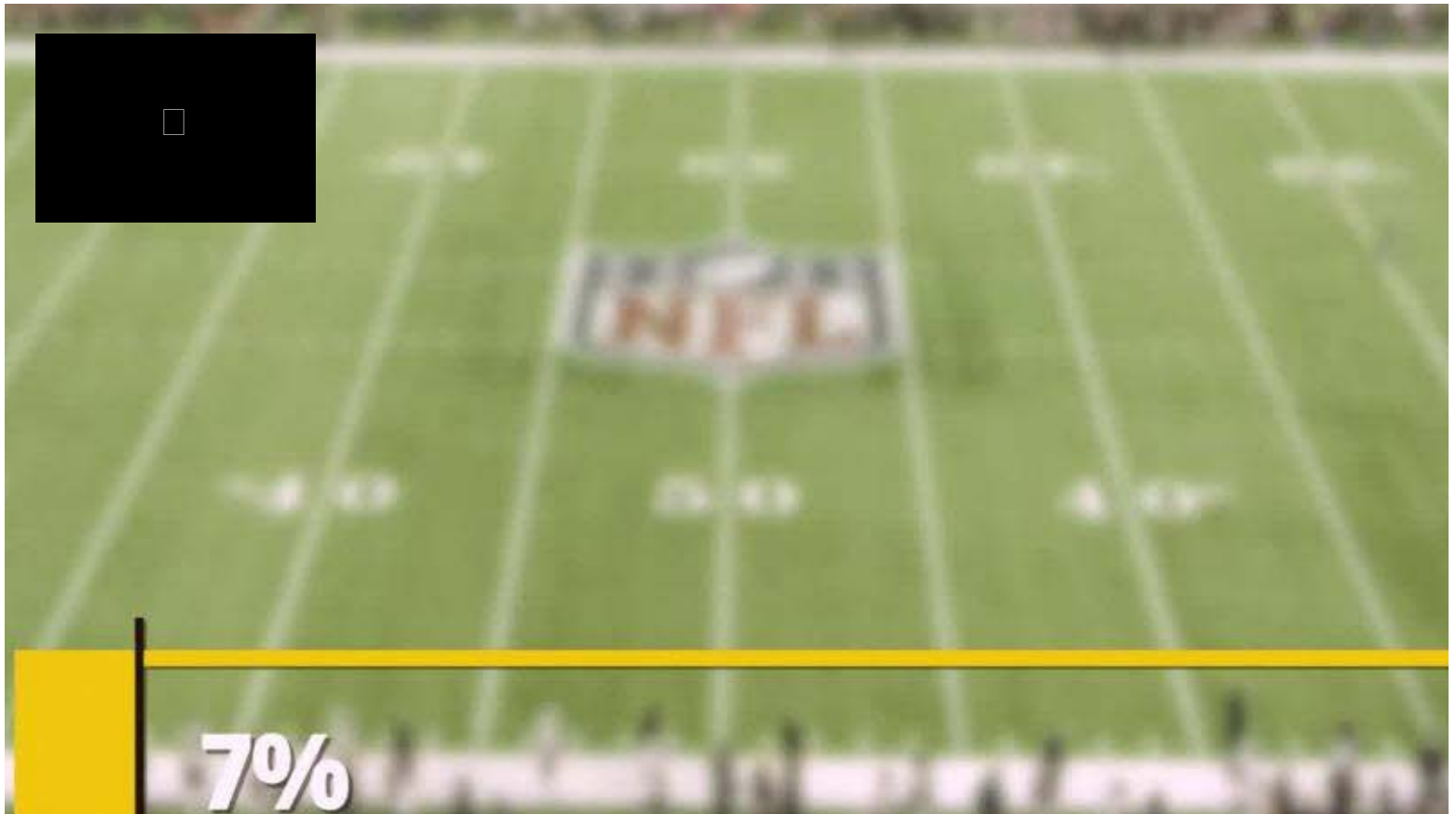
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By [Matt Rocheleau](#)

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The only stat that really mattered Sunday was 34-28. But the historic Super Bowl produced a slew of other interesting factoids.

A recap of the major records that were broken or tied can be found [here](#).



Below are some more crazy numbers to savor:

The biggest comeback in Patriots franchise history

Sunday's 25-point comeback wasn't only the largest deficit overcome by any team in a Super Bowl, it was also the single biggest comeback in the history of the Patriots franchise, according to [Pro Football Reference](#).

The next-largest comeback was also orchestrated by Tom Brady. On Nov. 24, 2013, the Pats [erased a 24-point deficit to stun the Peyton Manning-led Denver Broncos](#) 34-31 in overtime on a cold, windy night in Foxborough.

The next-largest comeback in Patriots *playoff* history also happened with Brady leading the charge. On Jan. 10, 2015, [New England erased a 14-deficit \(twice!\)](#) to defeat the Baltimore Ravens in an AFC divisional round game played in Foxborough.

The Patriots win on Sunday also tied with two other games as [the fourth-biggest comeback in NFL history and was the third-largest comeback in NFL postseason play](#).

The [largest comeback ever](#) in league history was a Buffalo Bills win over the Houston Oilers in a 1993 first-round playoff game. The Bills were down 35-3 in the second half but pulled off a miraculous comeback to win 41-38 in overtime.



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The Patriots led the game for 0.00 seconds

In all, the two teams squared off for [63 minutes and 58 seconds of game play](#). The Falcons led for 41 minutes and 18 seconds. The teams were tied for the remaining 22 minutes and 40 seconds, most of which happened early on when the game was knotted at 0-0, while a smaller chunk came at the end of regulation and during overtime.

When James White muscled his way into the end zone to break the 28-28 tie in OT, it finally gave the Patriots the lead, but also immediately ended the game.

The final score was the most-lopsided in a Super Bowl in the Brady-Belichick era

The Patriots have had plenty of nerve-racking, dramatic Super Bowl finishes, and Sunday's game was no different.

But the six-point win wound up being the most-lopsided final score of the seven Super Bowls the team has played during the Brady-Belichick era.

Of the other six Super Bowls during that stretch, four were decided by just three points and two were decided by four points.

The Patriots put up 34 points without kicking a successful PAT

Late in the third quarter, New England kicker Stephen Gostkowski missed what ended up being the team's only attempt at a one-point PAT attempt.

That miss — along with the Patriots having to settle for field goals on two other drives — put the team in a position late in the game where they felt they had to go for a pair of two-point conversions just to tie the game.

And because the winning touchdown came in overtime, it ended the game immediately. No need to go for an extra-point there.

No team had ever thrown a pick-six in a Super Bowl and won

Brady was picked off by Falcons cornerback Robert Alford, who returned it 82 yards for a touchdown.

That pick-six not only extended the Falcons to lead to 21-0, it also appeared to be a [surefire sign](#) that Atlanta would win.

The Patriots odds of winning fell below 1 percent late in the game

Probability measures like these have been [disputed](#), but according to ones calculated during the course of the game by both [ESPN](#) and [Pro Football Reference](#), the likelihood of the Falcons winning was greater than 99 percent at multiple points late in the second half.

Teams losing in playoff games by 17 or more points after three quarters were 0-133 all time

Another [stat that shows just how improbable](#) the Patriots comeback was.

The Patriots found themselves trailing by at least 17 points after three quarters in [four other playoff games](#) in franchise history, most recently on [Jan. 19, 2014](#), when Brady and the Pats faced a 20-3 deficit heading into the final quarter and fell to the Broncos in Denver 26-16.

Brady (age 39!) had the longest rush of his playoff career

Facing third down and eight from the Atlanta 35 yard line with less than 5 minutes left in the third quarter, Brady [scrambled for 15 yards](#) picking up a first down on what ended up being a key touchdown drive in the Patriots epic comeback.

While a prolific passer, Brady is not known for his speed and doesn't run often.

That was the longest rush play for Brady in the 34 playoff games he's played in, [according to stats from ESPN](#).

Brady's next longest playoff run was 12 yards, once a piece during postseason games in 2004 and 2007.

Brady's longest run in any game was a 22-yard scamper against the Cincinnati Bengals in October 2006.

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