



2016 Election: A Breakdown of the Candidates

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In an election year that appears to be anything but conventional, voters may have slightly better clarity on Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton and where they stand on key issues following the conclusion of the two major political party conventions.

Differences in economic policies of Clinton and Trump mostly follow along party lines and viewpoints about the role of government. Clinton proposes a measured agenda. It is one that offers change, but without revamping the existing system and without throwing aside longstanding practices such as staying within budget constraints. Trump is focused on three main economic policy issues: 1) raise barriers to immigration; 2) impose large tariffs on goods from Mexico and China; and 3) enact large tax cuts.

The presidential candidates' policy platform on key issues is detailed on the following pages and is reflective of information released as of September 12, 2016. However, details are expected to continue to emerge or change as the official debate season begins and as Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump enter the final weeks of the U.S. presidential campaign.

Looking forward, the Commission on Presidential Debates has announced the following dates for the upcoming three presidential debates and one vice presidential debate where the candidates will meet head-to-head and discuss their positions on key economic and political issues.

- ▶ First presidential debate: September 26, 2016 at Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY
- ▶ Vice presidential debate: October 4, 2016 at Longwood University, Farmville, VA
- ▶ Second presidential debate: October 9, 2016 at Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
- ▶ Third presidential debate: October 19, 2016 at UNLV, Las Vegas, NV

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Sources: The Tax Policy Center, The Tax Foundation, The Commission on Presidential Debates, The Candidates' campaign websites, and numerous financial publications, including the Wall Street Journal, Bloomberg and Barron's.



	Hillary Clinton (D)	Donald Trump (R)
Individual Taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4% tax surcharge on income >\$5M • “Buffett Rule” - minimum 30% tax rate for incomes >\$1M • Itemized deductions capped at tax value of 28% • Increase tax rate tiers on capital gains from 2 to 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce tax brackets from 7 to 3 (12%, 25% and 33%) • Increase standard deduction to \$25,000/person • Taxes on dividends and capital gains capped at 20% • Repeal AMT, estate tax and gift tax
Corporate Taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No proposal changing corporate income taxes • Proposals tied to policy goals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Broaden definition of inversion transaction 2. Prevent “earnings stripping” of U.S. affiliates of multinational companies 3. Levy exit tax on multinational companies departing the U.S. before recognizing earnings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce corporate tax rate from 35% to 15% • Disallow deferral of corporate income taxes on foreign income • Bring overseas corporate money back to U.S. with one-time repatriation tax rate of 10% • Limits on interest expense deductions
Healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the Affordable Care Act and would seek to expand access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposes \$275 billion in infrastructure spending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposes more than \$500 billion in infrastructure spending
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wants to make in-state public colleges and universities tuition-free for middle class families; proposes measures that provide student loan debt relief 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details are still emerging on the candidate’s higher education policy
Entitlement Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposes to expand entitlement programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposes to leave entitlement programs mostly unchanged
Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reject trade agreements that do not meet high standards • Proposes renegotiation of North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) • Opposes the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposes a renegotiation of NAFTA • Opposes TPP • Proposes protections against currency manipulation and trade enforcement with China
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Energy Challenge – includes grants and tax incentives for solar, wind and other renewable energy efforts • Opposes Keystone pipeline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • America First Energy Plan – lift moratorium on energy production in federal areas • Proposals that support America’s coal industry • Supports Keystone pipeline

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Wall Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax on high-frequency trading • Supports more regulation and defends initiatives such as the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Dodd-Frank Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeks to scale back or repeal Dodd-Frank Act • Moratorium on new federal regulation
Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports immigration reform with a pathway to citizenship • Supports proposals such as the DREAM Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased enforcement • Heightened border control between the U.S. and Mexico
Defense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vows to strengthen partnerships with key alliances • Proposes reforms to attract new armed forces recruits • Seeks major initiatives that support veterans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States he will increase military spending • Calls for a “rethink” of U.S. involvement in NATO • Seeks major initiatives that support veterans

Markets often react negatively to uncertainty, and this political campaign season continues to provide exactly that. In the coming weeks, market volatility might very well continue ahead of the U.S. presidential election scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

DiMEO Schneider & Associates, L.L.C. continues to believe that maintaining a diversified portfolio and following a disciplined rebalancing plan will help enable investors to weather volatility in such uncertain times. We believe that our role as advisors becomes even more significant during volatile and unpredictable times and stand ready to listen and provide straightforward advice. For further information and assistance, please contact any of the professionals at DiMEO Schneider & Associates, L.L.C.

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