

Beating the Odds Overview

What is Beating the Odds (BTO)?

- BTO is a statistical analysis that provides additional context for a school's CCRPI score based on characteristics outside the school's control.
- The primary purpose of BTO is to complement the CCRPI as an accountability measure in performance contracts between schools or districts and the State Board of Education.

What school characteristics are included in BTO?

- BTO includes multiple school characteristics outside of a school's control:
 - Percent of Students by Race/Ethnicity;
 - Percent of Students who are Students with Disabilities (SWD), English Language Learners (ELL), or Economically Disadvantaged (ED);
 - Enrollment (October FTE K-12 enrollment count);
 - Student Mobility Rate (Churn Rate); and
 - Grade Cluster (Elementary, Middle, High, Elementary/Middle, Middle/High, or K-12).

How is BTO calculated?

- Page 2 lists the steps used to calculate BTO and includes a figure to describe how BTO works. For a more detailed explanation and full datasets, access additional resources on GOSA's [Beating the Odds](#) website.

If a school "Beats the Odds," does it mean that a school is performing well?

- Not necessarily. Schools that "Beat the Odds" may have low CCRPI scores and/or gaps in performance.
- Conversely, schools with high CCRPI scores may not "Beat the Odds" if they are performing lower than other schools with similar characteristics.
- BTO results are only one piece of information that should be used to analyze a school's performance.

Who calculates BTO?

- The Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA) calculates BTO each year after the CCRPI is released. The results are shared with the Georgia Department of Education and posted on GOSA's website: <https://gosa.georgia.gov/beating-odds-analysis>

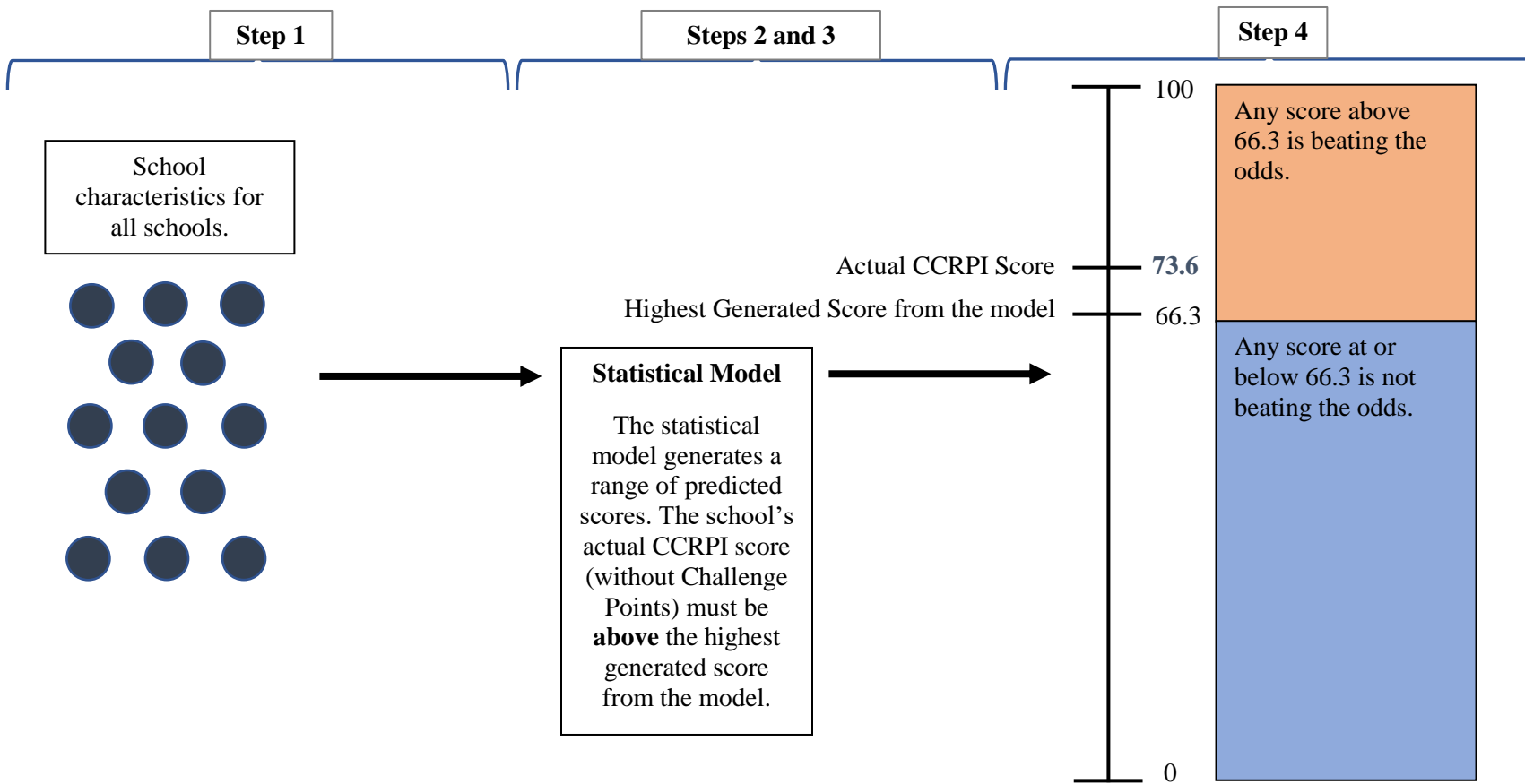
How can I find out what schools are similar to my school?

- The BTO formula does not provide a list of specific, similar schools since the model is run for all schools at once.

How can a school improve its chance of Beating the Odds?

- The goal for schools is to increase their CCRPI score. BTO is meant to complement the CCRPI. Due to the fact that the BTO model is based on demographics outside of the school's control, the best way to improve the chance of Beating the Odds is to increase the CCRPI score.

Beating the Odds



Step 1: Key Question Answered

How much does each characteristic on average relate to the CCRPI?

Step 2 & 3: Key Question Answered

If each school's characteristics had the average relationship with its CCRPI, what would we predict the CCRPI score to be?

Step 4: Key Question Answered

How sure are we that the school's actual CCRPI is higher than this predicted CCRPI?

Beating the Odds Steps

Step 1: All schools' CCRPI scores and school characteristics are included in a statistical regression model that determines how much each characteristic on average contributes to the CCRPI score.

Step 2: The statistical model then predicts what each school's CCRPI would be if we only looked at the estimates calculated in Step 1 and ignored its actual CCRPI.

Step 3: Since the prediction is based on many (not all) factors that relate to the CCRPI, there is error in the prediction. So, we estimate that error using a 95% confidence interval around the predicted CCRPI, which is a generally accepted method for determining a range in statistics.

Step 4: If a school's actual CCRPI is higher than the confidence interval, then we can be confident (in statistical terms) that the school's actual CCRPI is higher than the BTO analysis predicts.

For a more detailed explanation, access the [BTO Calculation Guide](#) on GOSA's website.