

## Beating the Odds Overview

### What is Beating the Odds (BTO)?

- BTO is a statistical analysis that provides additional context for a school's College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) score based on characteristics outside of 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 is a statistical model that includes multiple school characteristics outside of a school's control:
  - Percentage of directly certified (DC) students;
  - Percentage of English language learners (ELL);
  - Percentage of students with disabilities (SWD);
  - Percentage of students by race/ethnicity;
  - Percentage of female students;
  - Student mobility rate (churn rate);
  - Enrollment (October Full-Time Equivalent [FTE] K-12 enrollment count);
  - Whether a school is defined as non-traditional ([see definition](#)); and
  - Grade Cluster (Elementary, Middle, High, Elementary/Middle, Middle/High, or Elementary/Middle/High).

### How is BTO calculated?

- Page 2 lists the steps used to calculate BTO and includes a figure to describe how BTO works. A more detailed explanation as well as full datasets are available on GOSA's [Beating the Odds](#) website.

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

- Not necessarily. BTO results are only one piece of information that should be used to analyze a school's performance.
- 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 their scores are lower than other schools with similar characteristics.

### 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>.

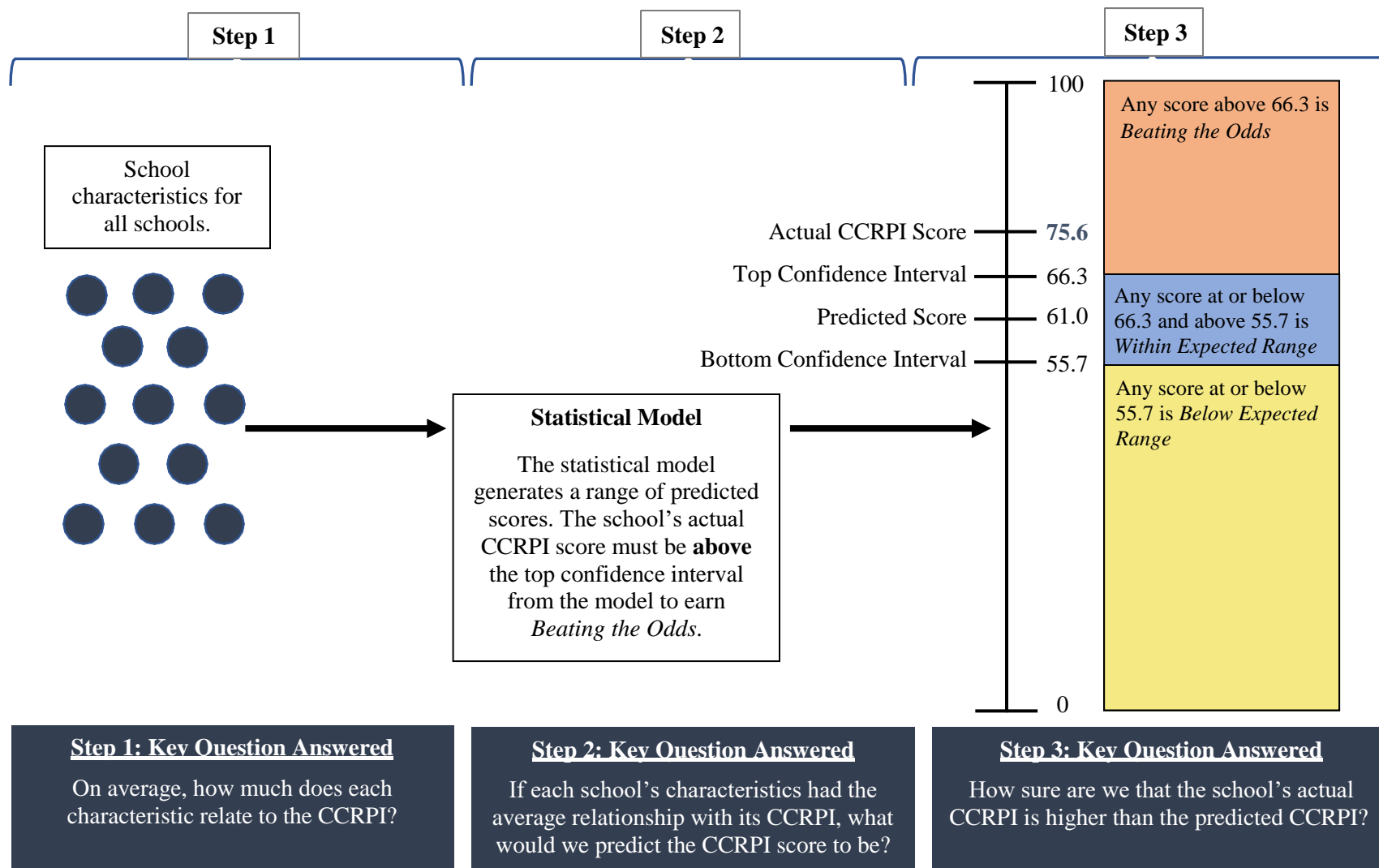
### How can I find out what schools are similar to my school?

- 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?

- BTO measures how well a school performs, as measured by the CCRPI, against factors outside of the school's control. Therefore, the best way for a school to improve its chances of Beating the Odds is to increase its CCRPI score.

## Beating the Odds Process Overview



### 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 contributes to the CCRPI score, on average.

**Step 2:** The statistical model then predicts what each school's CCRPI score would be if we only looked at the estimates calculated in Step 1 and ignored its actual CCRPI. Since the prediction is based on many (not all) factors that relate to the CCRPI, there is error in the prediction. We estimate that error using the predicted score, plus/minus half the standard deviation of the forecast.

**Step 3:** If a school's actual CCRPI is higher than the top confidence interval, then we can be confident (in statistical terms) that the school's actual CCRPI is higher than what the BTO analysis predicts.

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