2013 Reward Schools in Brief

Of the schools ranked on the Top-to-Bottom List (TTB),1 **Reward Schools** are made up of three categories. **High Performing** Reward Schools are the top 5% of schools, or those ranked in the 95th-99th percentiles. **High Progress** Reward Schools are determined by ranking all TTB schools by their improvement and selecting the top 5%. **Beating the Odds** Reward Schools are schools that are outperforming their predicted rank on the TTB List, or outperforming similar schools, given select risk factors to student achievement. This brief discusses characteristics of the 2013 Reward School List.

**Characteristics of the 2013 Reward School List**

- 342 schools were designated Reward in 2013. Of these schools, 141 are identified as High Performing and 141 are identified as High Progress schools.

- 129 schools were determined to be Beating the Odds (BTO). 63 schools were identified only in BTO study 1, which recognizes schools that outperform their predicted rank on the TTB list. 36 were identified in BTO study 2 only, which highlights schools that are outperforming schools with similar characteristics. 30 schools were identified by both BTO studies. Of these 129 BTO schools, 69 were already named in the high performing or high progress analyses. Thus, 60 schools qualify for Reward status due to BTO status alone.

- High schools are overrepresented among High Progress schools, while elementary and middle schools are overrepresented among High Performing schools. Twenty nine percent of High Progress schools are high schools, while only 17% of all ranked schools are high schools. Eighty seven percent of High Performing schools are elementary or middle schools, compared to the 78% of elementary and middle schools statewide.

- Rural schools are overrepresented among High Progress and Beating the Odds schools: 38% of High Progress schools and 45% of BTO schools are in rural areas, while only 30% of schools statewide are located in rural areas. Suburban schools are overrepresented among High Performing schools.

1 The Top-to-Bottom List is a performance ranking of schools based on achievement, improvement and within-school achievement gaps. For more information please see TTB documentation on the accountability section of [www.michigan.gov/ttb](http://www.michigan.gov/ttb).