

## Metrics

Metric	Description
MAE	Mean absolute error
O/U accuracy	Percentage of correct Over/Under predictions by the model

In this study, two metrics are used to guide model evaluation — mean absolute error (MAE) and O/U accuracy.

MAE calculates the average of the absolute value of the error between the predicted value and the resulting score. In this study, this value will generally be relatively high, largely due to the varying nature of the sport, with total scores in the dataset ranging from 6 to 105 points. Nevertheless, it is a goal of this study to minimize this value to provide a more accurate model and enable more accurate decisions. This is the primary metric used to distinguish among the different models.

Another important metric used in this study is O/U accuracy. Presumably, the main purpose of this model is to aid in the decision-making process of choosing between the over and under in betting NFL contests. Thus, it is important to know how accurate a given model is in performing this function. O/U accuracy considers how likely it is that a prediction of a score higher (lower) than the posted O/U would coincide with an actual result that is also higher (lower) than the O/U.