

What Are the Odds?

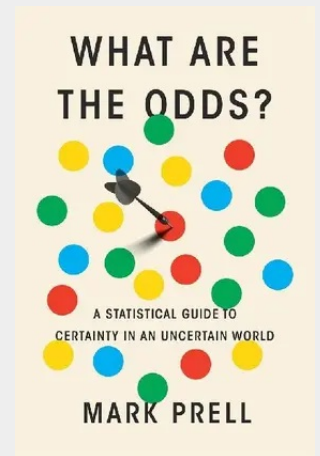
A Statistical Guide to Certainty in an Uncertain World

From bar bets to Nobel Prizes, viral outbreaks to lottery wins, how statistics shapes our choices, reveals hidden truths, and guides us toward certainty in uncertain times. We live in an uncertain world. Morning commutes, natural disasters, global pandemics—our lives are riddled with events whose outcomes we can never know with certainty. In *What Are the Odds?* Mark Prell reveals how statistical thinking empowers us to navigate this uncertainty with clarity and confidence. Whether weighing the benefits of different medications or deciding if home insurance is worth the steep cost, Prell shows that just as important as asking what the data says is asking how reliable it is. Describing the core concepts and methods of statistical thinking, he teaches us how to extract meaningful information from raw data, and crucially, to recognize data that's been cherry-picked, fabricated, or is simply wrong. As we ask if survey responses are truthful, estimate the number of deaths from the Covid pandemic, and plan for retirement, we develop a skill set to test and update our assumptions, to make more accurate forecasts, and above all, to assess the certainty of our conclusions. Through unforgettable stories of statistical ingenuity, Prell demonstrates that the underlying math can be intuitive and even fun. And as he turns us all into statisticians, he reminds us that statistics is about more than manipulating data—it's about joining a community of statisticians committed to truth and integrity.

From bar bets to Nobel Prizes, viral outbreaks to lottery wins, how statistics shapes our choices, reveals hidden truths, and guides us toward certainty in uncertain times.

We live in an uncertain world. Morning commutes, natural disasters, global pandemics—our lives are riddled with events whose outcomes we can never know with certainty. In *What Are the Odds?* Mark Prell reveals how statistical thinking empowers us to navigate this uncertainty with clarity and confidence. Whether weighing the benefits of different medications or deciding if home insurance is worth the steep cost, Prell shows that just as important as asking what the data says is asking how reliable it is. Describing the core concepts and methods of statistical thinking, he teaches us how to extract meaningful information from raw data, and crucially, to recognize data that's been cherry-picked, fabricated, or is simply wrong. As we ask if survey responses are truthful, estimate the number of deaths from the Covid pandemic, and plan for retirement, we develop a skill set to test and update our assumptions, to make more accurate forecasts, and above all, to assess the certainty of our conclusions.

Through unforgettable stories of statistical ingenuity, Prell demonstrates that the underlying math can be intuitive and even fun. And as he turns us all into statisticians, he reminds us that statistics is about more than manipulating data—it's about joining a community of statisticians committed to truth and integrity.



35,00 €

35,00 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Nicht mehr lieferbar

Artikelnummer: 9780674296367

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-0-674-29636-7

Verlag: Harvard University Press

Erscheinungstermin: 24.04.2026

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2026

Produktform: Gebunden

Gewicht: 892 g

Seiten: 496

Format (B x H): 159 x 238 mm

