

## Scoring Methodology (Paragraph Description)

Based on field testing and sound statistical methods, a detailed scoring methodology was developed for the NPHPSP. It is applicable to all three instruments. A more detailed scoring methodology is available from NPHPSP staff, upon request. It is described, in brief, below:

Scores are developed for four different levels:

- I. **First-tier or “stem” question scores** – This score is developed by establishing the weight value for each question, and then multiplying the weight value by the response value. The weight value of each question grouping totals 1 point – lead-in questions are given 0.3 weight while subquestions are assigned 0.7 weight collectively. The weight of each question is multiplied by its response value (e.g., if the response is “yes” the value is 1.0). The scores for each question in the question grouping are totaled up to produce the “stem” question score.
- II. **Indicator scores** – the average of all stem question scores found within this indicator section.
- III. **Essential Service scores** – the average of all indicators found within this Essential Service section.
- IV. **Overall Score** – the average of all ten Essential Service scores.

**PLEASE NOTE** - these data are self-reported and are collected by a non-standardized methodology which limits its integrity for comparison. The unit of analysis for the state and local National Public Health Performance Standards assessment instruments is the public health system and therefore these data are not appropriate for purposes of accountability at an organizational or agency level.