

In NHANES II, serologic evidence of present or past HBV infection was defined as a positive test for anti-HBs or HBsAg, while in NHANES III, a positive test for anti-HBc was used to define infection.

*Statistical analysis (HBV prevalence).* Nonresponse has been examined in NHANES II [20] and NHANES III [21] and has been further examined for its possible effects on estimates of the prevalence of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection for some age and racial groups [22]. For HIV, it was assumed that the risk of infection was 2.5 times higher in the nonrespondent population than in the respondent population, based on the prevalence of risk factors for HIV infection, that the estimates of HIV infection were biased downward, and that adjusted estimates were 41% higher.

By using similar assumptions for HBV, a similar analysis showed a 31% increase in HBV infection. However, we ultimately made the assumption that the risk differences between responders and nonresponders are likely to be smaller than those estimated for HIV infections. For instance, HBV prevalence for males and