TABLE 1-2 Molecular Components of an *E. coli* Cell

| | Percentage of total weight of cell | Approximate number of different molecular species |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Water | 70 | 1 |
| Proteins | 15 | 3,000 |
| Nucleic acids | | |
| DNA | 1 | 1 |
| RNA | 6 | >3,000 |
| Polysaccharides | 3 | 5 |
| Lipids | 2 | 20 |
| Monomeric subunits | | |
| and intermediates | 2 | 500 |
| Inorganic ions | 1 | 20 |