Table 2
Size distribution of free and intracellular virus particles in marine and freshwater systems[a]

Site[b]	*n*[c]	Virus head size classes[d]					Average[e]	References
		<30 nm	30–60 nm	60–80 nm	80–100 nm	>100 nm		
Marine								
Offshore								
North Atlantic	1	0	69	28	1	2	59	[12]
Southern California Bight	24	12	63	22	<1	<1	56	[159]
Alboran Sea	?		73	27			NA	[497]
Coastal/shelf								
Chesapeake Bay	1	0	41	25	25	10	64	[12]
Chesapeake Bay	60	5	65	32			NA	[168]
Gulf of Bothnia	13	20	64	17	14	3	55	[159]
Northern Adriatic	35	5	63	20	8	5	59	[86]
Northern Adriatic (IC)			72	28			62	[85]
Norwegian fjords	3	0	47	26	19	7	64	[12]
Southern California Bight	8	15	45	36	4	1	58	[159]
Oyster pond	6		76 (≤64 nm)	16 (64–105 nm)		8 (>105 nm)	NA	[163]
Limnetic								
Danube backwater	2		16	84			NA	[94]
Danube	12		74	21 (60–90 nm)	5 (>90 nm)		NA	[95]
Lake Constance	19		>50	<50			NA	[97]
Lake Constance (IC)	9		>50	<50			NA	[97]
Plußsee	1	0	65	17	14	3	62	[12]
Plußsee-oxic	5						68	[152]
Plußsee-thermocline	1						84	[152]
Plußsee-anoxic	1						89	[152]
Lake Superior	?	53	45	3 (60–110 nm)			NA	[153]

[a] Data on size distribution of viruses in sea-ice and various lakes presented by [160,161] because of non-compatible size classes. Data are percentages of total.

[b] IC, intracellular, i.e., phages within cells.

[c] Number of samples investigated. Note that for the Danube backwater, values are calculated from averages of 2 years and those for the from averages of 3 years.

[d] In the study by Wommack et al. [168], viruses >60 nm were combined, and in the Danube, Lake Constance and intracellular pages in the Northern Adriatic Sea viruses <60 and >60 nm were combined.

[e] Values were calculated from the size distribution data by assuming median values for each size class and by excluding viruses from the size classes <30 and >100 nm, in order to allow for a comparison between studies. In the study of Demuth et al. [152] the size range of viruses was 41–117 nm in oxic water, 53–106 nm in the thermocline layer and 48–117 nm in anoxic water. NA, not applicable.