

Table 1. Physical–chemical characteristics of lagoonal estuaries in the Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic regions.

Coastal Embayment	Watershed area (km²)	Population in watershed	Surface area (km²)	Depth (m)	Tide height (m)	Exchange time (days)	Average salinity (ppt)	Total suspended solids (thousands of tons/y)	Total nitrogen (millions of Gg/y)	Total phosphorus (millions of Gg/y)
Barnegat Bay	1,730	520,000	280	1.50	0.24	71	20	74.0	1.19	0.17
New Jersey Inland Bays	3,431	330,178	278	1.11	1.00	27	28	99.8	1.89	0.27
Delaware Inland Bays	560	26,893	72	1.39	0.53	61	26	89.4	0.22	0.02
Maryland Inland Bays	283	15,166	54	1.92	0.67	253	28	1.88	0.24	0.03
Chincoteague Bay	487	5,706	335	1.94	0.50	183	29	6.07	0.08	0.01
Great South Bay	1,733	2,084,075	383	1.10	0.57	199	16	153.0	4.69	0.90
Albemarle Sound	45,036	1,274,559	2,497	2.50	0.58	140	10	354.0	11.40	0.82
Pamlico Sound	26,841	1,380,000	5,588	2.47	0.22	378	13	50.9	0.27	0.01