

## IQ-DNA connection deepens: 40 genes identified that contribute to intelligence

The research on 60,000 adults and 20,000 children uncovered 40 new genes that play a role in intelligence, a haul that brings the number of genes known to have a bearing on IQ to 52.

Previous work with twins has shown that genes account for [about half](#) of the difference that is seen in IQ scores across the population, with the rest being shaped by factors such as conditions in the womb, nutrition, pollution and a person's social environment. "Genes do not determine everything for intelligence," said [Danielle Posthuma, a statistical geneticist at the Free University of Amsterdam]. "There are so many other factors that affect how well someone does on an IQ test."

It is thought that hundreds, if not thousands, of genes play a role in human intelligence, with most contributing only a minuscule amount to a person's cognitive prowess. The vast majority have yet to be found, and those that have do not have a huge impact. Taken together, all of the genes identified in the latest study explain only about 5% of the variation in people's IQs, the scientists found.

[Read the full study [here](#).]

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [Scientists identify 40 genes that shed new light on biology of intelligence](#)**