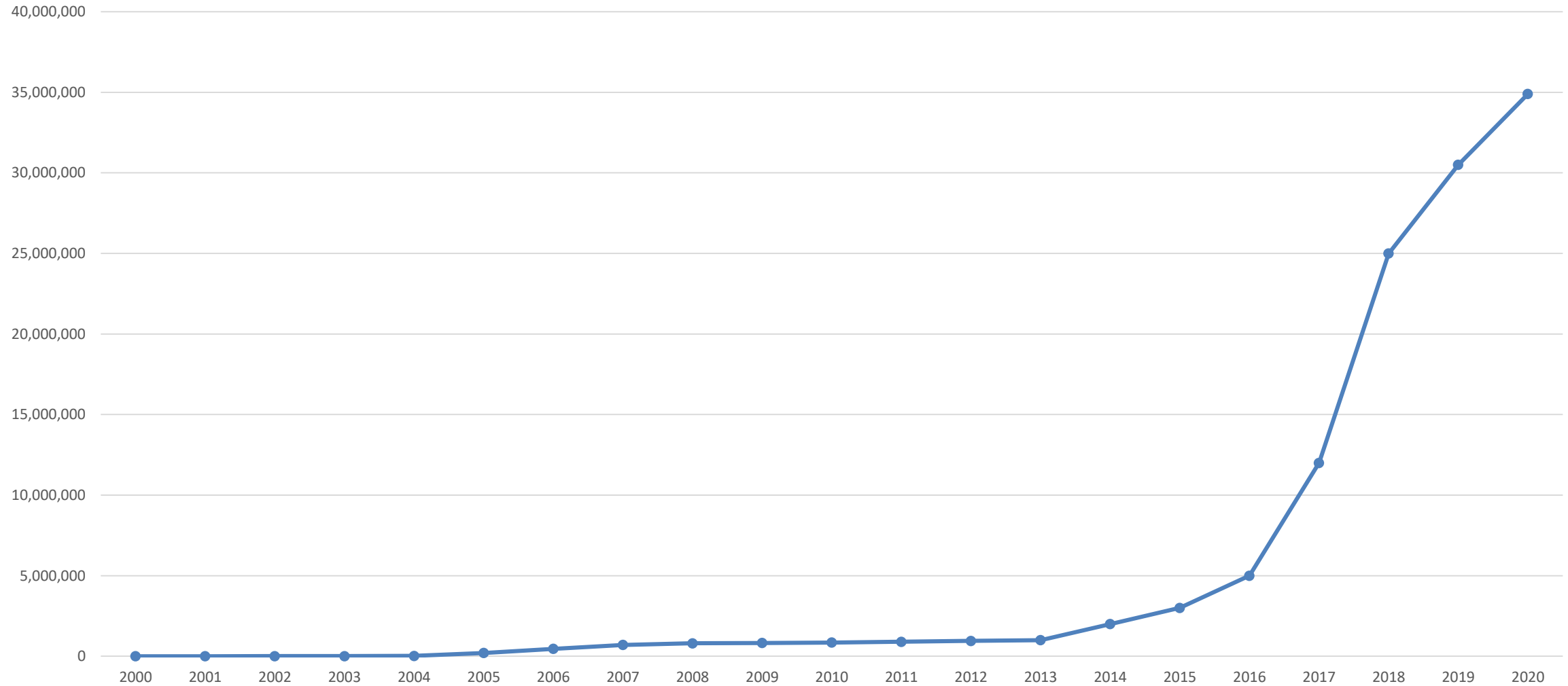


Genetic ancestry testing and the end of donor anonymity

Debbie Kennett

ESHRE
6 July 2020
debbiekennett@gmail.com
 @DebbieKennett

Number of DNA tests sold



Activate a test FAQs

Your backstory is IN YOUR DNA

AncestryDNA® can reveal your heritage and connect you to family past and present.

ONLY
£79*
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Amaze yourself

Uncover your ethnic origins and find new relatives with our simple DNA test.

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Order now

Do you know what you're made of?

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ONLY **\$79 USD** ORDER NOW

European	79%
New World	15%
Middle Eastern	4%
Trace Results	1

Show All

Ancestry Service

Experience your ancestry in a new way! Get a breakdown of your global ancestry by percentages, connect with DNA relatives and more. [learn more](#)

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1000+
Ancestry regions

RECOMMENDED

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Get an even more comprehensive understanding of your genetics. Receive 125+ online reports on your ancestry, traits and health - and more. [learn more](#)

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Your DNA ancestry kit

The full ancestry experience from your deep ancestry to DNA matching

£99 **£69** + shipping

Your DNA ancestry & wellbeing kit

Advanced ancestry reports and your body's fitness and nutritional responses

£179 **£99** + shipping

UPDATED RESULTS

Debbie Kennett

100%

European

99.5%

- Northwestern European 98.6%
- British & Irish 56.7% >
 - Greater London, United Kingdom
 - +9 regions
- French & German 18.6% >
- Scandinavian 4.1% >
- Broadly Northwestern European 19.1%
- Eastern European 0.6% >
- Broadly European 0.4%

Trace Ancestry

0.2% ^

We detected traces of the following populations in your DNA. Read more about trace ancestry [in the FAQ](#).

- Broadly Western Asian & North African 0.2%

Unassigned

0.2% v

European



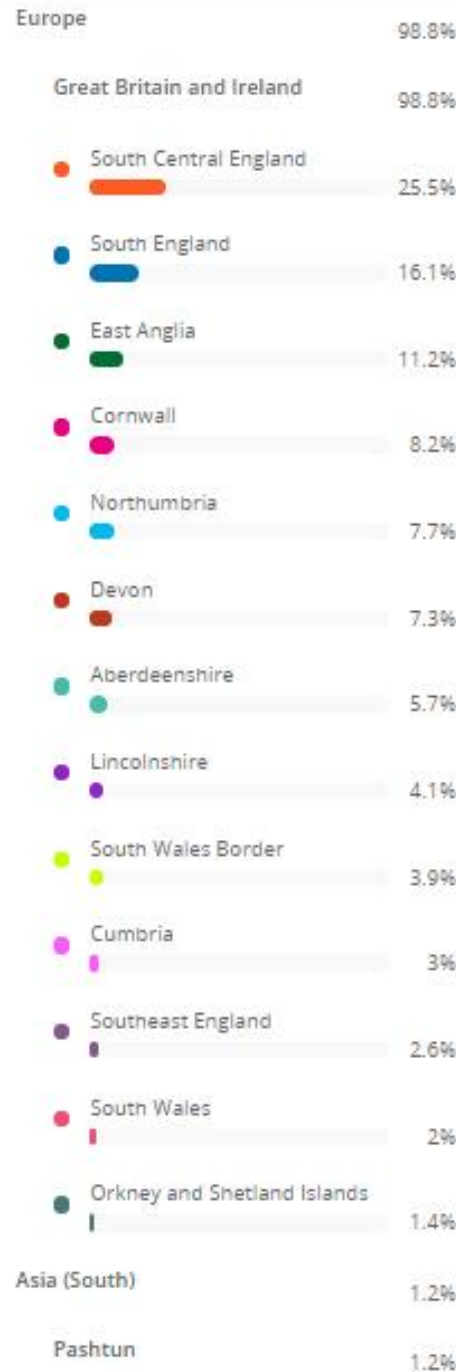
Ethnicity Estimate UPDATED

- England, Wales & Northwestern Europe 80% >
- Central Southern England >
- Dorset & Somerset
- Gloucestershire, Wiltshire & West Oxfordshire
- Ireland & Scotland 20% >

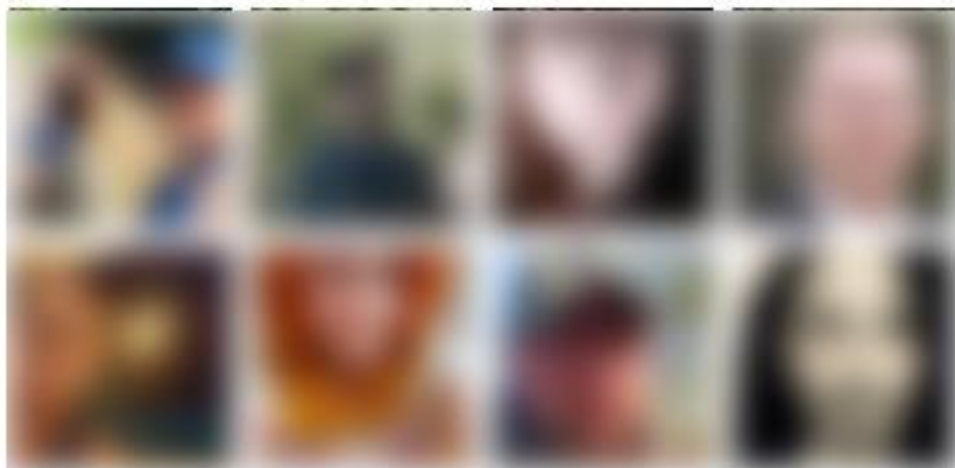
78.6% English

12.2% Irish, Scottish, and Welsh

9.2% Italian



DNA Matches



★ 67 Starred matches

👤 208 4th cousins or closer

[View All DNA Matches](#)

NOW WITH MAP

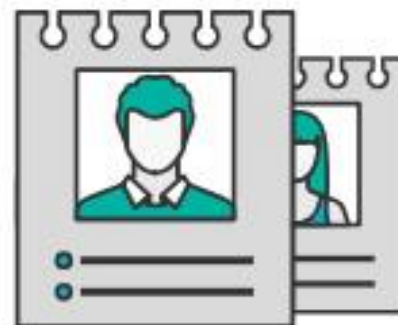
DNA Relatives

You share DNA and ancestors with **1,164** other 23andMe customers. Explore matches – from close family to distant relatives.

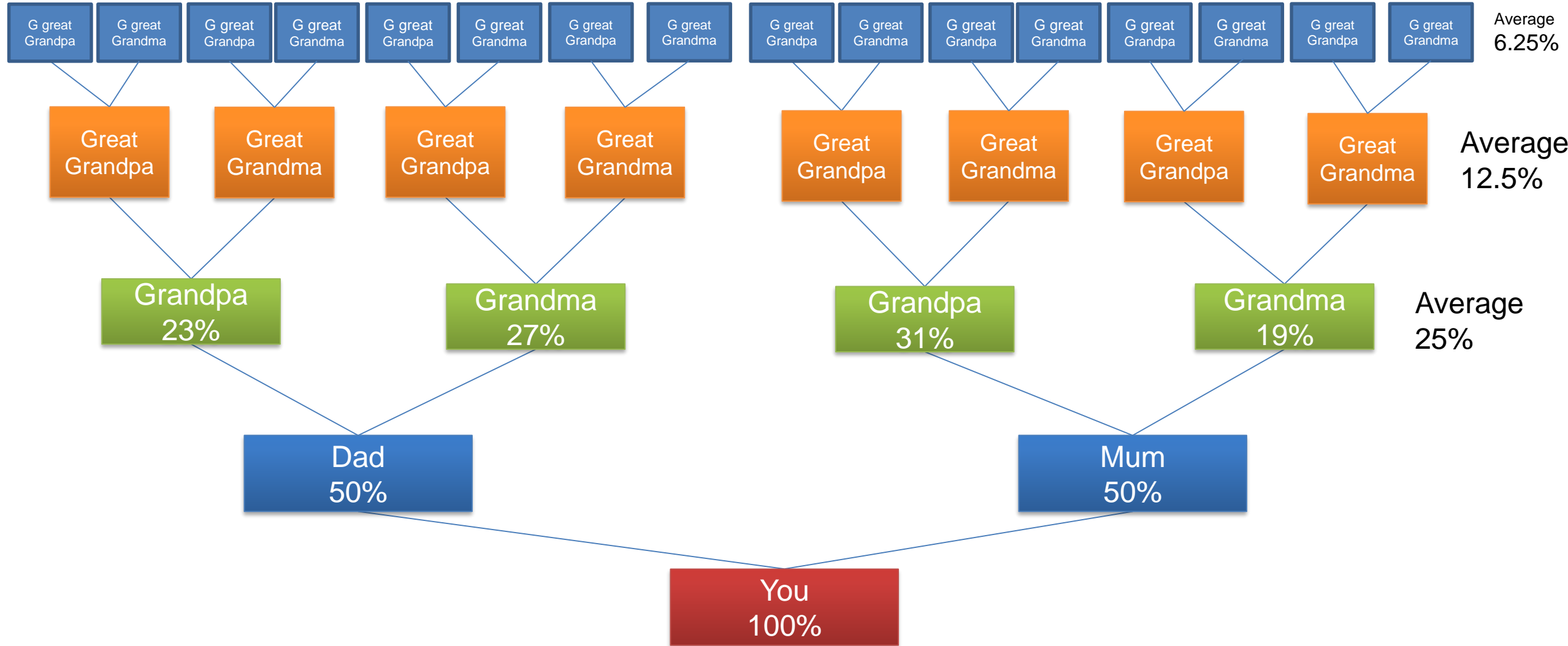
[Find your matches](#)

1,164
relatives

2
close
relatives

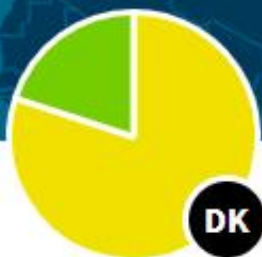


Break through brick walls
and find unknown relatives



% DNA shared	Relationship
100%	Identical twins
50%	Parent/child, Full siblings
25%	Grandparent/grandchild, aunt-or-uncle/niece-or-nephew, half-siblings, double first cousins
12.5%	First cousins, great-grandparent/great-grandchild, great-uncle or aunt/great-nephew or niece, half-uncle or aunt/half-nephew or niece
6.25%	First cousins once removed, half first cousins, great-great-grandparent/great-great-grandchild, great-great-aunt/uncle, half great-aunt/uncle, double second cousins

DNA Story ?



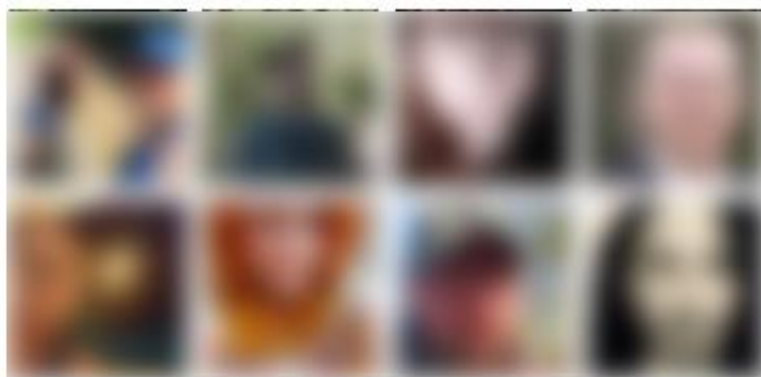
Ethnicity Estimate

- 80% England, Wales & Northwestern Europe
- 20% Ireland & Scotland

Discover the places, history, and cultures that shaped who you are today—using just your DNA.

[Discover Your DNA Story](#)

DNA Matches ?

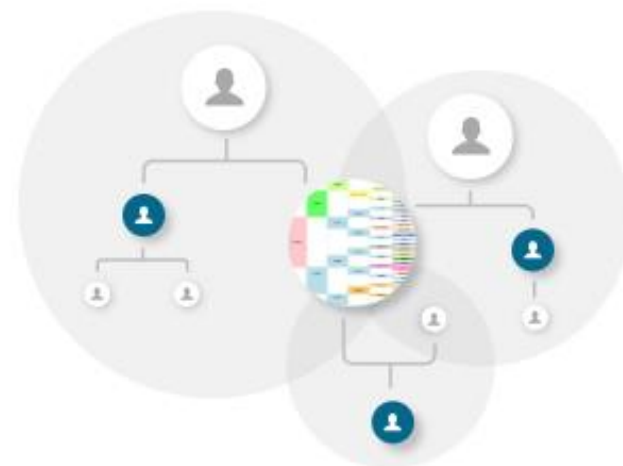


★ 67 Starred matches

👤 208 4th cousins or closer

[View All DNA Matches](#)

ThruLines™ ?



ThruLines uses Ancestry trees to suggest how you may be related to your DNA matches through common ancestors.

[Explore ThruLines](#)

Relative matching - AncestryDNA

Debbie Kennett's DNA Matches

List Map

Filter by: Unviewed Common ancestors Messaged Notes Trees Shared DNA Groups Sort by: Relationship

Parent/Child



Parent/Child

Shared DNA: 3,472 cM across 62 segments

487 People

Common ancestor

Add/edit groups

#GB



Parent/Child

Shared DNA: 3,460 cM across 63 segments

487 People

Common ancestor

Add to group

#GB

2nd Cousin



2nd-3rd Cousin

Shared DNA: 262 cM across 15 segments

Unlinked Tree

Father's Side

Add/edit groups

NZ Paternal. Second cousin.

Common ancestors George William...

3rd Cousin



3rd-4th Cousin

Shared DNA: 168 cM across 11 segments

No Trees

Father's Side

Add/edit groups

#GB Paternal. Second cousin.

Common ancestors Frederick...

Stories

Who were my parents - and why was I left on a hillside to die?

By Claire Bates
BBC Stories

19 March 2018



Reunited after 80 years: Irish pensioner, 81, who was given up for adoption meets her 103-year-old mother for the first time after six-decade search - and travelling to Scotland unannounced to surprise her!

- Eileen Macken, 81, was raised in the Bethany Home orphanage in Dublin, Ireland
- She began searching for her birth mother when she was 19 and never gave up
- Raised plight on RTÉ's Liveline show and a genealogist tracked Elizabeth, 103

SCIENCE

How a Genealogy Website Led to the Alleged Golden State Killer

Powerful tools are now available to anyone who wants to look for a DNA match, which has troubling privacy implications.

SARAH ZHANG APRIL 27, 2018



MORE STORIES

Solving a Murder Mystery With Ancestry Websites
CIARA O'ROURKE

The False Promise of DNA Testing
MATTHEW SHÄER

23andMe Wants Its DNA

The Christmas present that could tear your family apart

By Lucy Ash
BBC News, Connecticut

'Your father's not your father': when DNA tests reveal more than you bargained for

🏠 > Lifestyle > Family > Life

'A mail-order DNA test revealed I had a half-brother I knew nothing about'

CBS NEWS / August 21, 2018, 11:33 AM

Man discovers he has a 40-year-old daughter after taking at-home DNA test

After 72 years, two women switched at birth finally come face-to-face

Linda Jourdeans and Denice Juneski went home with the wrong families after a mix-up at a Minnesota hospital in December 1945.



2 Minnesota women learn they were switched at birth 72 years ago

Implications for donor conception

- Donor-conceived individuals can now take a DNA test to search for their biological parent(s)
- Donors can take a DNA test to search for their offspring
- Recipient parents can test their child to identify the donor and their child's half-siblings
- Donor origins can be unexpectedly revealed
- Donors can have their anonymity breached
- The donor does not need to be in the database to be identified
- The donor-conceived person does not need to be in the database to be identified

- **312 donor-conceived people** aged 15-74 from 15 different countries including Australia, South Africa, Belgium, Norway and the UK. Majority from the US and Canada.
- **37%** learnt of their **donor origins** from a **commercial DNA** test. Of these 84% were born before 1990
- **55%** of respondents said they have **successfully identified their donor** through DNA testing

WE ARE DONOR CONCEIVED 2019 SURVEY RESULTS



Read our **most recent report** on the experiences and perspectives of individuals conceived via sperm and/or egg donation.

The 2018 report can be found here.

Facebook interface for the group "DNA for the Donor Conceived (DNA Detectives)".

Search: DNA for the Donor Conceived (DNA Detectives)

Profile: Debbie | Home

DNA for the Donor Conceived (DNA Detectives)

Closed group

- About
- Discussion**
- Members
- Events
- Photos
- Files

Search this group

Website for DNA Adoption with navigation: Search Steps, Classes, Resources, About Us.

DNA Surprises?

[Learn more](#)

- Get Started**
First time here? Click the Button to
- Take Classes**
Learn how to use DNA to solve
- Resources**
Find reference documents, tools
- Ask Questions**
Join our [Discussion and Support](#)

Website for FamilyTreeDNA with navigation: DNA Tests, Projects, Resources.

0 My Cart | [SIGN IN](#)

Celebrate Mom Genes during our Mother's Day Sale with discounts on **Family Finder** and **mtDNA!** Ends 05/14/18

Donor Conceived

130 members

[JOIN](#)

- About
- DNA Results
- Surnames
- Activity Feed
- Photos

About us

[Overview](#) | [Background](#) | [Goals](#) | [News](#) | [Results](#) | [Project Statistics](#)

History:
In 1884, William Pancoast performed the first artificial insemination by donor procedure at Philadelphia's Jefferson Medical College. He was under anesthesia, the doctor inseminated her with one of the medical student's sperm. They

Surprise DNA Results Are Turning Customer-Service Reps Into Therapists

How do you tell someone that her brother is not her brother?

By **Kristen V Brown**

19 December 2018, 10:00 GMT *Updated on 19 December 2018, 19:18 GMT*

Facebook post for the DNA NPE Gateway group. The post features a cover image with the text "DNA NPE Gateway Screening Station on your way to our community" and a "Join group" button. The group description reads: "Welcome to The GATEWAY of the original DNA NPE Friends community." The "About this group" section includes a description: "Description ***DUE TO RECENT MEDIA ATTENTION, WAIT TIME FOR ENTRY HERE COULD BE A FEW DAYS. IF YOU ARE NOT ADDED WITHIN A WEEK, PLEASE CONTACT AN ADMIN. THANK YOU." The "HISTORY" section shows the group was created on 16 August 2017. The "GROUP BY" section lists "NPE Friends Fellowship".

Donor Conception Network website. The header includes navigation links: HOME, ABOUT, HETEROSEXUAL COUPLES, SAME SEX COUPLES, SINGLE PEOPLE, FRIENDS & FAMILY, and PROFILE. The main content area features a video player with the title "DC Network_20 Years of Donor Conception_Y13M06D21" and the text "Parent led: child focused". Below the video, the text reads: "Supporting donor conception families for over 25 years. We are a supportive network of more than 2,000 mainly UK based families with children conceived with donated sperm, eggs or embryos, those considering or undergoing donor conception procedures; and donor conceived people. Join us today. JOIN".

Advertisement for WatershedDNA. The text reads: "Got a family surprise after DNA testing and need support? You took a DNA test (or administer one for a family member) and got a surprise when results came back. You or someone else wasn't matching other family as expected. Possibly, a stranger appeared in the list of matches as a close relative. Your family history has been rewritten, and it has led to confusion and shock, possibly some strong negative emotions. You're thinking 'I don't know what to do now.' If you've been through an experience like this, consider joining a small, secret support group currently housed on Facebook. If you could use support and advice from others who have 'been there', or if you could offer support to others going through it now, reach out today." The advertisement includes the WatershedDNA logo and a lighthouse illustration.

BBC RADIO 5 live In Short

Home More



Sperm donor: 'I could have fathered 110 children'

A sperm donor has told BBC Radio 5 Live that he could have fathered up to 110 children.

Speaking to Emma Barnett, Andy Waters explained that he's now in contact with a number of his donor-conceived children.

This clip is from

IN SHORT
bbc.co.uk/5live

THE TIMES Today's sections Past six days My articles Times+

Son of 'super' sperm donor learns he has 1,000 siblings

Mark Bridge, Technology Correspondent

Saturday September 29 2018, 12:01 am, The Times

Family Europe



Ivo van Halen, second from left, with three half-siblings found via DNA testing

MailOnline

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Latest Headlines | Health | Health Directory

British scientist 'fathered 600 children' by donating sperm at his own fertility clinic

- Bertold Wiesner set up the controversial London Barton clinic with his wife Mary Bartons in the 1940s
- Only select members of the couple's friends were chosen as donors to help women conceive 1,500 babies
- Two biological sons have found 18 others conceived at clinic - 12 were fathered by Dr Wiesner

By TOM KELLY FOR THE DAILY MAIL
PUBLISHED: 10:04, 8 April 2012 | UPDATED: 08:50, 9 April 2012

SCIENCE

A Decades-Old Doctor's Secret Leads to New Fertility-Fraud Law

In the '70s and '80s, Donald Cline fathered more than 50 children by using his own sperm in his patients. A new law makes such actions illegal.

SARAH ZHANG MAY 7, 2019



MORE STORIES

- The Fertility Doctor's Secret**
SARAH ZHANG
- Don't Overthink a Climate-Change Debate**
ROBINSON MEYER
- Saturn's Largest Moon Would Make an Unbelievable Vacation Spot**
MARINA KOREN
- A Nature Writer for the Anthropocene**

Recommendations drafted and presented on the Plenary, 20 November 2019 - United Nations Geneva

There is a **need for urgent national and international measures**, which are inclusive of and made in **consultation with a broad representation of donor-conceived and surrogacy born persons**. These voices need to be heard, listened to and acted upon.

States should create international and national frameworks and laws that:

1. Ensure the right of donor-conceived and surrogacy born children to **access information about their identity and origins** regardless of when these children were conceived and born and **to preserve relations with their biological, social and gestational families**.
2. **Ensure that comprehensive and complete records of all parties involved** in the conception of the child be held by the State in **perpetuity for future generations**.
3. **Respect and promote the full and effective enjoyment of all the rights of donor-conceived and surrogacy-born children** in both the immediate and longer terms.
4. Ensure that the **best interests of the child** be the **paramount consideration in all relevant laws, policies and practices and in any judicial and administrative decisions**. This requires a **best interests assessment pre-conception** on an individual case by case basis.
5. **Prohibit all forms of commercialisation** of gametes, children, and surrogates including, but not limited to, the sale and trafficking in persons and gametes.



DNA = Donors Not Anonymous

- Whose responsibility is it to provide support and counselling for all parties affected?
- How do we protect and respect the privacy and wishes of all the parties involved and their family members?
- What are the responsibilities of the fertility sector?
- Is there a need for changes in existing legislation?
- Is it time for a new paradigm?

The End

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 @DebbieKennett

Reading list

- Adams D and Allan S (2013) Building a family tree: donor-conceived people, DNA tracing and donor 'anonymity'. *Australian Journal of Adoption*, 7 (2), 1–16.
- Crawshaw M (2017) Direct-to-consumer DNA testing – the fallout for individuals and their families unexpectedly learning of their donor conception origins. *Human Fertility* 21 (4): 225-228.
- Frith L, Blyth E, Crawshaw M and van den Akker O (2017) Secrets and disclosure in donor conception *Sociology of Health and Illness* 40(1): 188-203. Read-only version: <http://rdcu.be/FFZM>
- Harper JC, Kennett D and Reisel D (2016) The end of donor anonymity: how genetic testing is likely to drive anonymous gamete donation out of business. *Human Reproduction* 31(6): 1135-40.
- Kirkpatrick BE, Rashkin MD (2016) Ancestry testing and the practice of genetic counseling. *Journal of Genetic Counseling* 26(1): 6-20.
- Kennett D, Reisel D, Harper J (2019). Genetic databases and donor anonymity (letter). *Human Reproduction* 34(9): 1848-1849.
- Larmuseau M (2019) Growth of ancestry DNA testing risks huge increase in paternity issues. *Nature Human Behaviour* 3 (1): 5.
- Leetz KL. An unanticipated outcome of a DNA ancestry test. *American Journal of Psychiatry* 2018 175(12): 1167-1168.
- Pacey AA (2018) No more donor secrets in the genomic age. *Human Fertility* 21(4): 223-224.
- Pasch L (2018) New realities for the practice of egg donation: a family building perspective. *Fertility and Sterility* 110 (7): 1194-1202.

Further reading

- [Personal genetic testing and the implications for the donor conception community](#) by Debbie Kennett, *BioNews*, 26 February 2018
- [Donor conception is not a fertility treatment](#). *Olivia's View*, 6th November 2018

Resources

- <https://isogg.org/wiki> ISOGG Wiki
- https://isogg.org/wiki/Category:Donor_conception ISOGG Wiki pages on donor conception
- www.dcnetwork.org/ Donor conception network
- www.facebook.com/groups/1623033431359526/ Facebook group DNA testing for the donor conceived

Testing companies

- www.23andme.com 23andMe
- www.ancestry.co.uk/dna AncestryDNA
- www.familytreedna.com Family Tree DNA
- www.myheritage.com/dna MyHeritage DNA
- www.livingdna.com Living DNA
- www.findmypast.co.uk/ancestry-dna-testing FindmypastDNA (a partnership with Living DNA)
- www.familytreedna.com/autosomal-transfer Family Tree DNA autosomal DNA transfers
- <https://my.livingdna.com/upload/start> Living DNA autosomal DNA transfers
- www.myheritage.com/dna/upload MyHeritage DNA autosomal DNA transfers