



HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN RESULTS WITH MULTIPLE ETHNIC GROUPS?

Our analysis looks at the frequency of your lineage (how common it is) within an ethnic group and region. Ethnic groups are formed around social and cultural characteristics, not genetic characteristics. So, there are some ethnic groups that are very closely linked (sharing the same genetic lineages) even though they have different dialects, beliefs, practices and religions. So as a result, we often find the same genetic lineage within different groups and regions.

Our database is based on present-day countries in Africa. Those present-day borders are politically and arbitrarily drawn and have changed over time. Therefore, the countries today may have borders that didn't exist hundreds or thousands of years ago.

Here is an analogy for how a genetic lineage can be shared by multiple groups in the same country.

You can be a member of the Catholic church. You have a maternal cousin who lives nearby and belongs to a Baptist church. Your brother may live a few cities away and belong to a Mosque. You each belong to a different group but share the same genetic lineage.

TRACE YOUR DNA. FIND YOUR ROOTS. TODAY.