# Dandruff

POWERED BY 23ANDME RESEARCH


First+94fee343, based on your genetics and other factors, you are **more likely** to get dandruff.

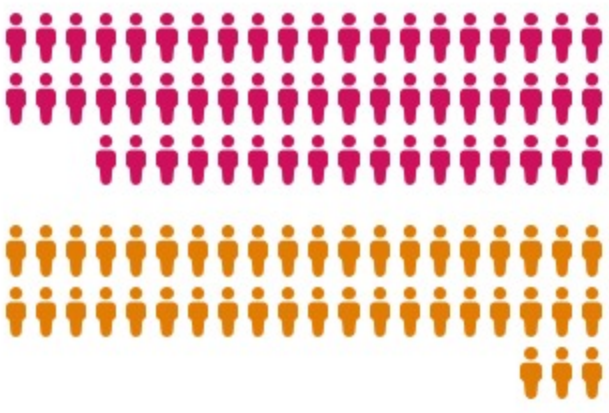
## What is dandruff?

Dandruff is a common skin condition characterized by flaking of the skin on the scalp.

## Many factors can influence your chances of getting dandruff.

Scientists at 23andMe identified 487 genetic markers that are associated with dandruff. In addition to genetics, other factors like age, sex, and ancestry can also influence your chances of getting dandruff. For example, among 23andMe research participants, males are more likely than females to report that they have had dandruff.

**Of people with genetics and other factors like yours, we predict:**



**57%** have had dandruff.

**43%** have never had dandruff.

## The root of the problem

One possible cause of dandruff may be a negative reaction to microbes living on the skin. Just like inside your gut, microbes also live on your scalp. For some people, these microbes may trigger immune reactions that cause the skin cells to rapidly divide and flake off, forming dandruff. Scientists aren't sure why some people are sensitive to these microbes and others aren't, but genetics may play a role.

### How we got your result

For this analysis, more than 810,000 23andMe research participants of European descent contributed their genetic data and survey responses on dandruff. From these data, we identified 487 genetic markers associated with dandruff. Together with non-genetic factors, specifically age and sex, we created a statistical model that predicts the chances that you have had dandruff. The model was further recalibrated to be more accurate when applied to people of African American, East Asian, Hispanic or Latino, or South Asian descent using data from more than 210,000 23andMe research participants. The statistical model for people of European descent has an AUC value of 0.71.

We used the statistical model to predict each person's chances of getting dandruff. The possible results predicted by the model fall between 9% and 66%. The sex and ancestry we used for your result are based on the information you provided in your account settings. For people of mixed ancestry or ancestries for which we do not yet have enough research participants, we determined this result based on data from people of European descent since that is the group for which we have the largest sample size. 38% of the 23andMe research participants used in the development of this model reported that they have had dandruff.

**Read more:**

Borda LJ et al. (2015). "Seborrheic Dermatitis and Dandruff: A Comprehensive Review." J Clin Investig Dermatol. 3(2).

Cogen AL et al. (2008). "Skin microbiota: a source of disease or defence?" Br J Dermatol. 158(3):442-55.

Furlotte NA et al. (2015). "23andMe White Paper 23-12: Estimating complex phenotype prevalence using predictive models." 23andMe White Paper 23-12.

Turner GA et al. (2012). "Stratum corneum dysfunction in dandruff." Int J Cosmet Sci. 34(4):298-306.

**Change log:**

- *April 2019.* Dandruff report created.

*Keep in mind that these results, powered by 23andMe research, are preliminary and meant for informational purposes only.*