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Supplemental information

The landscape of expression and alternative splicing variation across human traits

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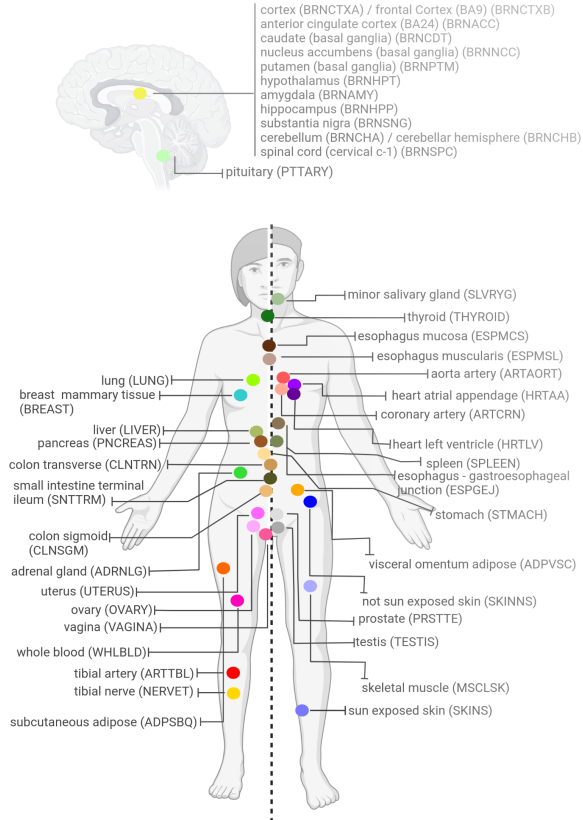
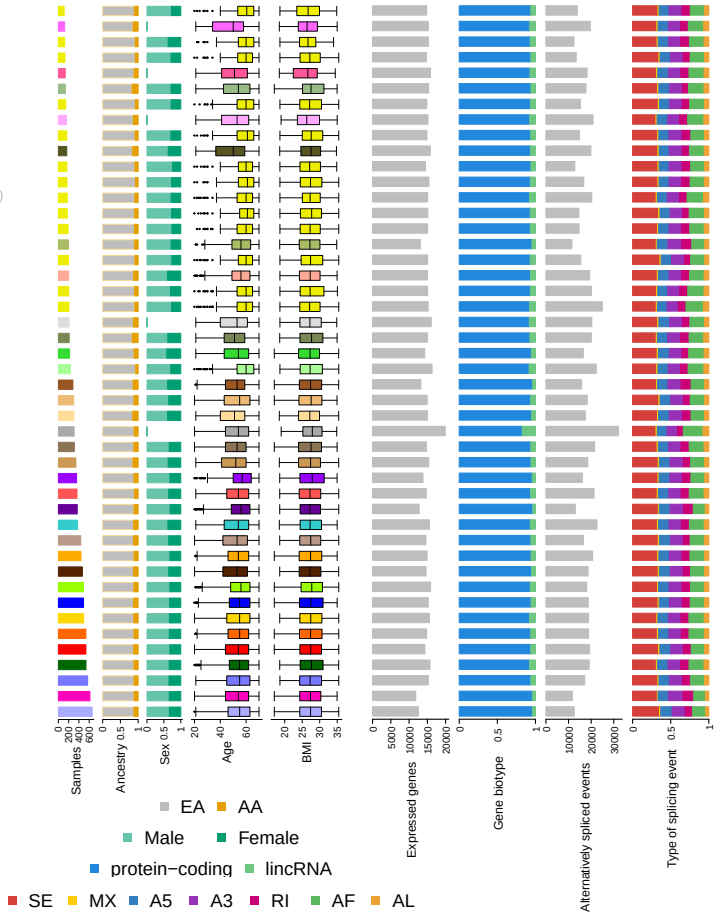
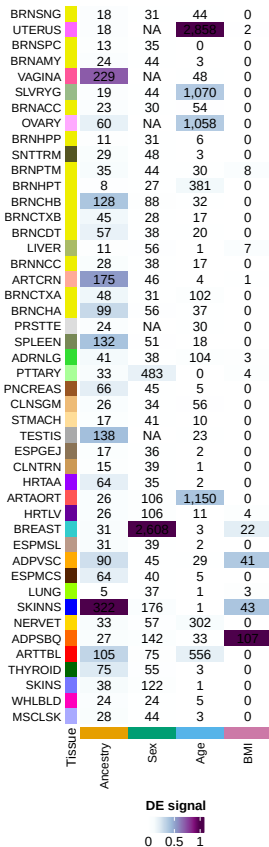
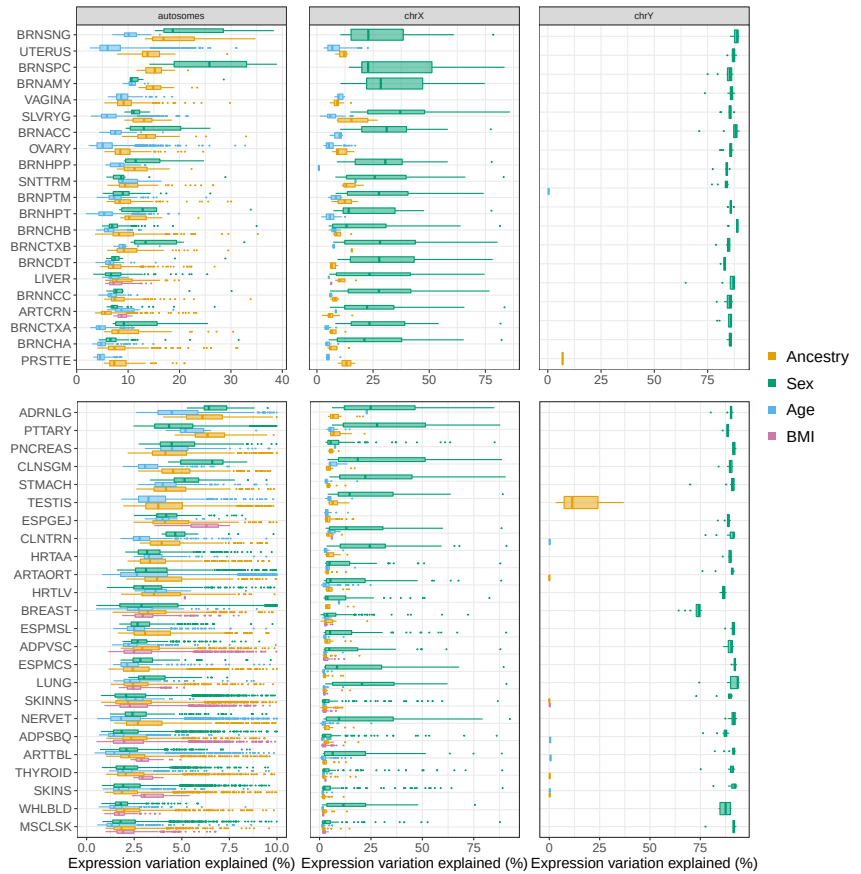
A**B****C****D**

Figure S1. Gene expression variation explained by demographic traits, Related to Figure 1. **A**, Tissues (including 11 distinct brain regions) with more than 100 RNA-seq samples from GTEx v8 genotyped donors. Tissue names, abbreviations, and color coding are indicated for each tissue. **B**, Descriptive summary per tissue of the demographic traits, number of genes expressed and their biotype, and number of alternative spliced events (ASEs) and their type. Tissues are sorted by sample size. EA: European Americans; AA; African Americans; SE: exon skipping; MX: mutually exclusive exons; A5: alternative 5 prime; A3: alternative 3 prime; RI: retained intron; AF: alternative first exon; AL: alternative last exon. **C**, Number of differentially expressed genes (DEGs) per tissue and demographic trait when downsampling to 100 tissue samples. Cell numbers indicate the average number of DEGs from 10 random tissue subsets. Heatmap cell colors are normalized to maximum value per column. **D**, Gene expression variation explained in each tissue by each demographic trait. Demographic traits are color-coded. Tissues are sorted by sample size. Box plots represent the first to third quartiles and the median gene expression variation explained, and the whiskers indicate ± 1.5 x interquartile range (IQR). From left to right, expression variation explained for autosomal, chrX, and chrY genes. Median gene expression variation explained decreases with sample size since larger numbers of samples allow the detection of more subtle but significant expression differences.

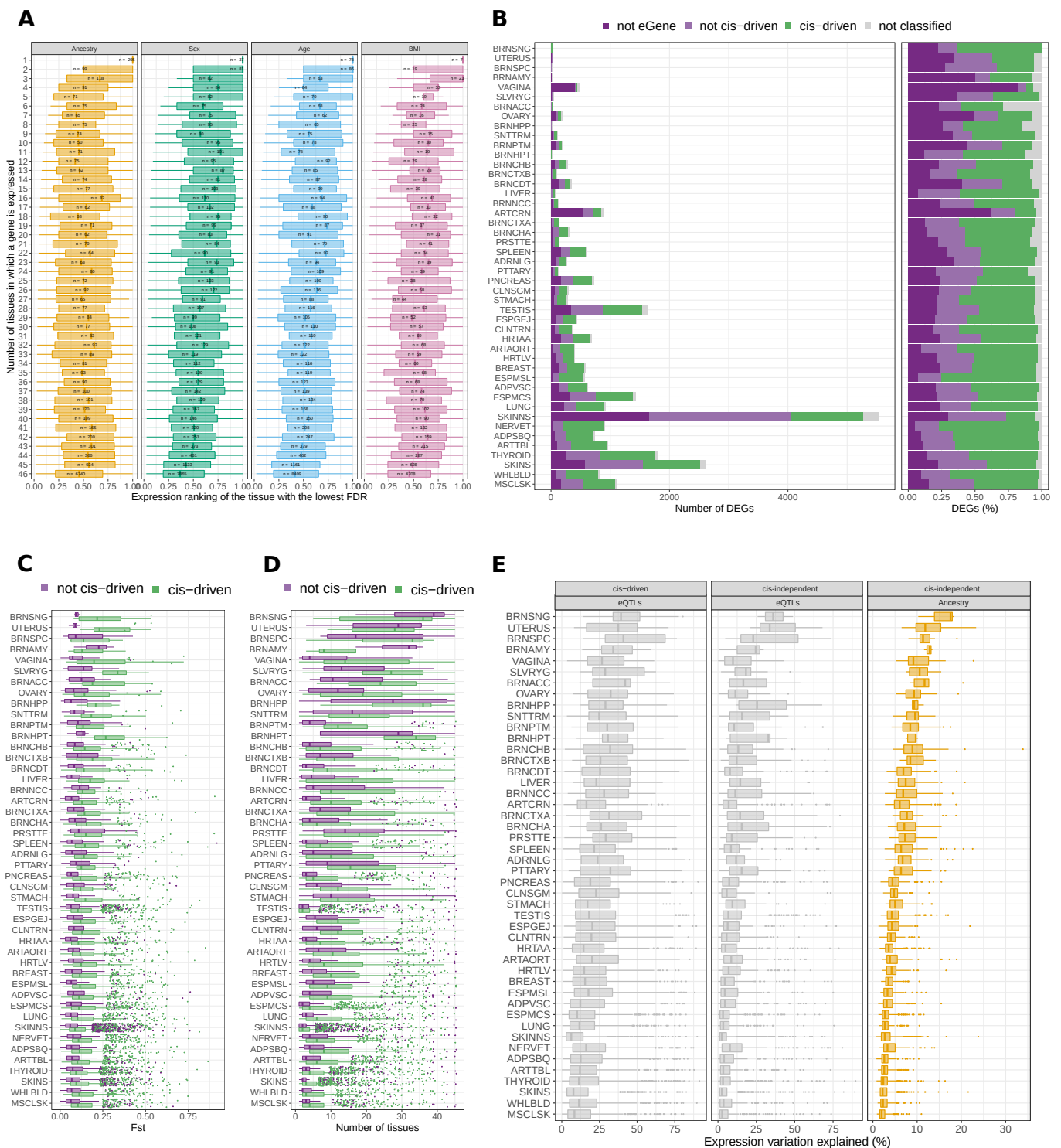


Figure S2. Differential expression is independent of expression level and characterization of *cis*-driven regulation of DEGs between populations, Related to Figure 2. **A**, Differential expression is not correlated with expression level. To compute the relative expression ranking, for each DEG, we ranked the tissues in which it was expressed based on the gene median expression and then selected the ranked value of the tissue where the DEG had the lowest FDR. Gene rankings were normalized taking into account the number of tissues in which a gene is expressed. The number of genes in each box plot corresponds to the number of DEGs with that trait and expressed in the number of tissues specified in the y-axis. Box plots show the distribution of their relative expression ranking. In general, genes are not DE in the tissue where they are expressed the most (median relative expression ranking $\neq 1$). **B**, Number (left) and proportion (right) of not eGenes and *cis*-driven, *cis*-independent, and unclassified DEGs between populations (STAR methods). **C**, Box plots show the distribution of the average *Fst* value of *cis*-eQTLs for *cis*-driven and *cis*-independent DEGs between populations (one-tailed Mann-Whitney U test, FDR < 0.05 in 36 tissues). **D**, Box plots show the tissue sharing distribution for *cis*-driven and *cis*-independent genes DE between populations (one-tailed Mann-Whitney U test, FDR < 0.05 in 23 tissues). **E**, Gene expression variation explained in each tissue by *cis*-eQTLs (in *cis*-driven and *cis*-independent genes) and by ancestry (in *cis*-independent genes). Box plots represent the first to third quartiles and the median gene expression variation explained, and the whiskers indicate $\pm 1.5 \times$ interquartile range (IQR).

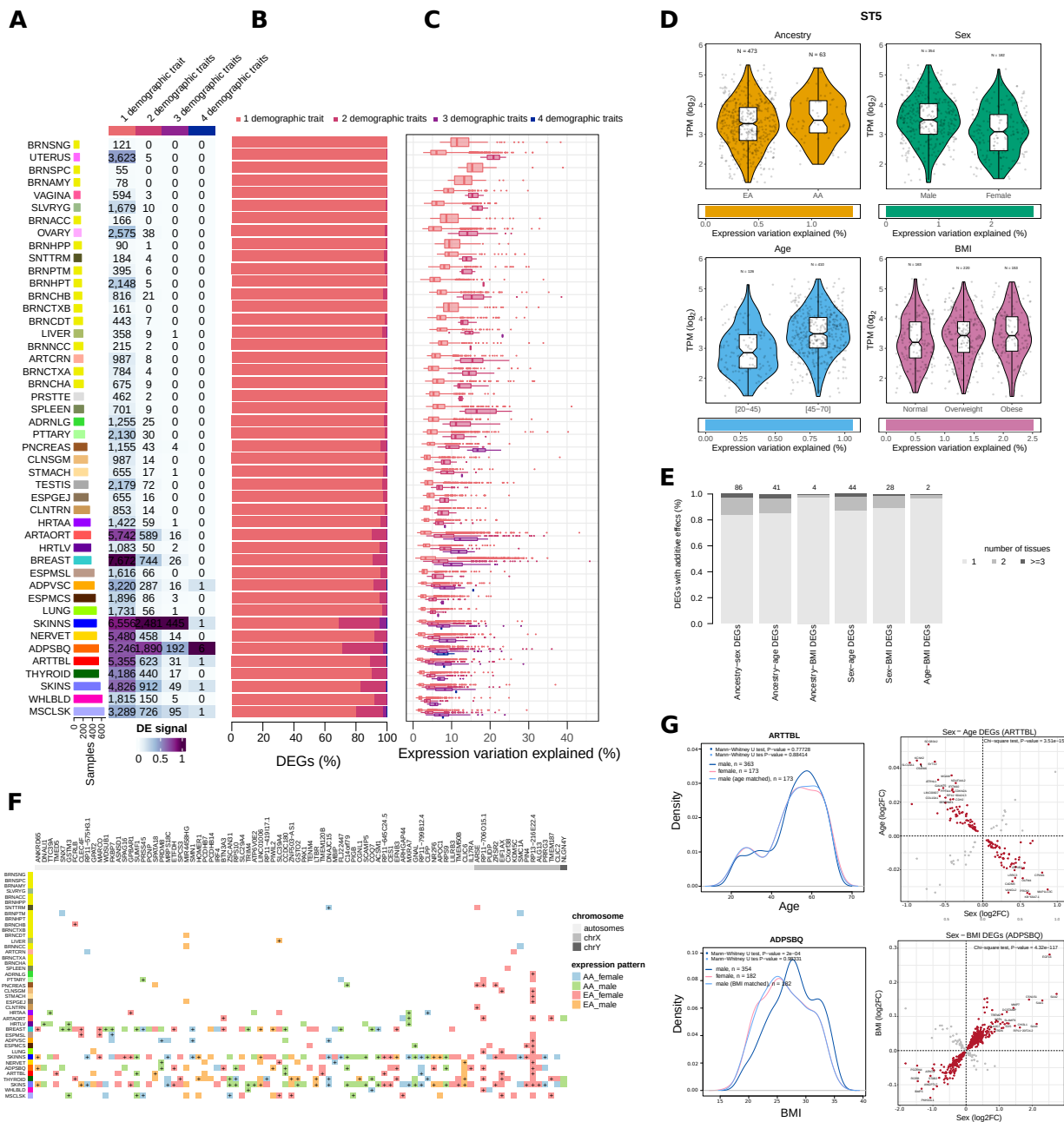


Figure S3. Differential expression is independent of expression level and breadth and characterization of additive contributions across tissues, Related to Figure 3. **A**, Number of genes DE with one, two, three, or four demographic traits per tissue. Heatmap cell colors are normalized to the maximum value per column. **B**, Proportion of the total tissue expression variation explained by genes DE with one, two, three, or four demographic traits. **C**, Gene expression variation explained for autosomal genes DE with one, two, three, or four demographic traits. Box plots represent the first to third quartiles and the median gene expression variation explained, and the whiskers indicate $\pm 1.5 \times$ interquartile range (IQR). **D**, The FGGY gene is DE in muscle with the four demographic traits. Gene expression levels are represented as box plots with samples stratified by population, sex, age, or BMI. Violin plots show the gene expression distribution. Points correspond to individual gene expression levels. The number of individuals in each group is shown within the plot. Bars at the bottom indicate the proportion of expression variation explained by each demographic trait. **E**, Proportion of genes DE with any two given demographic traits that are tissue-specific, DE in two tissues or in 3 or more tissues. Numbers on top of the bars indicate the number of genes in the latter category. **F**, Heatmap shows the expression pattern of genes DE between populations and sexes in more than 2 tissues. The colors indicate the directionality of the expression change. Asterisks mark genes that were classified as *cis*-driven ancestry-DEGs. **G**, Biased directionality in genes with additive contributions is not confounded by differences in age or BMI between sexes. Left panels show the age and BMI distribution of males and females in tibial artery and adipose subcutaneous tissue, respectively, before and after matching the distributions. Differential expression analysis using a subset of male and female samples with matching age and BMI distributions replicate our initial findings (see Figure 3).

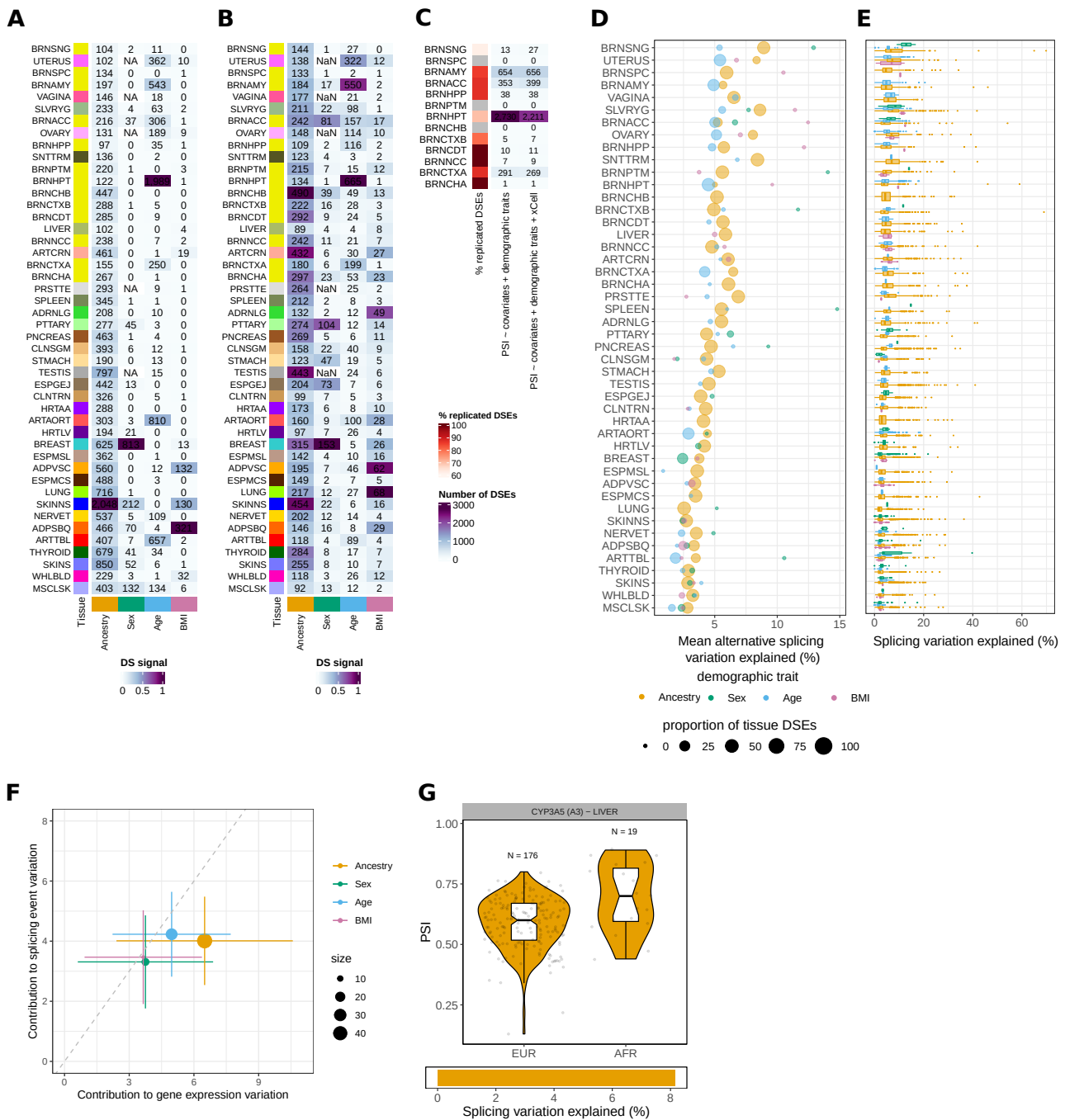


Figure S4. Alternative splicing variation explained by demographic traits, Related to Figure 4. **A**, Number of genes differentially spliced (DSGs) per tissue and demographic trait. Heatmap cell colors are normalized to maximum value per column. **B**, Number of differentially spliced events (DSEs) per tissue and demographic trait when downsampling to N=100. Cell numbers indicate the average number of DSEs from 10 random tissue sample subsets. Heatmap cell colors are normalized to maximum value per column. **C**, Comparison of the number of DSEs with age in brain regions, after controlling for neuron abundances in the generalized linear model. Most DSEs are replicated. **D**, Mean alternative splicing variation explained by each demographic trait in each tissue. **E**, Alternative splicing variation explained in each tissue by each demographic trait. Demographic traits are color-coded. Box plots represent the first to third quartiles and the median gene expression variation explained, and the whiskers indicate $\pm 1.5 \times$ interquartile range (IQR). **F**, Comparison of the contribution of each demographic trait to gene expression and alternative splicing variation. For each trait, average value across tissues is plotted. Error bars correspond to the standard deviation. For each demographic trait, we only considered tissues with at least 5 DEGs and 5 DSEs. **G**, Splicing event with a large proportion of its alternative splicing variation explained by ancestry. Violin plots show PSI value distributions stratified by ancestry. Box plots represent the first to third quartiles and the median, and the whiskers indicate $\pm 1.5 \times$ interquartile range (IQR). Bottom bar indicates the proportion of alternative splicing variation explained by ancestry.

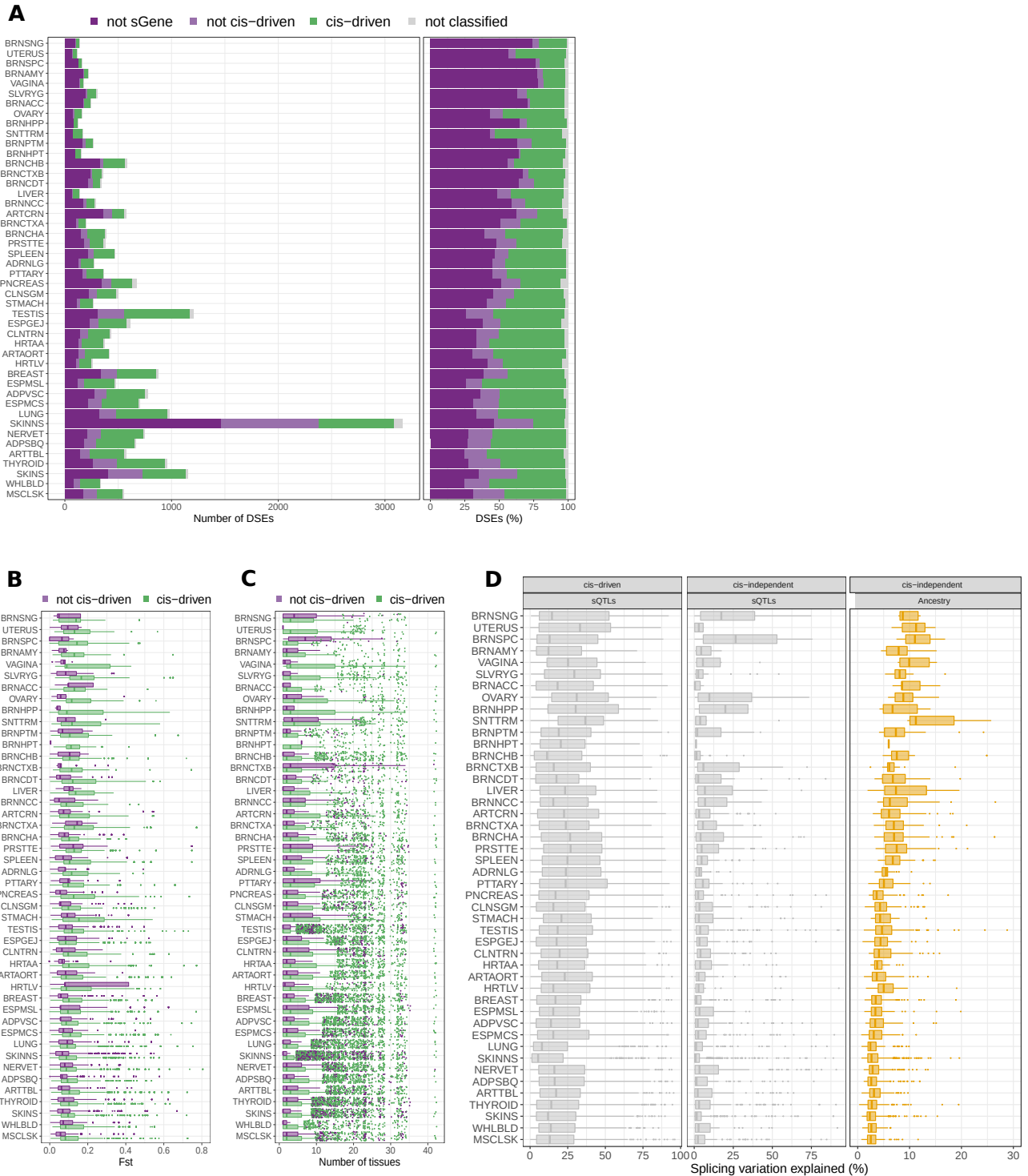


Figure S5. Characterization of *cis*-driven regulation of DSEs between populations, Related to Figure 5. A, Number (left) and proportion (right) of DSEs in not sGenes and *cis*-driven, *cis*-independent, and unclassified DSEs between populations (*STAR* methods). **B,** Box plots show the distribution of the average F_{st} value of *cis*-sQTLs for *cis*-driven and *cis*-independent DSEs between populations (one-tailed Mann-Whitney U test, $FDR < 0.05$ in 36 tissues). **C,** Box plots show the tissue sharing distribution for *cis*-driven and *cis*-independent DSEs between populations (one-tailed Mann-Whitney U test, $FDR < 0.05$ in 26 tissues). **D,** Alternative splicing variation explained in each tissue by *cis*-sQTLs (in *cis*-driven and *cis*-independent DSEs) and by ancestry (in *cis*-independent DSEs). Box plots represent the first to third quartiles and the median gene expression variation explained, and the whiskers indicate ± 1.5 x interquartile range (IQR).

Figure S6. Characterization of differential splicing patterns between populations in ribosomal proteins, Related to Figure 5. **A**, Patterns of differential expression and splicing between human populations in ribosomal proteins across tissues. Bars on the left indicate the number of ribosomal proteins differentially expressed and spliced in each tissue. Row annotations show the odds ratio and FDR of a two-tailed fisher's exact test used to test if genes differentially spliced in a tissue were enriched in ribosomal proteins. Top annotations indicate the ribosomal proteins differentially expressed [S1] or differentially spliced in monocytes [S2]. Cell color indicates if a ribosomal protein is differentially expressed (DE), differentially expressed but not alternatively spliced (DE - not AS), not differentially expressed but differentially spliced (not DE - DS), or both (DE - DS). **B**, Differences in isoforms expression between European and African American across GTEx tissues are correlated with those observed in monocytes [S1] (left). We computed the differences in expression (effect sizes) between African Americans and European Americans for the isoforms contributing to the tissue DSEs and highly tissue-shared DSEs in ribosomal proteins. Scatter plots show, for each tissue, the Person correlations coefficient versus the adjusted p-value. Isoform expression differences between populations in adipose tissue (tissue with the lowest adjusted p-value) are correlated with those observed in monocytes [S1] (right). **C**, Characterization of splicing patterns in events differentially spliced between populations in ribosomal proteins. In the top panel, cell colors represent the beta values in the generalized regression models: positive betas correspond to events more included in African Americans; negative betas to splicing events more included in European Americans. Note how the beta values show the same directionality across tissues. The middle top panel indicates if the splicing events were classified as *cis*-driven or *cis*-independent. Note here that this analysis was run considering the genes reported as sGenes in the GTEx v8 main paper, and most ribosomal proteins were not sGenes (in green). The middle bottom panel indicates if the splicing event was classified as *cis*-driven or *cis*-independent using a generalized linear model that accounts for closeby variants (see [STAR methods](#)). The bottom panel indicates if the splicing event is associated with a switch between non-coding isoforms, a switch between a protein-coding and a non-coding isoform, or a switch between two functional protein-coding isoforms. For the latter, asterisks indicate that the inclusion or exclusion of the splicing event affects a PFAM domain. **D**, Read coverage plots spanning the highly tissue-shared events in ribosomal proteins RPLP2 (top) and RPL10 (bottom). Isoform models for the isoforms that include the exonic region (in dark gray) or exclude the exonic region (in light gray) are shown. The exonic regions that are either spliced-in or spliced-out are highlighted with a red box. The average normalized read coverage per population (AA: African American; EA: European American) in SKINS (top) and in SKINNS (bottom) is shown. CPM (per bin) = number of reads per bin / number of mapped reads (in millions). Please note that the isoforms in the plots can also participate in other splicing events involving adjacent exonic and intronic regions.

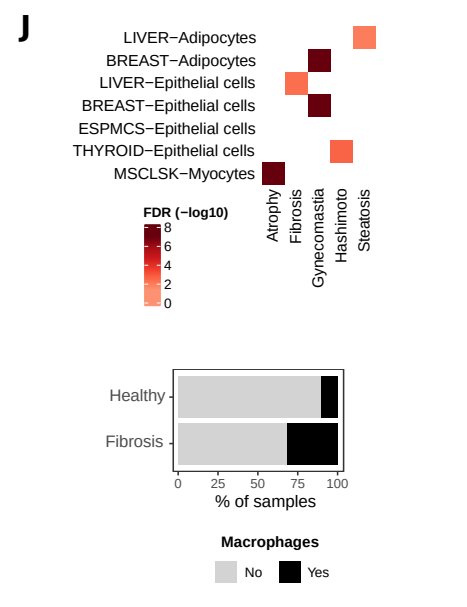
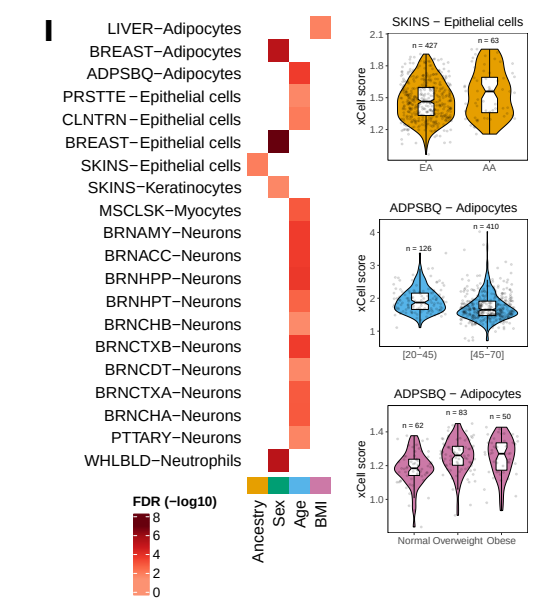
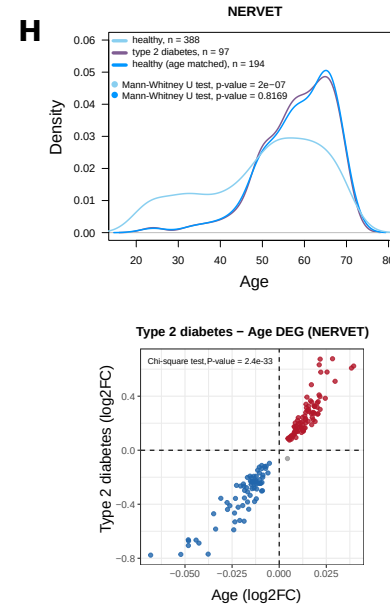
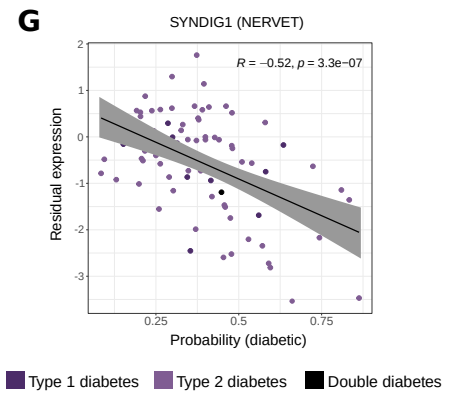
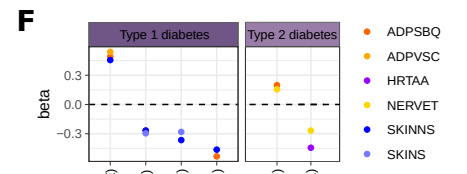
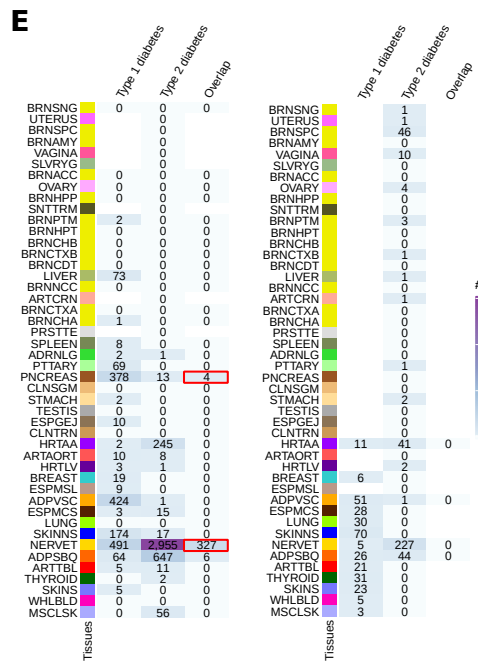
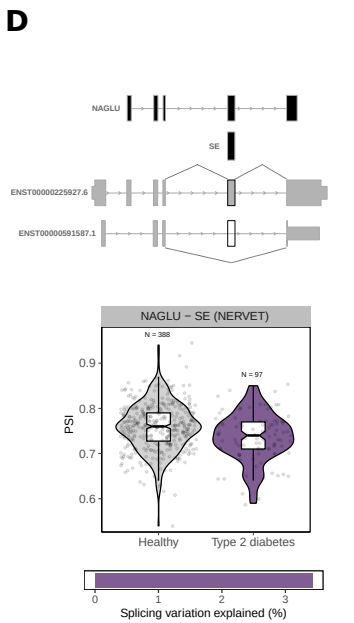
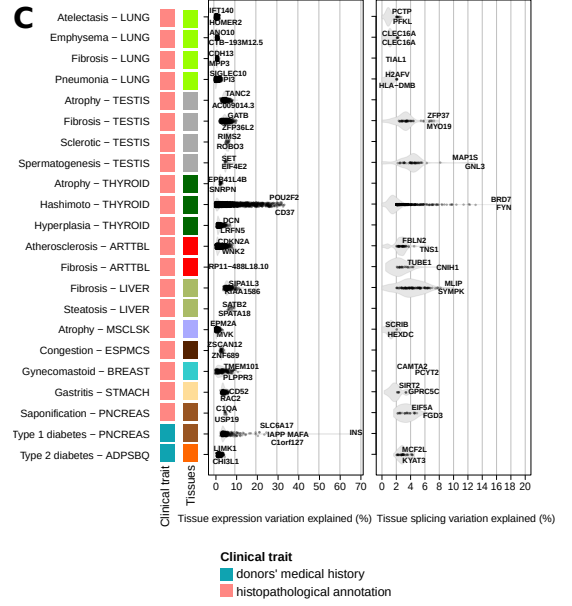
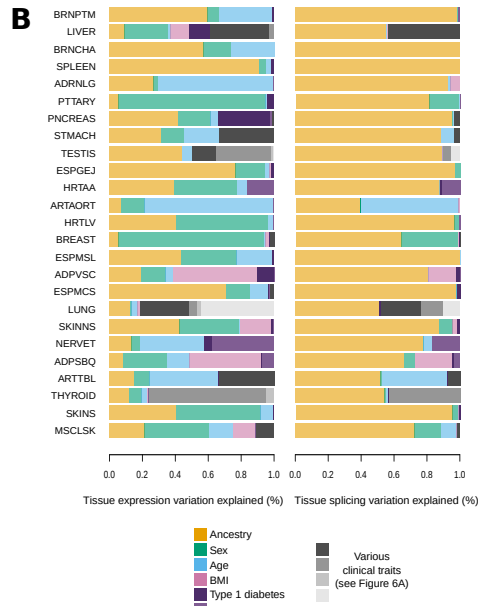
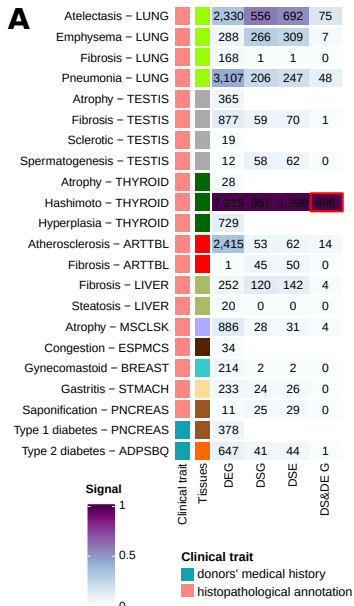


Figure S7. Differential gene expression and alternative splicing with clinical traits and differential cellular abundance, Related to Figure 6. **A**, Number of DEGs, DSEs, DSGs, and genes both DE and DS per tissue and clinical trait. The red square highlights the only tissue-clinical trait pair where the number of genes DE and DS is significantly larger than expected by chance (two-tailed Fisher's exact test, p -value = 0.0011). **B**, Proportion out of the total tissue expression (left) and splicing (right) variation explained by each demographic and clinical trait. **C**, Distribution of expression (left) and splicing (right) variation explained per gene/splicing event, tissue, and clinical trait. Labels indicate the name of the top 2 genes (top 5 for type 1 diabetes). **D**, Example of a DSE with type 2 diabetes with functional consequences. (Top) Protein domain (NAGLU) affected when excluding an exon (SE) included in the most abundant isoform in healthy individuals (ENST00000225927.6), but excluded in the most abundant isoform of diabetic individuals (ENST00000591587.1). Violin plots (bottom) show the PSI distribution in each population. Points correspond to individual PSI values. **E**, Number of DEGs (left) and DSGs (right) per tissue with type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes and with both types of diabetes (overlap). The red squares highlight the tissues with significantly larger than expected DEGs with both diabetes (two-tailed Fisher's exact test, $FDR < 0.05$). **F**, DSEs with type 1 or 2 diabetes in two or more tissues. The y-axis corresponds to the beta estimate between healthy and diseased individuals per tissue. Tissues are color-coded as in [Figure S1](#). **G**, SYNDIG1 residual expression in diabetic individuals is significantly correlated with their probability of being classified as diabetic by our classifier. **H**, Biased directionality in genes with additive contributions from age and type 2 diabetes are not confounded by differences in age between healthy and diabetic individuals. Left panel shows the age distribution of healthy and diabetic individuals in the tibial nerve, before and after matching age distributions between groups. The p-values correspond to the comparisons between each healthy age distribution against the diabetic age distribution. Differential expression analysis using the subset of age matched samples (right panel) replicates our initial findings ([Figure 6H](#)). **I**, Changes in tissue cell type composition associated with demographic traits. Tissue-cell type pairs with significant differences ($FDR < 0.05$) with at least one demographic trait (left). Three examples of changes in cell type abundance (right). Cell values are proportional to the statistical significance. **J**, Changes in tissue cell type composition associated with clinical traits (top). Example of changes in cell type abundance with type 1 diabetes (middle). Changes in the presence of macrophages in individuals with fibrosis in the lung (two-tailed Fisher's exact test, p -value = 3.045e-07).

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