



Supplementary Information for

Human pancreatic islet microRNAs implicated in diabetes and related traits by large-scale genetic analysis

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Supplementary Notes

Note S1. We note that heritability estimates will be affected by technical noise (e.g., instrument measurement error), making comparisons of heritability estimates across two biological phenomena (e.g., miRNA expression and RNA expression) measured using different assays (e.g., smRNA-seq and RNA-seq) difficult (1, 2). In order to control for differences in noise, as part of our quality control procedure, we used noisyR (3) to remove noisy transcripts which generally correspond to the most lowly expressed genes (3–5). To test if noise may confound the heritability analysis in the final dataset, we used transcript abundance as a proxy for noise and evaluated the relationship between transcript abundance and estimated heritability (Fig. S7). We found no relationship between these variables, suggesting that the effect of residual noise on the reported results is minimal. Nonetheless, the potential impact of different noise-to-signal dynamics is an important caveat to the results presented in this study.

Supplementary Materials and Methods

Human pancreatic islet procurement and processing

We procured the human pancreatic islet (HPI) samples used in this study from the Integrated Islet Distribution Program, the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI), or ProdoLabs. Tables S1,2 contain demographic and other reported information for the 69 samples (HPIs; age = 46.17 ± 10.71 y; 53.62% male; BMI = 27.49 ± 4.97 kg/m²) considered in this study after quality control steps (see below). Islets were shipped overnight from the distribution centers. On receipt, we pre-warmed islets to 37°C in shipping media for 1-2 hours before harvest and harvested ~2,000-5,000 islet equivalents (IEQs) from each organ donor for subsequent molecular assays (e.g., RNA isolation).

Genotyping and quality control

We transferred 500-1,000 IEQs to tissue culture-treated flasks, cultured them as in Gershengorn et al. (6), and isolated genomic DNA for genotyping. We genotyped isolated DNA at the National Human Genome Research Institute Home (NHGRI) Genomics Core facility using either the HumanOmni2.5-4v1_H BeadChip array or the InfiniumOmni2-5Exome-8v1-3 BeadChip array (v1.3, Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA). Overall genotyping call rates ranged from 96.08-99.81%. As described previously (7), we mapped the Illumina array probe sequences to the GRCh37 (hg19) genome assembly using novoalign v2.07.11 (<http://www.novocraft.com/products/novoalign>). For downstream analysis and genotype imputation, we excluded SNPs with (i) ambiguous probe alignments, (ii) a 1000 Genomes (1000G) phase 3 variant with a minor allele frequency (MAF) $\geq 1\%$ within 7 base pairs (bp) of the 3' end of the probe, or (iii) call rates $< 95\%$ —resulting in chip genotypes for 1,825,450 SNPs. Using SNP genotypes and KING v1.4 (8), we tested for sample relatedness and did not identify any individuals related at a 3rd-degree relationship or closer.

Sample genetic ancestry and genotype PCs

To assess genetic ancestry, we estimated genetic principal components (PCs) using weights produced with the Population Reference Sample (POPRES) reference panel (9) implemented in LASER (10). Briefly, we pruned genotyped, autosomal SNPs using plink v1.9 with a pairwise r^2 threshold of 0.5, excluding SNPs with a MAF $\leq 1\%$, Hardy-Weinberg $P < 10^{-6}$ (with options --indep-pairwise 50 5 0.5 --maf 0.01 --hwe 0.000001), or in regions of high linkage disequilibrium (LD) (11, 12). Next, we passed the genotypes of the remaining 564,920 SNPs to LASER to calculate genetic PCs of the samples in this study combined with the POPRES reference populations. We assigned genetic ancestry based on the POPRES-predicted nearest neighbors ($k=10$). We identified 42, 7, and 6 individuals of European, African, and Hispanic/Latino ancestry, respectively.

To control for population stratification in downstream analyses, we performed a second round of principal component analysis (PCA) within each major ancestry present in this study (i.e., European, African, and Hispanic/Latino). For each major ancestry, we re-filtered SNPs following the method described above and used smartpca implemented in Eigensoft v6.1.4 (13, 14) to perform PCA with the retained SNPs. We used smartpca to perform the Tracy-Widom test (15) across the first 20 PCs and included PCs with $P \leq 0.05$ in subsequent analyses. For European-only analyses, we used 460,072 filtered SNPs and identified 4 PCs. For African-only analyses, we used 208,609 filtered SNPs and identified 0 PCs. For Hispanic/Latino-only analyses, we used 146,562 filtered SNPs and identified 0 PCs.

Genotype imputation

We imputed genotypes as described in Lawlor et al. (7). Briefly, we assessed the allele frequency of each SNP by combining genotype data from the samples in this study with 140 samples from separate studies (7, 16) that

were genotyped using similar array technology. We removed SNPs that had an alternate allele frequency difference >20% with the 1000G phase 3 EUR samples or that were palindromic with a MAF>20%, genotype missingness >2.5%, and Hardy-Weinberg $P < 10^{-4}$. With the remaining 1,825,450 SNPs, we performed pre-phasing and imputation on autosomal markers using the Michigan Imputation Server (17). For pre-phasing, we used Eagle v2.3 (18) for autosomal chip markers and SHAPEIT v2.r790 (19) for chrX markers. We subsequently used minimac3 (17) for imputation of missing genotypes using the Haplotype Reference Consortium (hrc.r1.1.2016) panel (20). Finally, we removed all SNPs with an imputation $r^2 \leq 0.3$.

miRNA isolation, sequencing, and processing

We performed small RNA sequencing (smRNA-seq) to measure miRNAs using two different protocols: library preparation 1 (LP1) and library preparation 2 (LP2).

For LP1, we performed smRNA-seq as described in Lawlor et al. (7). Briefly, we extracted and purified total RNA from islets using Trizol (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA), generated smRNA libraries from 1 μ g total RNA using Illumina's TruSeq Small RNA Library Kit, and performed single-end 51 base sequencing using an Illumina HiSeq2500 in 'Rapid Mode' with version 2 chemistry (Illumina, San Diego, CA).

For LP2, we isolated total RNA using the Total Purification kit (Norgen Biotek, Thorold, ON, Canada), following the manufacturer's instructions. We quantified RNA with a Nanodrop 2000 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA) and determined RNA integrity using either an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer or a 4200 TapeStation (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA). We generated smRNA libraries using the CleanTag Small RNA Library Prep kit (TriLink Biotechnologies, San Diego, CA) and performed single-end 57 base sequencing using an Illumina HiSeq2500 (Illumina, San Diego, CA). Sequencing was performed at the Genome Sequencing Facility of the Greehey Children's Cancer Research Institute (University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX).

For both preparations, we used miRquant v2.0 (21) to trim, map, and quantify smRNA-seq reads to the GRCh37 (hg19) genome assembly. We trimmed reads using Cutadapt v1.12 (22). Following miRquant guidelines, we discarded reads with <10 nucleotide overlap between the adapter sequence and the 3'-end of the sequencing read, $\geq 10\%$ errors in the alignment, or <14 nucleotides in length after trimming. We aligned reads using Bowtie v1.1.0 (23) and created genomic windows containing miRNA loci from perfectly aligning reads. We re-aligned imperfectly mapped reads to these genomic windows to identify internal edits and non-templated nucleotide additions to the miRNAs using SHRiMP v2.2.2 (24). If a read aligned equally well to multiple genomic loci, we proportionally assigned reads to each of the loci. Finally, we quantified miRNA isoforms both as read counts (for differential gene expression analysis) and as normalized reads per million mapped to miRNAs (RPMMM; for genetic analyses). Given the uncertainty surrounding miRNA isoforms (isomiRs) shifted >2 nucleotides, we considered miRNAs with nucleotide shifts ≤ 2 in either direction as high confidence isomiRs for subsequent analyses.

Small RNA-seq quality control

For the analyses described in ***cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis***, ***Heritability estimates***, and ***Variance decomposition analysis*** and the PGS miRNA differential expression analysis described in ***miRNA differential expression analysis***, we were limited to the 64 samples from LP1 with both genotype and miRNA expression data. Across these 64 samples, we used verifybamID v.1.1.1 (25) to compare miRNA reads aligned with exceRpt v4.4.0 (26) (miRquant does not generate bam files) to the SNP chip genotypes, removing 3 samples that were identified as likely sample swaps (CHIPMIX>35%). We considered sequencing coverage and dropped 4 samples due to low sequence coverage (<3 million reads). Next, we used noisyR v1.0.0 (3) to remove samples and miRNAs with a high degree of noise. We (i) calculated expression similarities across samples using the `calculate_expression_similarity_counts` function with options

similarity.measure="correlation_pearson" and n.elements.per.window=noisyR::optimise_window_length with default parameters, (ii) defined sample-specific abundance thresholds (i.e., expression threshold where miRNAs with raw counts < threshold may indicate noisy transcripts) using the results from i with options similarity.threshold and method.chosen as defined by the calculate_noise_threshold_method_statistics function, and (iii) retained miRNAs with raw counts \geq sample-specific abundance thresholds from ii in at least 25% of samples. To remove outlier samples exhibiting a high degree of noise, we calculated the average similarity across binned expression levels and compared each sample to the dataset averages using the Cramér-Von Mises test (27) (cvm.test in goftest v1.2_2), but we identified no outliers (Bonferroni-corrected P -value (P_{Bonf}) ≤ 0.05 ; Fig. S3A). In total across all sample filters, we excluded 7 samples and used the remaining 57 samples for downstream analyses. With regards to miRNA filters, for the analyses described in ***cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis***, ***Heritability estimates***, and ***Variance decomposition analysis***, we removed low-abundance (counts < 100 in $\geq 75\%$ of samples) and sex-chromosome miRNAs, retaining 697 miRNAs (we removed sex-chromosome miRNAs from genetic analyses due to the additional complexity that they add to analysis (28)). For the PGS miRNA differential expression analysis described in ***miRNA differential expression analysis***, we removed low-abundance (counts < 100 in $\geq 75\%$ of samples) miRNAs within each major ancestry group (without an additional sex-chromosome filter), retaining 766, 726, and 661 miRNAs for European, African, and Hispanic/Latino ancestries, respectively.

For the T2D status, sex, age, and BMI miRNA differential expression analysis described in ***miRNA differential expression analysis***, we were not limited to samples with both genotype and miRNA expression data. We used the 57 samples from LP1 and an additional 6 samples from LP2. For the LP2 samples, we applied the same quality control measures as LP1 (apart from the verifybamID SNP genotype checks), but did not identify any samples for removal. Prior to performing differential expression analysis, we applied the same low-abundance miRNA filters to both cohorts, removing miRNAs with counts < 100 in $\geq 75\%$ of samples (without an additional sex-chromosome filter), retaining 751 and 869 miRNAs from LP1 and LP2, respectively.

RNA isolation, sequencing, and processing

We performed RNA-seq as described in Lawlor et al. (7). Briefly, we extracted and purified total RNA from islets using Trizol (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA) and sequenced purified RNA using an Illumina NextSeq 500 with 2x101 bp cycles (Illumina, San Diego, CA). We aligned the processed reads to the GRCh37 (hg19) genome assembly using STAR v2.7.3a (29) with default parameters and quantified expression levels of Gencode v19 genes (Ensembl release 101) using QoRTs v1.3.6 (30). Finally, we quantified normalized mRNA expression as transcripts per million (TPM).

RNA-seq quality control

For the analyses described in ***Heritability estimates*** and ***Variance decomposition analysis***, we began with 42 samples that had both genotype and mRNA expression data. We used verifybamID v1.1.1 (25) to assess contamination of the total RNA used for RNA-seq in reference to the array genotypes in the coding regions of the genome. We excluded 1 sample that was likely contaminated (FREEMIX > 15%) and 1 sample whose RNA did not match the corresponding genotypes (CHIPMIX > 2%). We assessed sequencing depth across samples and identified no outliers. Next, we performed noisyR analysis using the same procedure described in ***Small RNA-seq quality control*** to filter noisy RNA transcripts and samples. We identified and removed one outlier sample ($P_{Bonf} \leq 0.05$ from Cramér-Von Mises test; Fig. S3B), resulting in 39 samples for downstream analyses. Finally, we removed low-abundance (counts < 100 in $\geq 75\%$ of samples) and sex-chromosome RNAs (28), retaining 12,915 protein coding mRNAs for subsequent analysis.

We also obtained mRNA expression and genotype data from 229 HPI samples from the Integrated Network for Systematic analysis of Pancreatic Islet RNA Expression (InsPIRE) consortium (31) to use in the analyses

described in **Heritability estimates**, **Variance decomposition analysis**, and **trans-eQTL analysis**. We downloaded gene expression count data and imputed genotypes from the European Genome-phenome Archive (EGA; accession number EGAD00001006149). To generate a completely independent dataset, we used verifybamID v1.1.1 (25) to identify and remove InsPIRE samples that overlapped samples from this study (CHIPMIX<5%), retaining 190 samples. We performed noisyR analysis to remove noisy transcripts and samples as described in **Small RNA-seq quality control**, dropping 1 outlier sample ($P_{Bonf} \leq 0.05$ from Cramér-Von Mises test; Fig. S3B). Finally, we removed low-abundance (counts<100 in $\geq 75\%$ of samples) and sex-chromosome RNAs, retaining 13,777 protein coding mRNAs.

cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis

We mapped *cis*-miRNA-eQTLs by testing all SNPs within 250 kilobases (kb) of the mature miRNA transcript using LIMIX v3.0.4 (32) and the 57 samples with imputed genotypes and miRNA. For genotypes, we selected 4,741,068 bi-allelic, autosomal SNPs with minor allele count (MAC)>10 across the 57 samples. For miRNAs, we used the 697 miRNAs as described in **Small RNA-seq quality control**.

To account for unknown covariates affecting miRNA expression, we used PEER v1.3 (33) to infer and adjust the miRNA expression data for 5 hidden factors. For PEER correction, we included age and sex as known covariates. As performed by previous studies (34, 35), we inverse rank-normalized the residual values from PEER, where the effects of known and discovered factors had been removed.

To account for effects of population structure or cryptic relatedness, we calculated the genetic relatedness matrix (GRM) across all 4,741,068 SNPs as described in Hoffman (36) and included the GRM as a random effect term, K , in subsequent models. Briefly, let X_{ij} represent the scaled, centered genetic dosage for individual i at SNP j . Thus, $K=XX^T$. For the eQTL analysis, we calculated the normalized GRM, $K^* = K / \text{mean}(\text{diag}(K))$.

For each miRNA, we considered the following generalized linear mixed models:

$$Y = M\alpha + K^*v + \varepsilon \quad (1)$$

$$Y = M\alpha + G\beta + K^*v + \varepsilon \quad (2)$$

where Y is the inverse rank-normalized PEER residuals described above, M is a matrix of fixed-effect covariates (here, a vector of ones as an offset term), G is a matrix of candidate genetic variants, K^* is the normalized GRM as defined above, ε is a noise variable, and α , β , and v are the corresponding regression coefficients. Notably, equation (1) is effectively equation (2), where we assume no genetic effects, $\beta=0$. To assess the association between genetic effects and the phenotype, we derived P -values by performing a likelihood ratio test using the marginal likelihoods of the two models (32).

To control for correlation among SNPs, we calculated empirical P -values (P_{emp}) per miRNA, similar to Ongen et al. (37). Briefly, for each miRNA, we randomly permuted the sample identifiers of G and re-ran the *cis*-miRNA-eQTL analysis 10,000 times. Using these permuted P -values, we calculated P_{emp} as the proportion of permuted P -values less than or equal to the minimum nominal P -values. Finally, we controlled the false discovery rate (FDR) across all tested miRNAs using Storey's method (38) and P_{emp} .

Heritability estimates

For miRNAs and mRNAs, we estimated the SNP-based heritability (h_g^2)—the proportion of variation in expression that can be explained by additive effects of commonly occurring genetic variants for each transcript—by fitting the following model using LIMIX v3.0.4 (32):

$$Y = M\alpha + K^*v + \varepsilon \quad (3)$$

where the terms are the same as defined in equations (1) and (2). We considered highly heritable transcripts to have $v \geq 0.9$.

For miRNAs, we used the paired genotype and miRNA data as defined in ***cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis***. For mRNAs, we used 39 samples with both imputed genotypes and mRNA expression data that passed the QC filters described in ***RNA-seq quality control***. We included 3,993,494 bi-allelic, autosomal SNPs with $MAC > 10$ across the 39 samples to calculate K^* . For both the miRNA and mRNA datasets, we used the methodology described in ***cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis*** to account for unknown covariates in expression data, including age and sex as covariates. Briefly, we used PEER to adjust expression data for 5 hidden factors and calculated the inverse rank-normalized residual values of the adjusted expression data to use in heritability estimates.

We repeated the heritability analysis in a similar fashion using an independent dataset of 189 HPI samples with mRNA expression and genotype data from a previous study (31) (see ***RNA-seq quality control***). Briefly, we performed PEER factor analysis with sex and age as covariates, identified 5 PEER factors, and calculated the inverse rank-normalized residual values of the PEER-adjusted expression data to use in heritability estimates. We included 7,892,333 bi-allelic, autosomal SNPs across the 189 samples to calculate K^* . We performed all heritability estimates as described previously.

Variance decomposition analysis

To investigate the contributions of *cis*- and *trans*-acting genetic effects to miRNA and mRNA expression, we performed variance decomposition using LIMIX v3.0.4 (32). Let K^* denote the normalized GRM, K . For each transcript, we fit the following equation:

$$Y = M\alpha + K_{cis}^* v_{cis} + K_{trans}^* v_{trans} + \varepsilon \quad (4)$$

where K_{cis} is the GRM calculated using SNPs within 250kb of either side of the mature miRNA body or mRNA transcription start site (TSS; presumed to be *cis*-acting), $K_{trans} = K_{all} - K_{cis}$, and the rest of the terms are the same as equations (1) and (2). To represent the proportion of variance explained by a single component, we used the following formula:

$$h_x = \frac{v_x}{v_x + v_{S-x} + \varepsilon} \quad (5)$$

where $S = \{ cis, trans \}$ and $x \subset S$.

For both miRNA and mRNA, we used the PEER-adjusted expression data described in ***Heritability estimates***. To account for the fact that some miRNA TSSs may be quite far away from the miRNA body, we also re-estimated genetic effects using a larger 20Mb window to define the set of *cis*-acting SNPs. Finally, we repeated this analysis in an independent dataset of 189 HPI samples with mRNA expression and genotype data and the 250kb window around TSSs. We used the PEER-adjusted expression data as described in ***Heritability estimates***.

Genetic colocalization analysis

For each miRNA-eQTL, we performed colocalization analysis using coloc v3.1 (39) with default priors and all variants present in both the miRNA-eQTL analysis and summary statistics of the genetic analysis of interest. Briefly, coloc outputs posterior probabilities of association for five different hypotheses: PP0 (neither trait is associated), PP1 (only the miRNA-eQTL is associated), PP2 (only the alternative trait is associated), PP3 (both traits are associated with different causal variants), and PP4 (both traits are associated with the same causal variant). Based on Guo et al. (40), we considered two genetic signals to have evidence of colocalization if $PP3+PP4 \geq 0.99$ and $PP4/PP3 \geq 5$. For disease and quantitative traits, we used summary statistics from

common variant genetic association studies for fasting blood glucose levels (41), blood glucose levels (42), fasting insulin (41), glycosylated hemoglobin (HbA1c) (42), T2D (43), triglycerides (TG) (42), and red blood cell distribution width (RCDW) (44). To identify potential downstream targets of miRNAs, we also colocalized each miRNA-eQTL with exon- and gene-level mRNA eQTL results in HPIs (31). Finally, we only considered miRNA-eQTLs that colocalized with genetic studies of T2D and glycemic traits, where at least one study had a lead SNP P -value $\leq 5 \times 10^{-8}$ at the miRNA-eQTL locus.

Mendelian randomization and mediation analysis

For the single miRNA-mRNA colocalization pair identified in **Genetic colocalization analysis** (miR-1908 and *FADS1*), we tested for a potential causal relationship between miRNA expression and mRNA expression using the Mendelian randomization (MR) Wald test paired with the MR Steiger test (TwoSampleMR R package v0.5.6) (45) and the causal inference test (CIT; CIT R package v2.2) (46) as described in Taylor et al. (47). For the CIT, we used the 33 samples with paired genotype, miRNA expression, and mRNA expression data. For both miRNAs and mRNAs, we used the PEER-adjusted expression data described in **Heritability estimates** (the MR tests operate on summary statistics).

Briefly, we performed both tests with two configurations: (i) miRNA expression as the exposure, mRNA expression as the outcome, and the miRNA-eQTL tag SNP as the instrument (i.e., SNP \rightarrow miRNA expression \rightarrow mRNA expression) and (ii) mRNA expression as the exposure, miRNA expression as the outcome, and the gene eQTL tag SNP as the instrument (i.e., SNP \rightarrow mRNA expression \rightarrow miRNA expression). We note that when the top gene-eQTL and miRNA-eQTL SNP are different, the instrument will be different for both tests, depending on which molecular trait is used as the exposure. Using the triangulation procedure described in Taylor et al. (47), we considered a miRNA-mRNA pair to have evidence for a causal relationship if (i) the MR Wald test indicated an association ($P \leq 0.05$), (ii) the MR Steiger test indicated a difference between variance explained by the SNP on the outcome and the exposure ($P \leq 0.05$), and (iii) the conditional regression tests from the CIT suggested a causal effect ($P_{CausalCIT} \leq 0.05$, $P_{ReverseCIT} > 0.05$ or $P_{CausalCIT} > 0.05$, $P_{ReverseCIT} \leq 0.05$). For the single miRNA-mRNA pair tested (miR-1908 and *FADS1*), we found no evidence of a causal relationship (SNP \rightarrow miRNA \rightarrow mRNA model: $P_{MR} = 3.53 \times 10^{-6}$, $P_{MR_Steiger} = 0.03$, $P_{CIT} = 0.786$; SNP \rightarrow mRNA \rightarrow miRNA model: $P_{MR} = 2.61 \times 10^{-5}$, $P_{MR_Steiger} = 0.06$, $P_{CIT} = 0.76$); however, as noted in Taylor et al. (47), measurement error may obscure true causal relationships, particularly in conditional regression models used by the CIT (45).

trans-eQTL analysis

We tested for associations between tag variants from the miRNA-eQTL results and mRNA expression using LIMIX v3.0.4 (32) as described in **cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis**. Briefly, for each mRNA, we modeled the expression with and without the genetic effect of interest. In both models, we included an offset term as a fixed-effect covariate, the GRM as a random-effect covariate to account for hidden effects of population structure or cryptic relatedness, and a term for noise. Next, we performed the likelihood ratio test of the two models to derive nominal P -values of association. Finally, we controlled the FDR across all tested variant-gene pairs using Storey's method (38) and the nominal P -values.

We combined the 39 samples in this study with paired mRNA expression data and imputed genotypes (described in **RNA-seq quality control**) with 189 samples from an independent dataset (31) (described in **Heritability estimates**). Briefly, we restricted the analysis to mRNAs common between both datasets, retaining 12,591 protein coding genes. Following the approach described in **cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis** to account for known and unknown covariates, we performed PEER analysis, including sex, age, and source of samples as covariates, and adjusted for 5 hidden factors. We used the inverse rank-normalized residual values of the PEER-adjusted mRNA expression as the phenotype in the LIMIX model. We used 4,987,481 bi-allelic, autosomal SNPs shared between both datasets to calculate the GRM.

Comparison of HPI miRNA-eQTLs and blood miRNA-eQTLs

We compared SNP-miRNA effect sizes in HPI miRNA-eQTLs to miRNA-eQTL results from previously reported genetic analyses in blood (48, 49). For Huan et al. (48), we downloaded the published summary statistics, which included all tested SNP-miRNA pairs at an $FDR \leq 10\%$. For Sonehara et al. (49), we downloaded the published summary statistics, which included all tested SNP-miRNA pairs with $P \leq 0.05$ (National Bioscience Database Center [NBDC] Human Database accession number hum0197.v6). For each comparison (i.e., this study vs. Huan et al. and this study vs. Sonehara et al.), we retained shared SNP-miRNA pairs and harmonized the effect alleles by reversing the effect size estimates of blood SNP-miRNA pairs if the effect alleles were swapped. We determined the correlation of the effect size estimates between studies by calculating Spearman's rank correlation coefficient.

Intersection of T2D-related SNPs with mature miRNA bodies and target regions

To investigate the overlap of T2D-related SNPs and miRNA target regions within mRNA transcripts, we used the intersect function from bedtools v2.29.2 (50) to identify overlaps between the genomic coordinates of predicted miRNA target sites from TargetScan v7.2 (51) and genetic variants from 99% credible sets from genetic studies for T2D (43), HbA1c (42), and blood glucose (42). In some cases, the miRNA target site was split across two exons, so the genomic coordinates contained introns. We used GRCh37 (hg19) exon coordinates to remove SNPs lying in intronic regions (i.e., SNPs that would not affect miRNA binding to the 3' UTR site). To identify the most islet-relevant miRNA target sites, we only kept SNPs where the miRNA and target mRNA were highly expressed by filtering for transcripts with raw counts ≥ 100 in at least 25% of samples. We used the 57 samples in LP1 (described in **Small RNA-seq quality control**) for the miRNA filter and the 39 samples with mRNA expression data (described in **RNA-seq quality control**) for the mRNA filter. Finally, to evaluate the effect of SNPs on target mRNA levels, we used conditional eQTL summary statistics from a study of HPis from 420 individuals (31) for mRNAs identified with T2D-related SNPs in miRNA target regions. Taking the tag SNPs for these eQTLs, we calculated LD with the T2D-related SNPs in miRNA target regions in European populations (i.e., 1000GENOMES phase_3 FIN, CEU, GBR populations) (52, 53) and considered those with $r^2 > 0.9$.

To investigate the overlap of T2D-related SNPs and mature miRNAs, we performed the procedure outlined for target regions but using the mature miRNA genomic coordinates from miRbase (release 18) (54–59). Briefly, we used bedtools v2.29.2 (50) to intersect the mature miRNA genomic coordinates with the same T2D-related 99% credible sets and kept SNPs where the miRNA transcript was highly expressed (raw transcript counts ≥ 100 in at least 25% of samples). For the miRNA filter, we used the 57 samples in LP1 (described in **Small RNA-seq quality control**). Since we identified no overlaps, we did not perform further analyses.

Modeling an interaction effect between rs1464569 and miR-532-3p expression on *NICN1* expression

To investigate the possibility of an interaction effect between rs1464569 and miR-532-3p expression on *NICN1* expression, we used the qtl.iscan function from LIMIX v3.0.4 (32) and the 33 samples with imputed genotypes, miRNA expression data, and mRNA expression data. We used the RPM-normalized counts for miR-532-3p expression and the TPM-normalized counts for *NICN1* expression. To account for effects of population structure or cryptic relatedness, we calculated the normalized GRM, K^* , as described in **cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis** using the 3,641,706 bi-allelic, autosomal SNPs with $MAC > 10$ across the 33 samples.

We considered the following generalized linear mixed models:

$$Y = M\alpha + K^*v + \varepsilon \quad (6)$$

$$Y = M\alpha + (G * E)\beta + K\upsilon + \varepsilon \quad (7)$$

where Y is the inverse rank-normalized *NICN1* expression, $G * E$ is the interaction between rs1464569 (G) and the inverse rank-normalized miR-532-3p expression (E), and the remaining terms are the same as defined in equations (1) and (2). As covariates, we passed sex (with male as reference), age, rs1464569 dosages, inverse rank-normalized miR-532-3p expression, and a vector of ones as an offset term. We performed a likelihood ratio test using the marginal likelihoods of the two models to derive the nominal P -value (32). To derive an empirical P -value, we performed the permutation analysis described in ***cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis***. Briefly, we randomly permuted the sample ids of G and re-ran the interaction analysis 10,000 times. Using these permuted P -values, we calculated P_{emp} as the proportion of permuted P -values less than the nominal P -value.

To evaluate the effect of cell type composition, we repeated the above analysis, incorporating the cell type proportions calculated in ***Cell type composition estimation*** as an additional covariate. We found that incorporating cell type proportions had no effect on the results.

Polygenic score calculations

We calculated polygenic scores for each genotyped participant using the `--score` function from PLINK v1.9 (60, 61) and SNP weights derived from genetic associations for T2D (43), fasting blood glucose (41), fasting insulin (41), blood glucose (42), and HbA1c (42). For the SNP weights, we used previously reported weights for blood glucose (42, 62) and HbA1c (42, 62) and calculated weights using PRS-CS (release Sept. 10, 2020) (63) for the remaining phenotypes with European samples from the 1000 genomes project as a linkage disequilibrium reference panel.

miRNA differential expression analysis

We tested for association of miRNA expression with T2D status, sex, age, BMI, and PGSs for T2D and glycemic traits (described in ***Polygenic score calculations***). Depending on the phenotype, we fit different models to account for dataset specific effects. For T2D status, sex, age, and BMI, we analyzed miRNA data from three library preparation (LP) methods: LP1 from this study (n=2 T2D, n=55 NGT; 751 miRNAs), LP2 from this study (n=2 T2D, n=4 NGT; 869 miRNAs), and a third LP method from a publicly available miRNA expression dataset (n=4 T2D, n=3 NGT; 268 miRNAs) (64). To control for differences across library preparation methods, we fit separate models for each LP and meta-analyzed the results. For the Kameswaran et al. dataset, we used the same processing pipeline that we used for LP1 and LP2: we quantified miRNA counts from fastQ files using the miRquant pipeline (see ***miRNA isolation, sequencing, and processing***) and filtered lowly-abundance miRNAs (counts<100 in ≥75% of samples; see ***Small RNA-seq quality***). For the PGSs, we used the 57 samples from LP1 which had both genotype and miRNA data. To account for ancestry specific biases in PGSs (65), we fit separate models for each major ancestry—European (n=42; 766 miRNAs), African (n=7; 726 miRNAs), and Hispanic/Latino (n=6; 661 miRNAs)—and meta-analyzed the results.

For each phenotype, we used a three-stage pipeline to identify differentially expressed (DE) miRNAs within each dataset (i.e., library preparation or ancestry). We (i) performed a first-pass Wald test using DESeq2 v1.32.0 (66), (ii) identified factors of unknown variation using RUVSeq v1.26.0 (67) and empirically derived control genes from stage i, and (iii) re-ran stage i and incorporated the calculated RUVSeq factors from stage ii as additional covariates. To determine the final set of phenotype-associated miRNAs, we meta-analyzed the results across datasets using MetaVolcano v1.6.0 (68).

In stage i, we used DESeq2 to pre-compute size factors across samples with the pre-filtered miRNA expression counts to capture the full library sizes of each sample. Then, we tested for DE miRNAs using DESeq2's Wald test with default parameters, raw miRNA counts (described in ***Small RNA-seq quality***

control), the pre-computed size factors, and a set of covariates specific for each phenotype and dataset (Table S5,6). Across all phenotypes, we included sex and age as covariates, where age was standardized to unit variance (mean centered and scaled). For the age, sex, and BMI tests, we included T2D status as an additional covariate. For BMI, we mean-imputed three samples with missing BMI values and standardized these values to unit variance (mean centered and scaled). For the PGS analyses, we also included the genetic PCs as additional covariates according to the analysis described in **Sample genetic ancestry and genotype PCs**. Briefly, we included 4 PCs for the European ancestry analyses and 0 PCs for the other ancestries (African and Hispanic/Latino), since the PC analysis reported little variation in samples of African and Hispanic/Latino ancestry. For some models (e.g., BMI analysis in the Kameswaran et al. dataset), we were restricted by sample size in the number of terms that we could include in the model (the number of covariates included in a model cannot equal the total number of samples being considered). In such cases, we prioritized dropping the age covariate from the model as we identified no age-associated miRNAs.

In stage ii, we performed RUVSeq analysis, a method designed to control for unknown variation in differential expression studies. Briefly, in order to run RUVSeq, one must define a set of control transcripts that are not correlated with the phenotype of interest. Following the RUVSeq recommendations, we used the results from stage i to identify control miRNAs, defined as the half with the highest P , excluding miRNAs with $P \leq 0.25$. We used the DESeq2-normalized counts of the control miRNAs and the RUVg function from RUVSeq to calculate two factors of unwanted variation.

In stage iii, we repeated the stage i analysis and included the 2 RUVSeq factors from stage ii as additional covariates. For some models, we dropped a RUVSeq factor as a covariate due to the small sample size of the dataset and the limitations that sample size imposes on the number of covariates that one can model (Table S5,6).

Finally, for all miRNAs observed in at least 2 datasets, we meta-analyzed the effects across datasets using a random effect model implemented by the `rem_mv` function in MetaVolcanoR with default parameters. We attempted to remove miRNAs that showed effect size heterogeneity using Cochran's Q-test (69) as implemented in MetaVolcanoR, but we found no miRNAs with $P_{Cochran} \leq 0.05$. For miRNAs observed in a single dataset, we retained the original stage iii P -values. We performed multiple hypothesis correction using Storey's method (38) and considered miRNAs with $|\log_2(FC)| \geq 1$ and $FDR \leq 0.05$ to be differentially expressed.

Identifying mRNA targets of nominated miRNAs

We tested for associations between the miRNAs identified in the genetic and differential expression analyses and either (i) all mRNAs present in our data after QC steps (see **RNA-seq quality control**) or (ii) target mRNAs as predicted by TargetScan v7.2 (51). We used LIMIX v3.0.4 (32) and the 33 samples with both miRNA and mRNA expression data. For both miRNA and mRNA transcripts, we used the inverse rank-normalized PEER residuals described in **Heritability estimates**.

For each miRNA, we considered the following generalized linear mixed models:

$$Y = M\alpha + \varepsilon \quad (8)$$

$$Y = M\alpha + X\beta + \varepsilon \quad (9)$$

where Y is the inverse rank-normalized PEER residuals of target mRNAs, M is a matrix of fixed-effect covariates (here, a vector of ones as an offset term), X is the inverse rank-normalized PEER residuals of the current miRNA, ε is a noise variable, and α and β are the corresponding regression coefficients. We derived P -values by performing a likelihood ratio test using the marginal likelihoods of the two models and controlled the FDR across all tested miRNAs using Storey's method (38).

Cell type composition estimation

Using fastQ files from a publicly available miRNA expression dataset of sorted human alpha and beta cells (64), we quantified miRNA counts using the miRquant pipeline described in ***miRNA isolation, sequencing, and processing***. To deconvolute cell type composition, we used 532 miRNAs that had raw counts \geq 100 in at least one of the cell types and were also present in the samples from this study with average raw counts \geq 100. We estimated the cell composition of islets in this study using the unmix function from DESeq2 v1.30.1 (66) (Fig. S20). We ran unmix with default parameters and defined the alpha value with DESeq2's dispersionFunction using fitType = "parametric". We note the limitation that there are islet cell types that are unaccounted for in this deconvolution (e.g., delta cells) as we did not have miRNA expression profiles for these cell types.

To evaluate the effect of cell type composition in the presented data, we repeated analyses and incorporated cell type composition as an additional covariate. For ***cis-miRNA-eQTL analysis***, we included cell type composition as a covariate during PEER correction. For ***miRNA differential expression analysis***, we included cell type composition as a covariate in the DESeq2 model. Due to limited sample size among specific library preparations and ancestries, we only compared the effect of cell type composition in the LP1-specific DE miRNAs for the sex, age, BMI, and T2D status analyses and European-specific DE miRNAs for the PGS analyses. We found that incorporating cell type composition had a minimal impact on the final results (Fig. S21).

Data availability

The individual-level genotype, RNA-seq, and LP1 smRNA-seq data generated in this study are available in the database of Genotypes and Phenotypes (dbGaP; <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gap>) accession number phs001188.v2.p1 and are accessible through dbGaP's standard data access request procedures. The LP2 smRNA-seq are available in the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) data repository (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo>) under the GSE196797 accession number. Summary statistics for analyses presented in this study are available in the zenodo data repository (<https://zenodo.org>) accession number 7516377.

Supplementary Figures

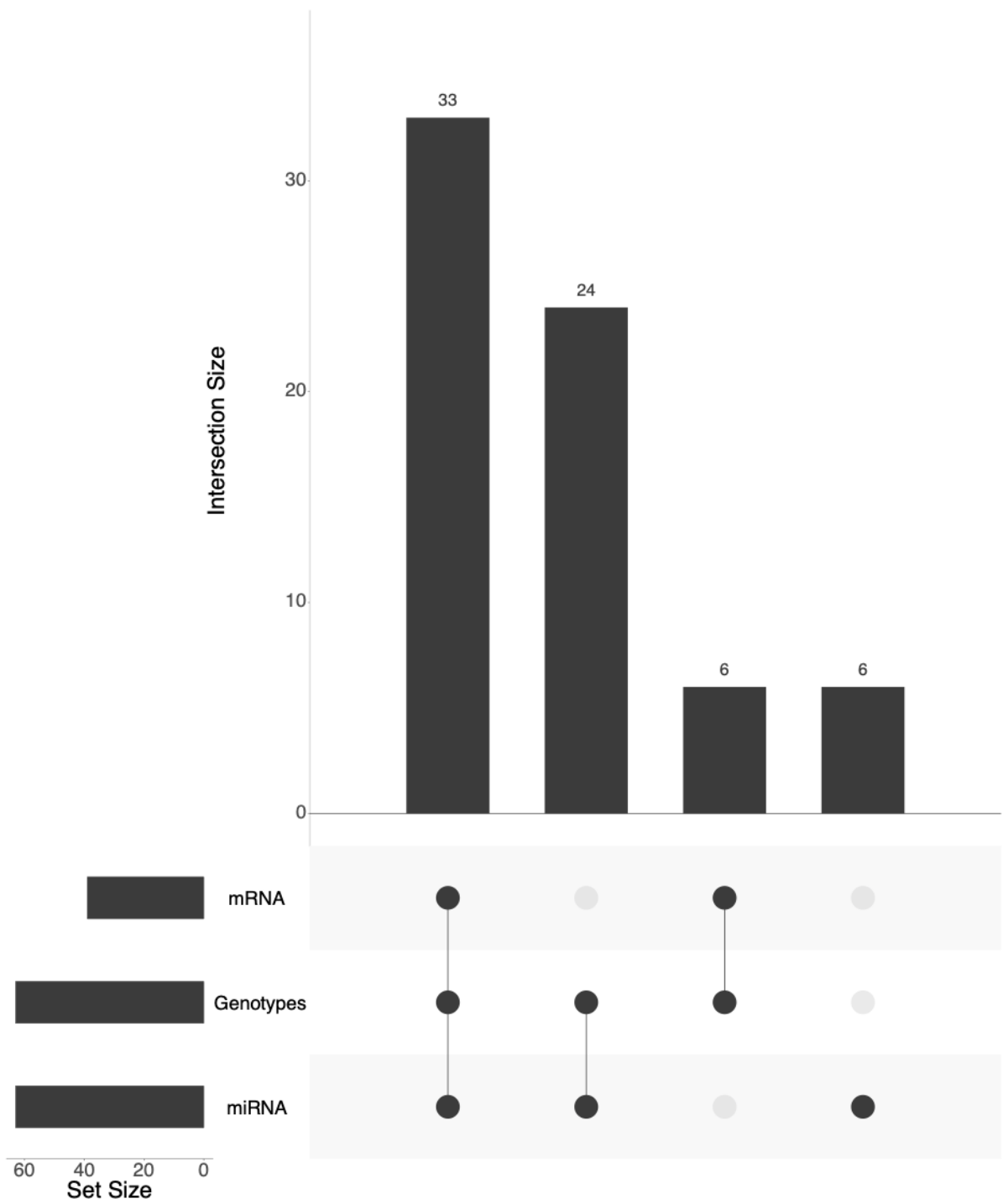
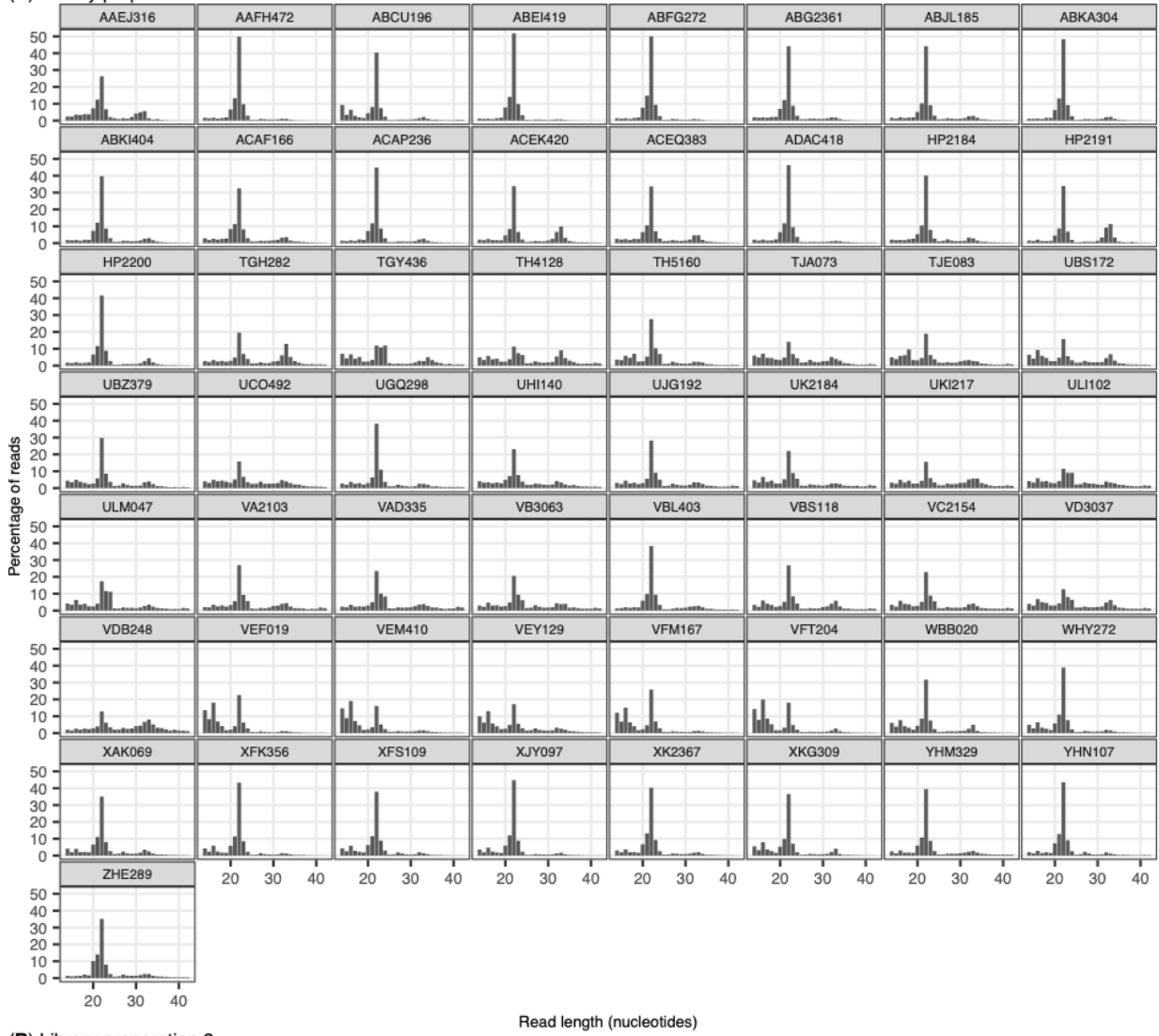


Fig. S1. Data modality overview. Number of samples with data from each modality.

(A) Library preparation 1



(B) Library preparation 2

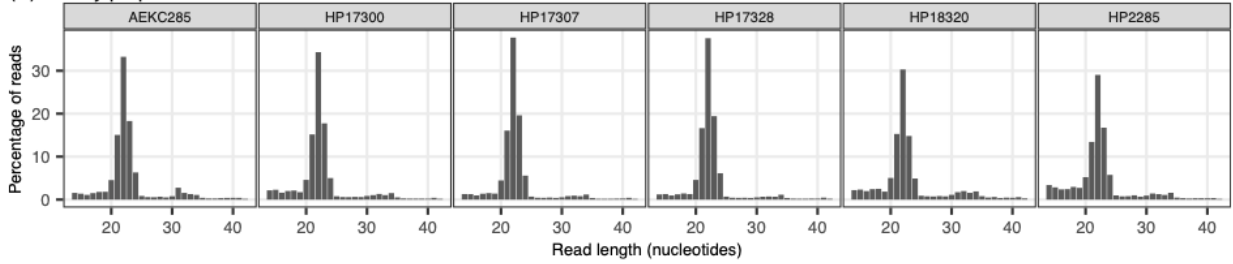


Fig. S2. Read length distribution of smRNA-seq reads. Read length distribution of smRNA-seq reads across samples.

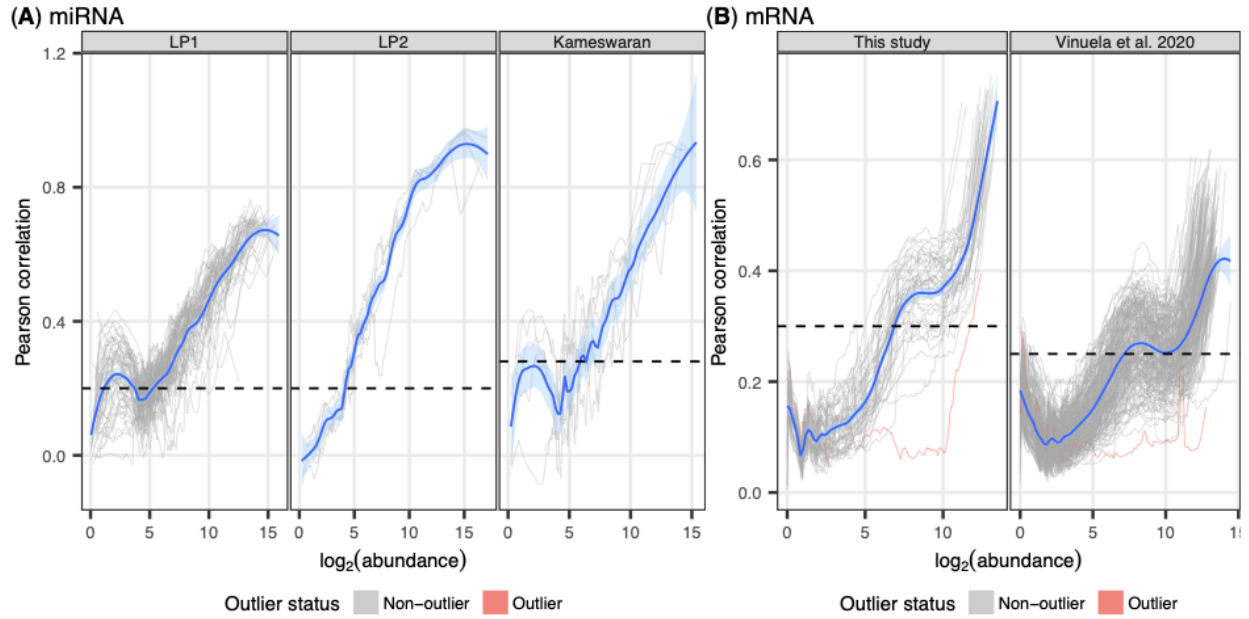


Fig. S3. Transcript abundance correlation across datasets. Pearson correlation of transcript abundance across samples within each dataset (i.e., LP1, LP2, and Kameswaran et al.) as calculated by noisyR v1.0.0 (Moutsopoulos et al. 2021).

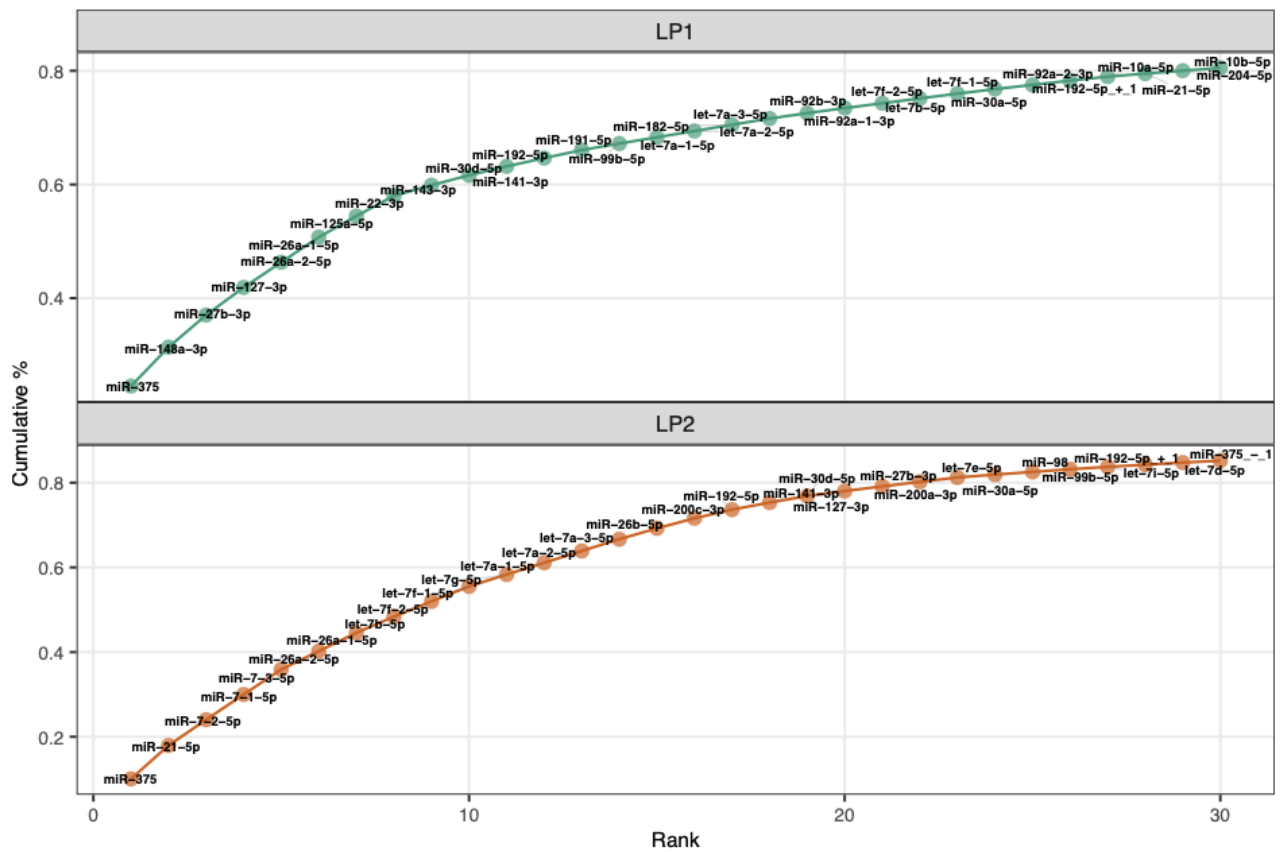


Fig. S4. Cumulative miRNA counts across library preparations. For each library preparation (i.e., library preparation 1 (LP1) and library preparation 2 (LP2)), miRNA counts are summed across samples.

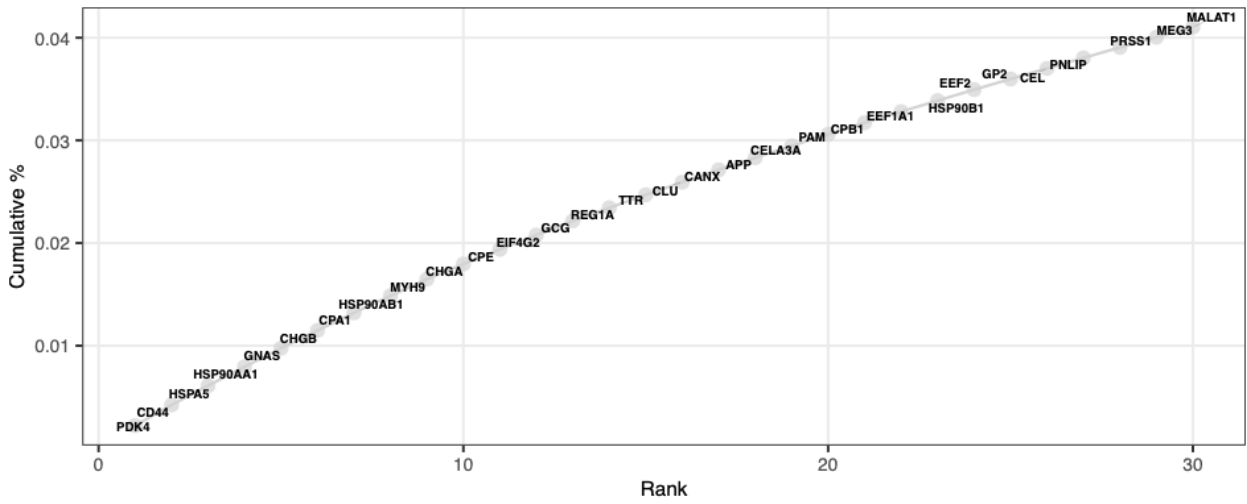
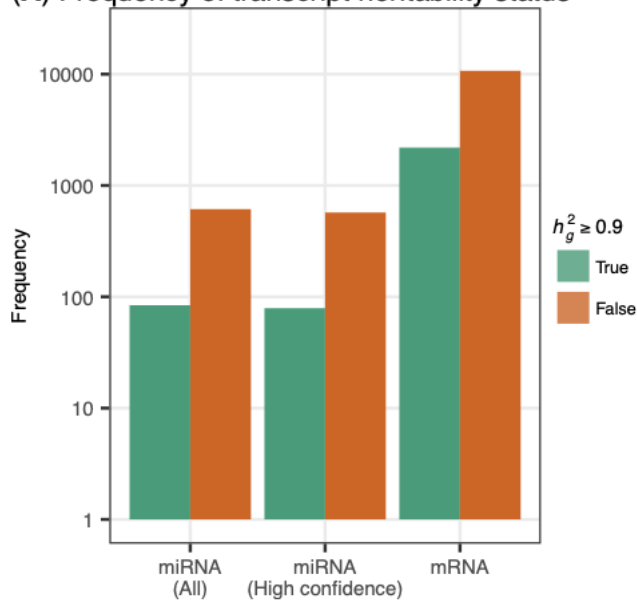


Fig. S5. Cumulative mRNA counts. mRNA counts are summed across samples.

(A) Frequency of transcript heritability status



(B) Distribution of h_{trans}/h_{cis} in transcripts

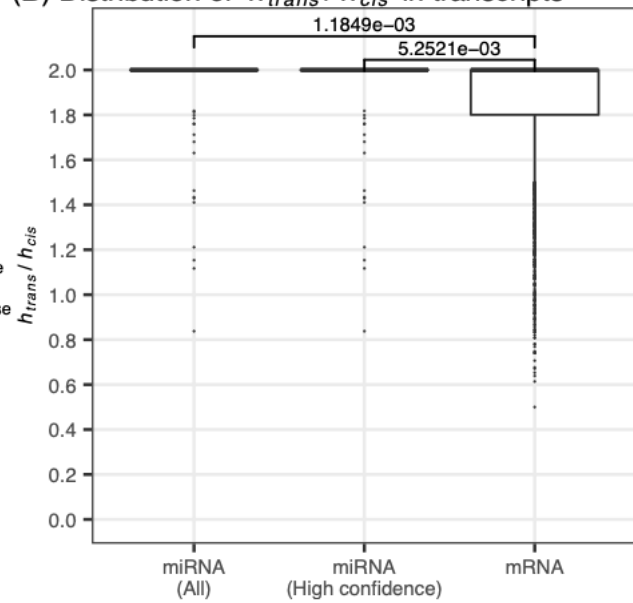


Fig. S6. Heritability and variance decomposition results in miRNA and mRNA expression data. (A) Number of heritable transcripts ($h_g^2 \geq 0.9$) across miRNAs and mRNAs. (B) Distribution of the ratio between variance explained by *trans*-effects (h_{trans}) to variance explained by *cis*-effects (h_{cis}) in heritable transcripts. *P*-value calculated using Mann-Whitney U test.

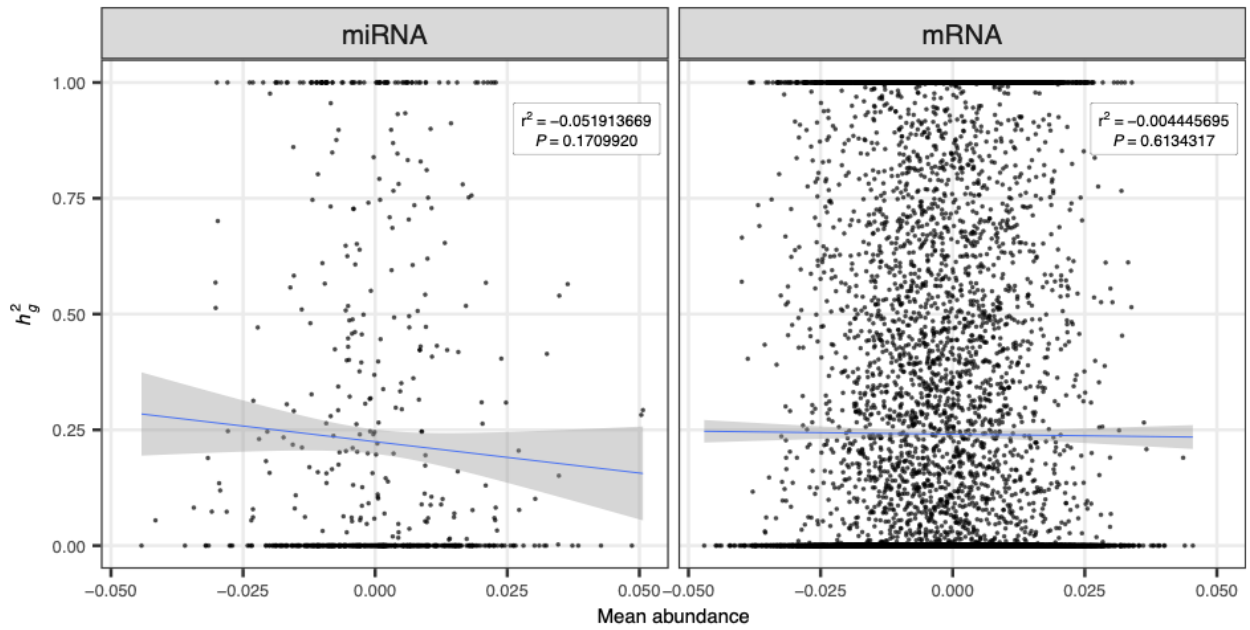


Fig. S7. Relationship between heritability and expression across transcripts. Mean miRNA/mRNA expression (x-axis) compared to estimated heritability (y-axis). Linear regression line of best fit shown in blue along with regression statistics (upper right box).

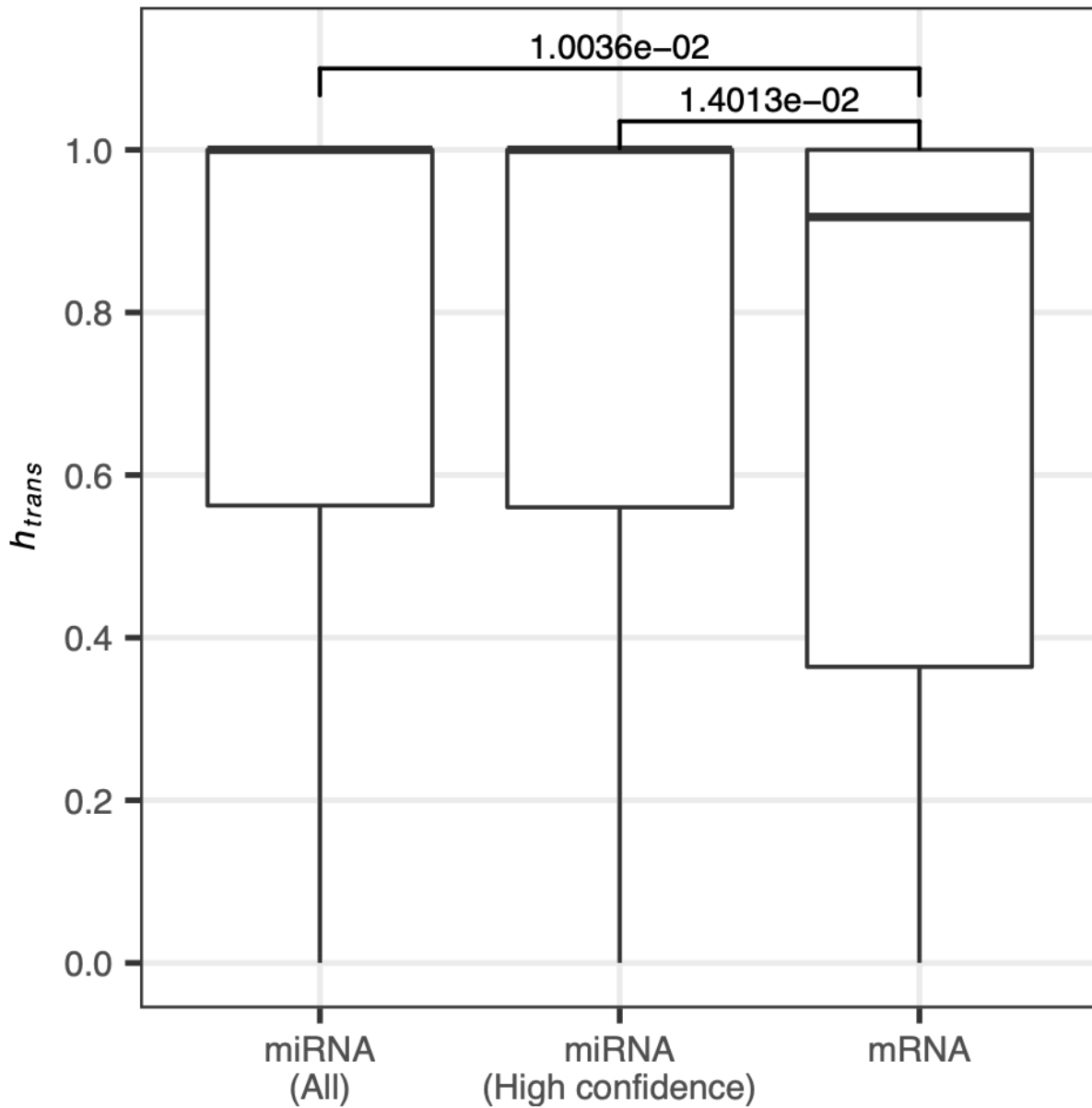


Fig. S8. Variance decomposition results in miRNA and mRNA expression data using a 20Mb window to define *cis*-effects. Distribution of variance explained by *trans*-acting genetic effects in expression of heritable transcripts. *P*-value calculated using Mann-Whitney U test.

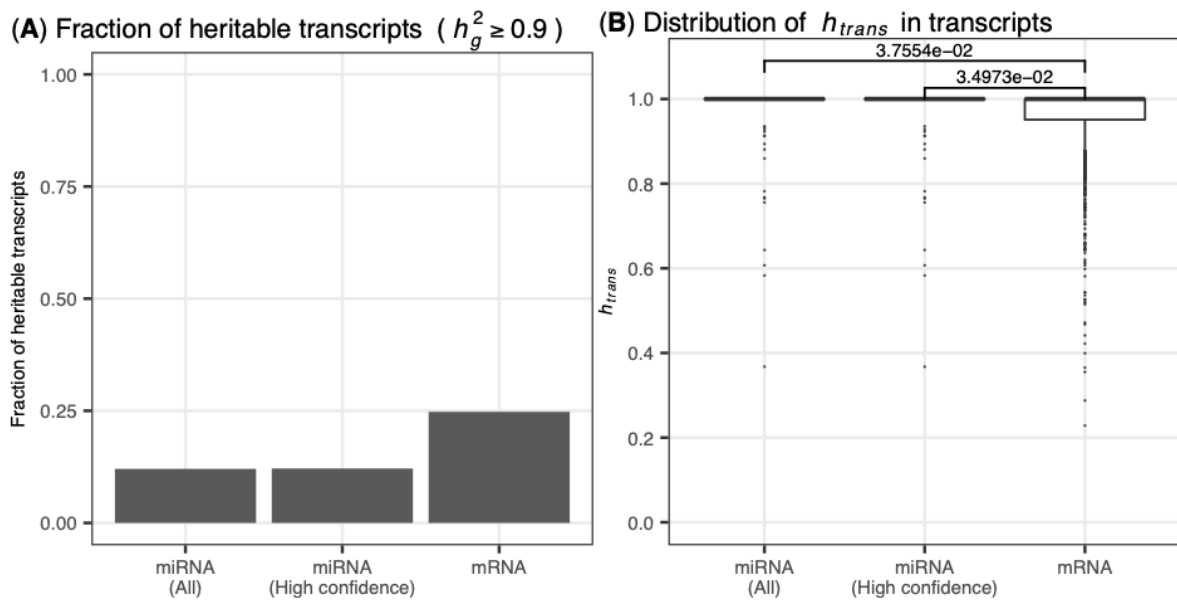


Fig. S9. Heritability and variance decomposition results in miRNA expression data from this study and mRNA expression data from Viñuela et al. 2020. (A) Fraction of heritable transcripts ($h_g^2 \geq 0.9$) across miRNAs and mRNAs. (B) Distribution of variance explained by *trans*-acting genetic effects in expression of heritable transcripts. *P*-value calculated using Mann-Whitney U test.

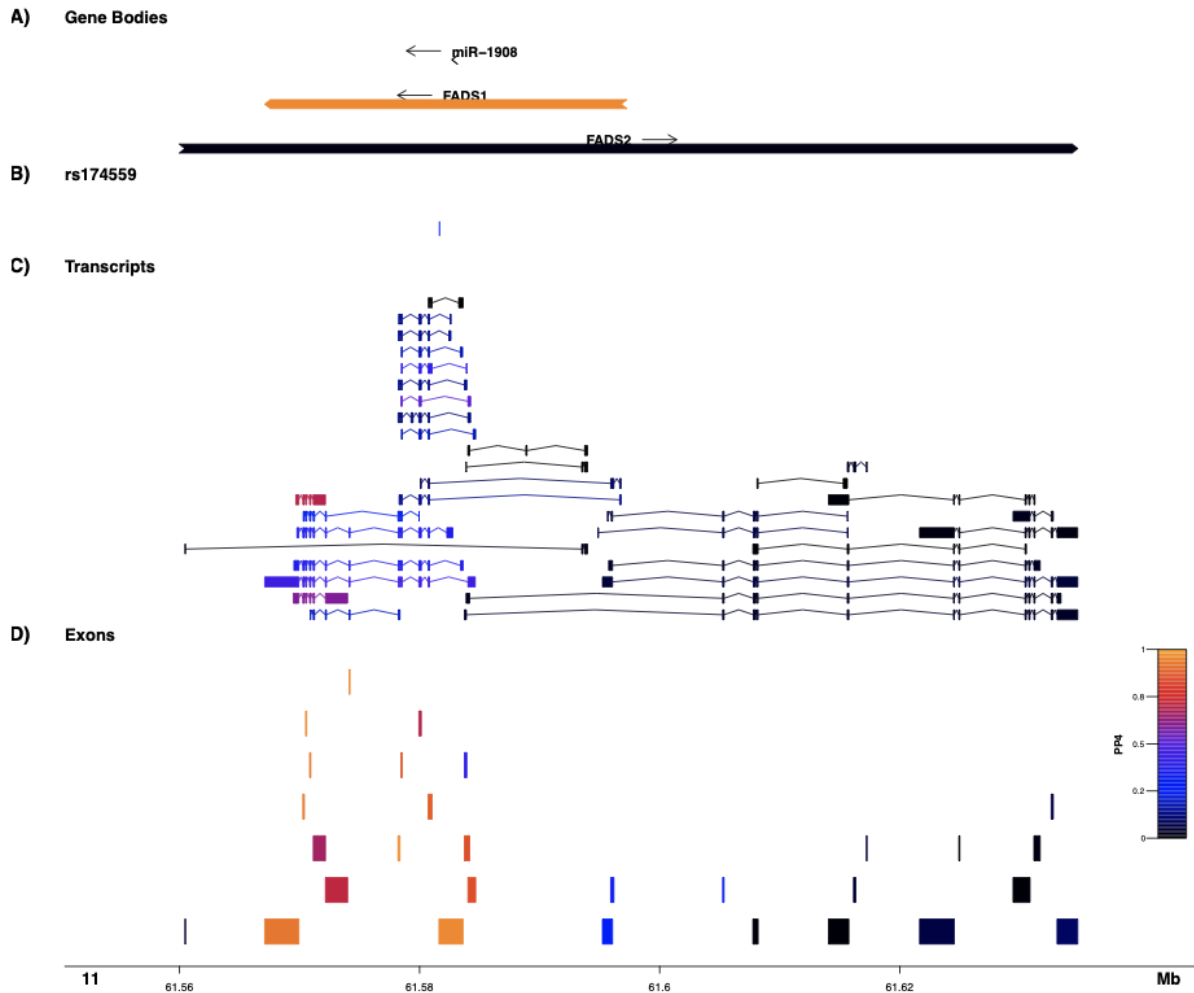


Fig. S10. miR-1908 eQTL colocalization results with exon- and gene-level eQTLs from human pancreatic islets. Evidence of genetic colocalization between miR-1908 eQTL and genetic association signals for exon and gene expression in human pancreatic islets (see Methods). Features are colored by PP4 (i.e., posterior probability that both traits are associated and share a single causal variant). (A) Gene bodies features. (B) Position of the rs174559 tag SNP for the miR-1908 eQTL. (C) Transcripts of gene bodies. (D) Exons of gene bodies.

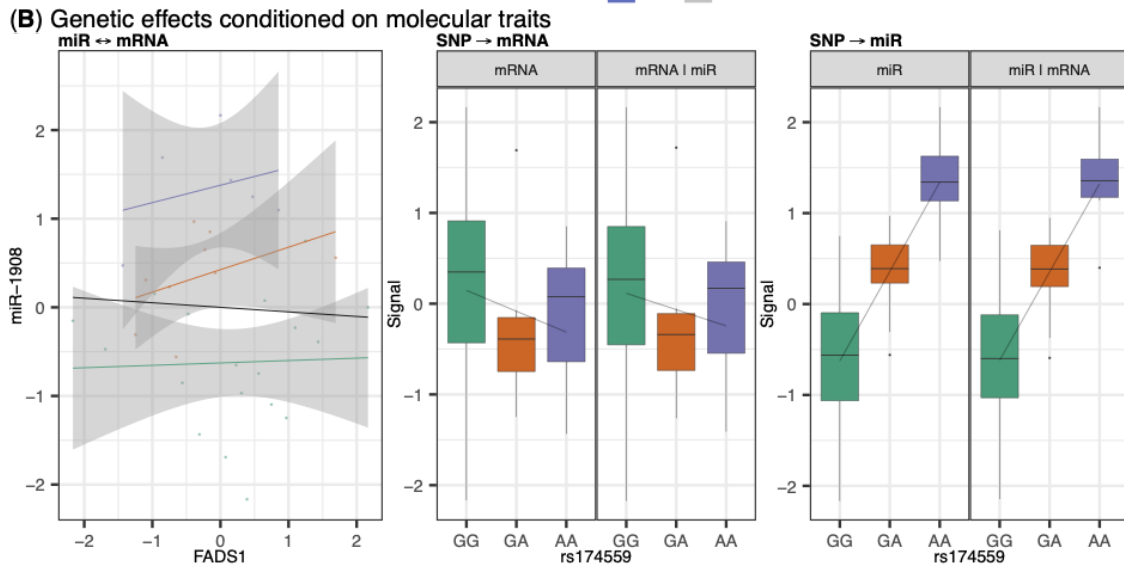
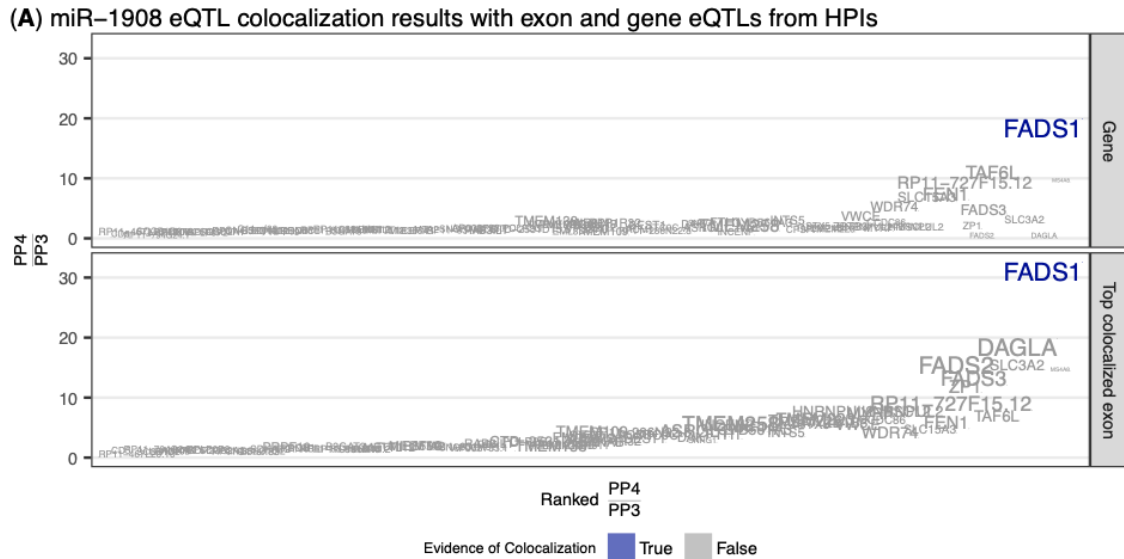


Fig. S11. Identifying downstream targets of miR-1908. (A) Evidence of genetic colocalization between miR-1908 eQTL and genetic association signals for exon and gene expression in human pancreatic islets (HPIs; see Methods). Posterior probability definitions: PP3 - both traits are associated with different causal variants, PP4 - both traits are associated and share a single causal variant. (B) Results from mediation analysis between miR-1908, *FADS1*, and rs174559 (see Methods). Left: scatter plot of residual *FADS1* expression (adjusted for PEER factors used in h_g^2 analysis; x-axis) and residual miR-1908 expression (adjusted for PEER factors used in miRNA-eQTL analysis; y-axis). Linear regression line for gene expression overall (black) and colored by the rs174559 genotype (GG, green; GA orange; AA, purple). Middle: box plots and linear regression line (additive model) of residual *FADS1* expression by rs174559 genotype (mRNA facet). Box plot and regression line of residual *FADS1* expression by rs174559 genotype after adjustment for residual miR-1908 expression (mRNA|miR facet). Right: box plots and linear regression line (additive model) of residual miR-1908 expression by rs174559 genotype (miR facet). Box plot and regression line of residual miR-1908 expression by rs174559 genotype after adjustment for residual *FADS1* expression (miR|mRNA facet).

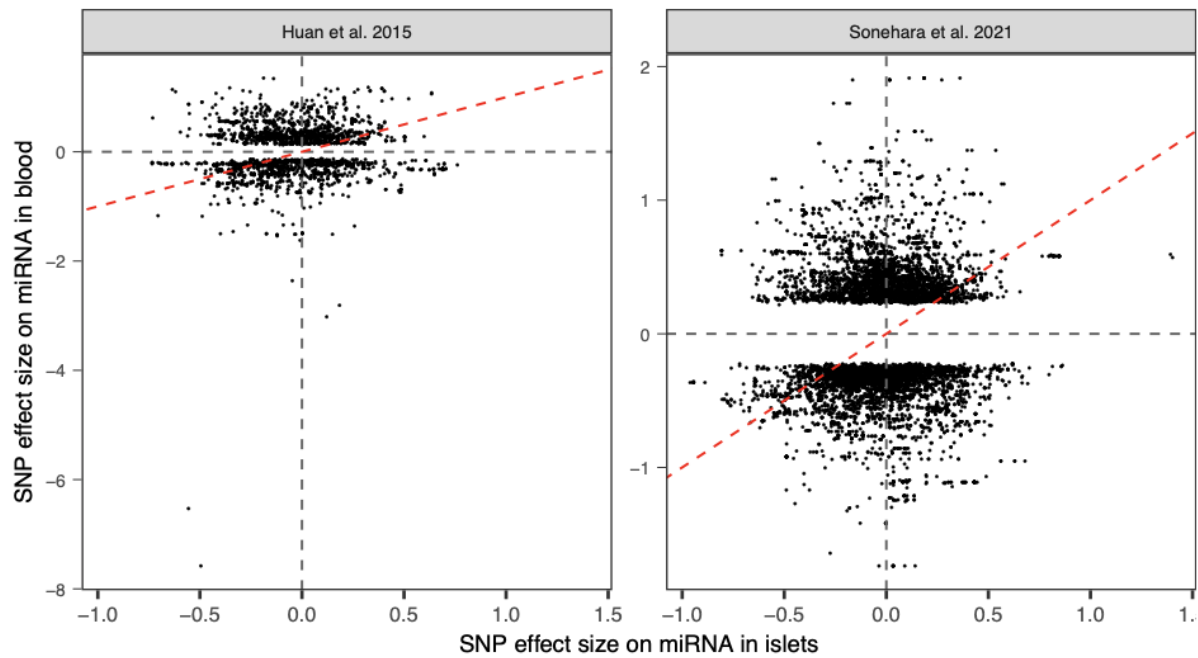


Fig. S12. SNP-miRNA effect sizes in human pancreatic islets compared to blood. Blood effect sizes are from published studies of genetic effects on miRNA in blood samples (Huan et al., 2015; Sonehara et al., 2021). Huan et al. released summary statistics for SNP-miRNA pairs at $FDR \leq 10\%$. Sonehara et al. released summary statistics for SNP-miRNA pairs at $P \leq 0.05$. Red dashed line represents the identity line (slope=1 and intercept=0). Note: some effects are not shown due to different tag SNPs between studies even though the tag SNPs are in high linkage disequilibrium (e.g., the miR-1908 islet eQTL is tagged by rs174559 whereas the blood eQTL is tagged by rs174578 in Sonehara et al.).

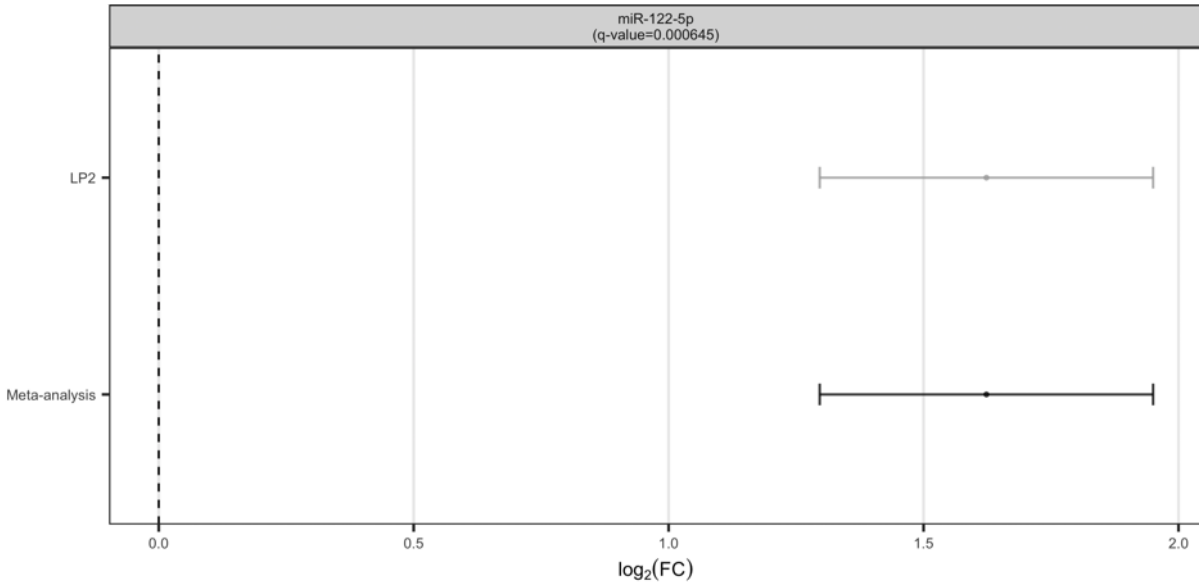


Fig. S13. BMI-associated miRNAs. Forest plots showing the effect of BMI-associated miRNAs ($|\log_2(FC)| \geq 1$ and $FDR \leq 5\%$) across the analyzed studies and meta-analysis. No point indicates that a transcript was not quantified in a specific study after processing and quality control filters. FC stands for fold change.

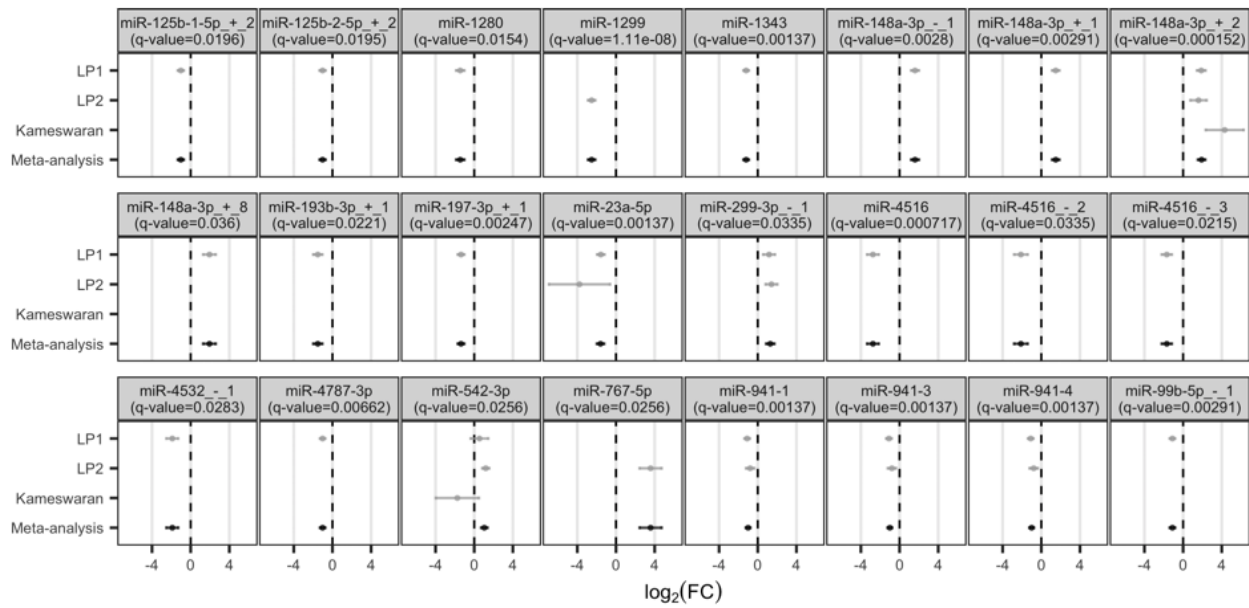


Fig. S14. Sex-associated miRNAs. Forest plots showing the effect of sex-associated miRNAs (male vs. female; $|\log_2(FC)| \geq 1$ and $FDR \leq 5\%$) across the analyzed studies and meta-analysis. No point indicates that a transcript was not quantified in a specific study after processing and quality control filters. FC stands for fold change.

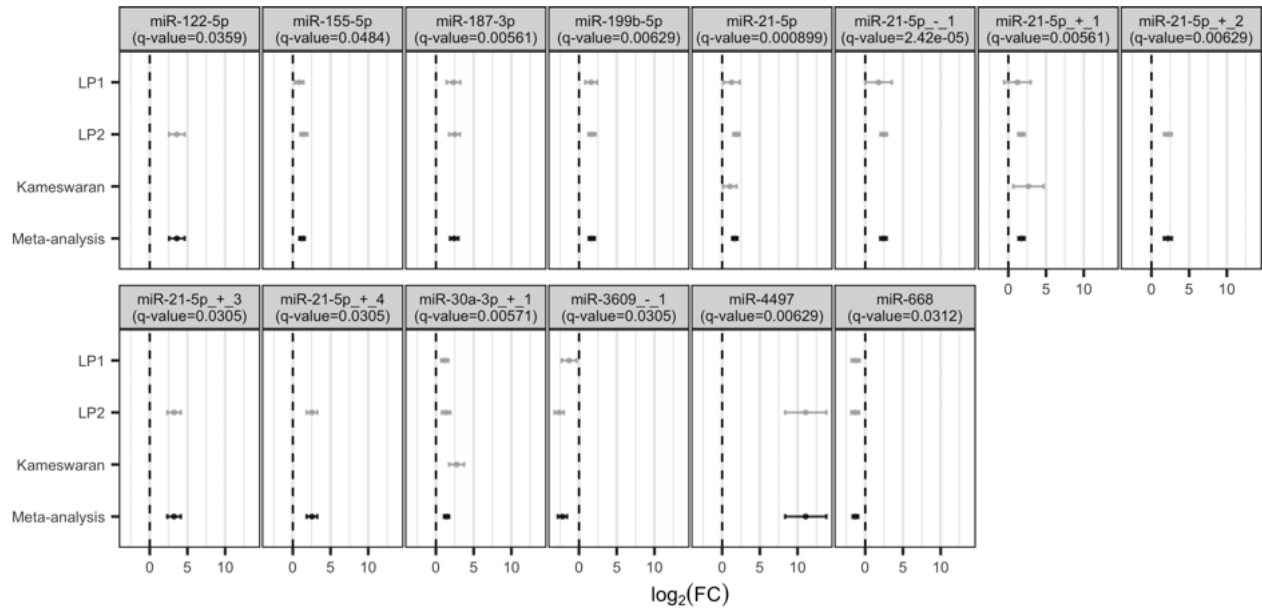


Fig. S15. T2D-associated miRNAs. Forest plots showing the effect of T2D-associated miRNAs ($|\log_2(FC)| \geq 1$ and $FDR \leq 5\%$) across the analyzed studies and meta-analysis. No point indicates that a transcript was not quantified in a specific study after processing and quality control filters. FC stands for fold change.

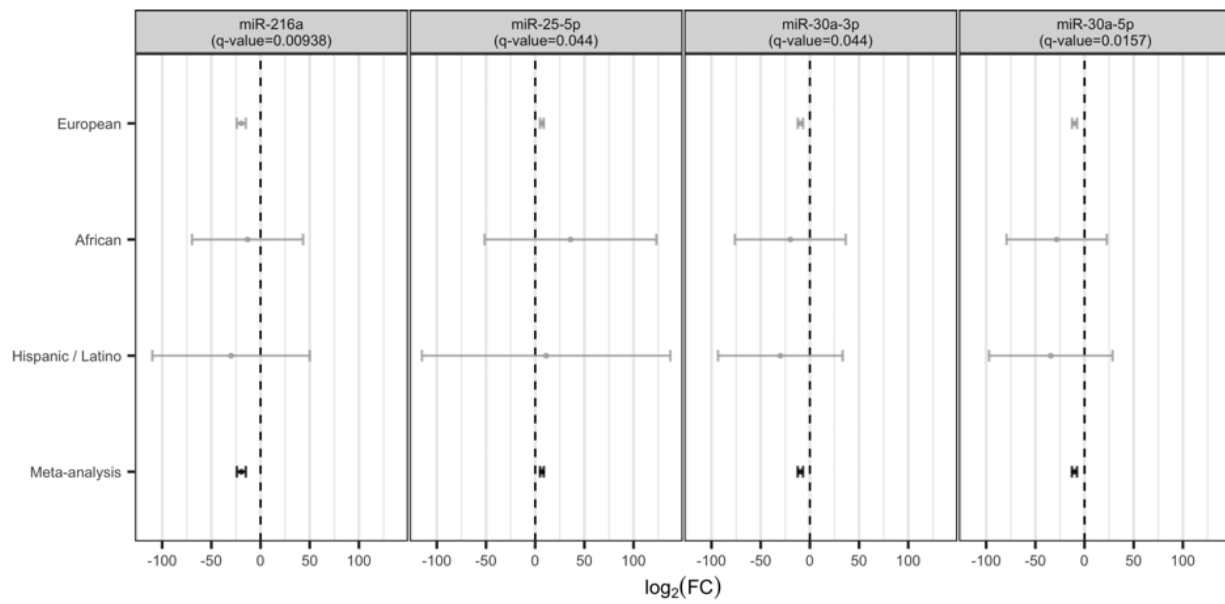


Fig. S16. HbA1c PGS-associated miRNAs. Forest plots showing the effect of HbA1c PGS-associated miRNAs ($|\log_2(FC)| \geq 1$ and $FDR \leq 5\%$) across the analyzed studies and meta-analysis. No point indicates that a transcript was not quantified in a specific study after processing and quality control filters. FC stands for fold change.

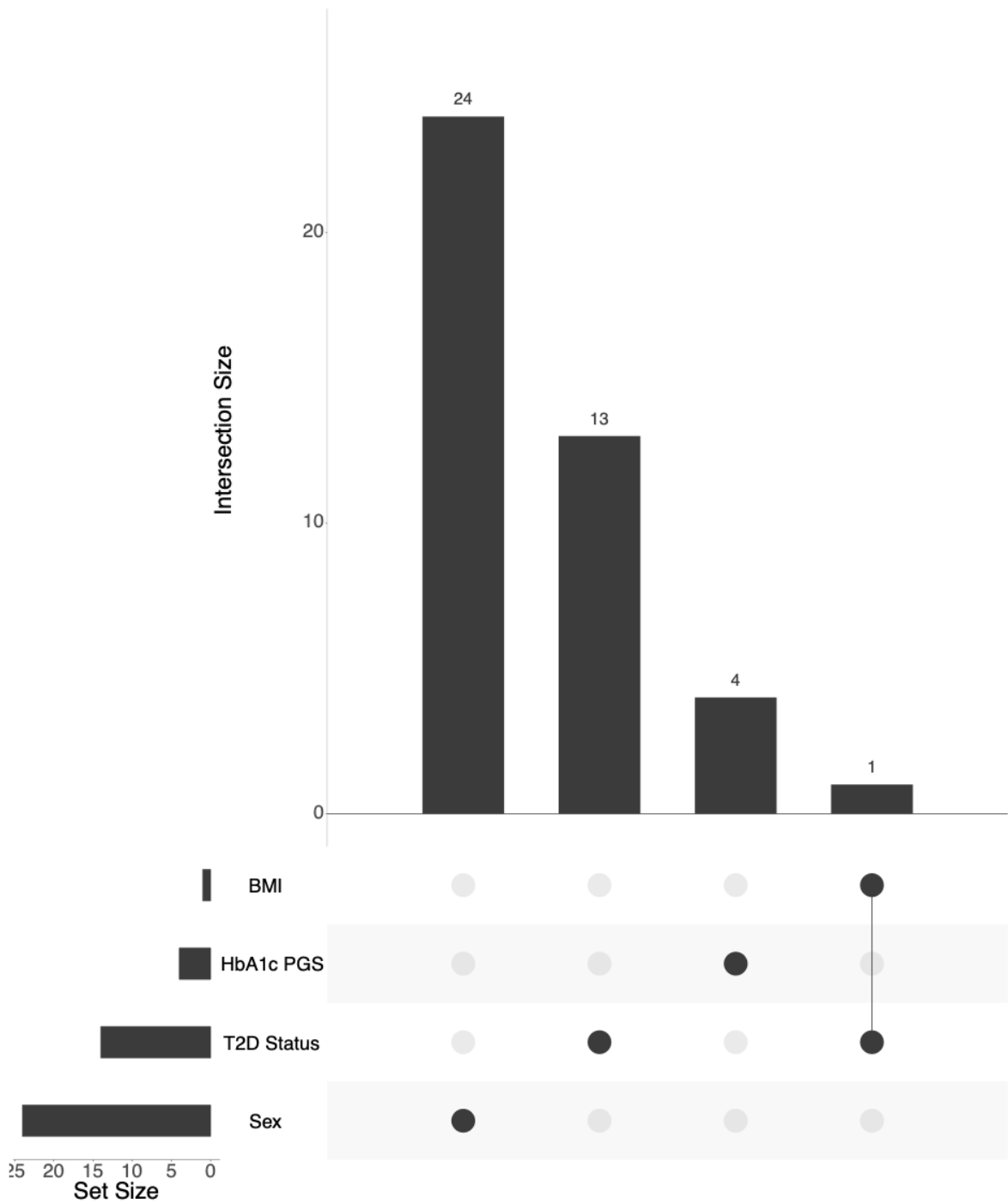
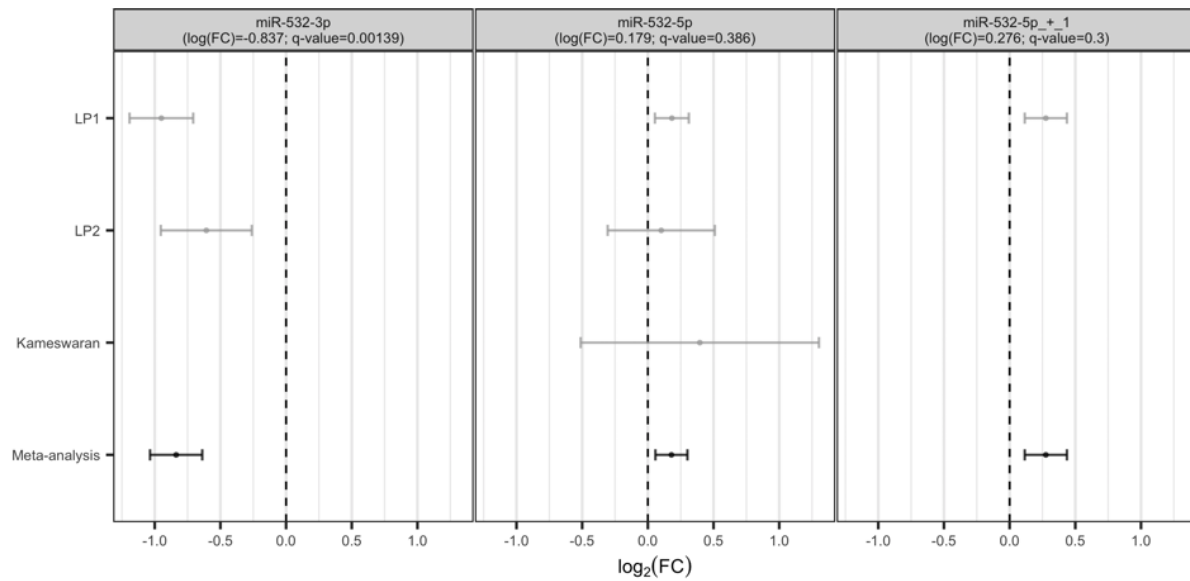


Fig. S17. Phenotype-associated miRNAs. Number of miRNAs associated ($|\log_2(FC)| \geq 1$ and $FDR \leq 5\%$) with BMI, sex, T2D status, and HbA1c PGS.

(A) miR-532



(B) miR-660

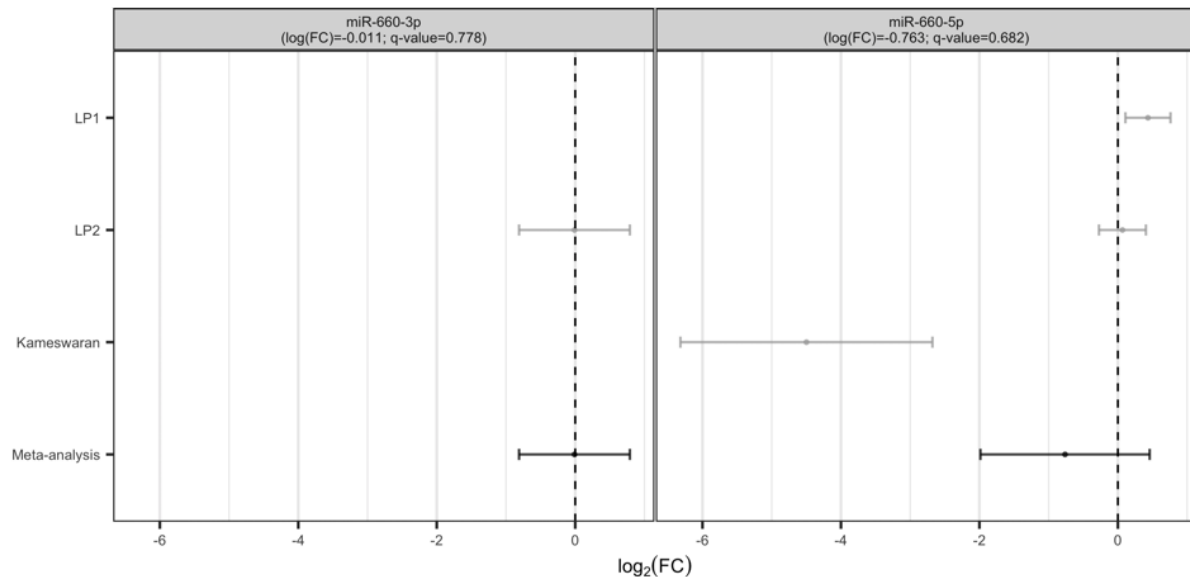


Fig. S18. Previously reported sex-associated miRNAs. Forest plots showing the effect of previously reported sex-associated miRNAs (male vs. female; Hall et al., 2014) in this study. We report associations with $|\log_2(FC)| \geq 1$ and $FDR \leq 5\%$ in the main text. No point indicates that a transcript was not quantified in a specific study after processing and quality control filters. FC stands for fold change.

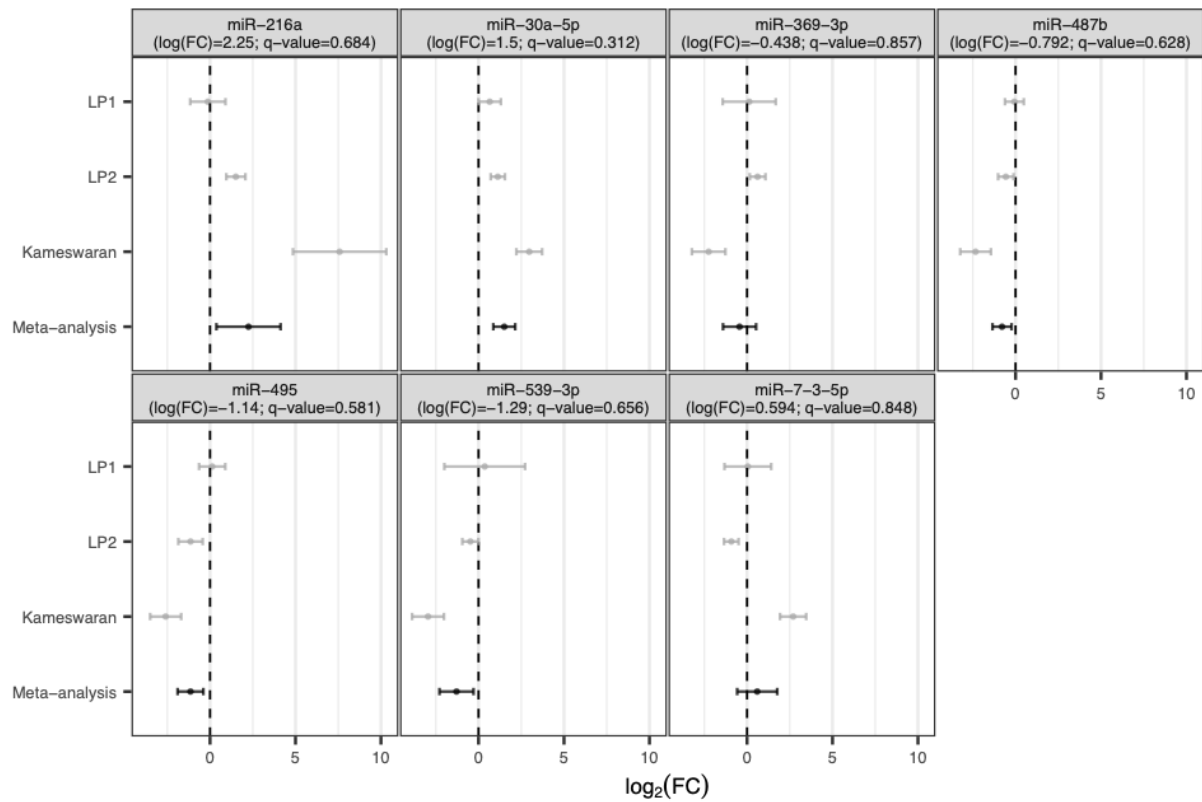


Fig. S19. Previously reported T2D-associated miRNAs. Forest plots showing the effect of previously reported T2D-associated miRNAs (Kameswaran et al., 2014) in this study. We report associations with $|\log_2(FC)| \geq 1$ and $FDR \leq 5\%$ in the main text. FC stands for fold change.

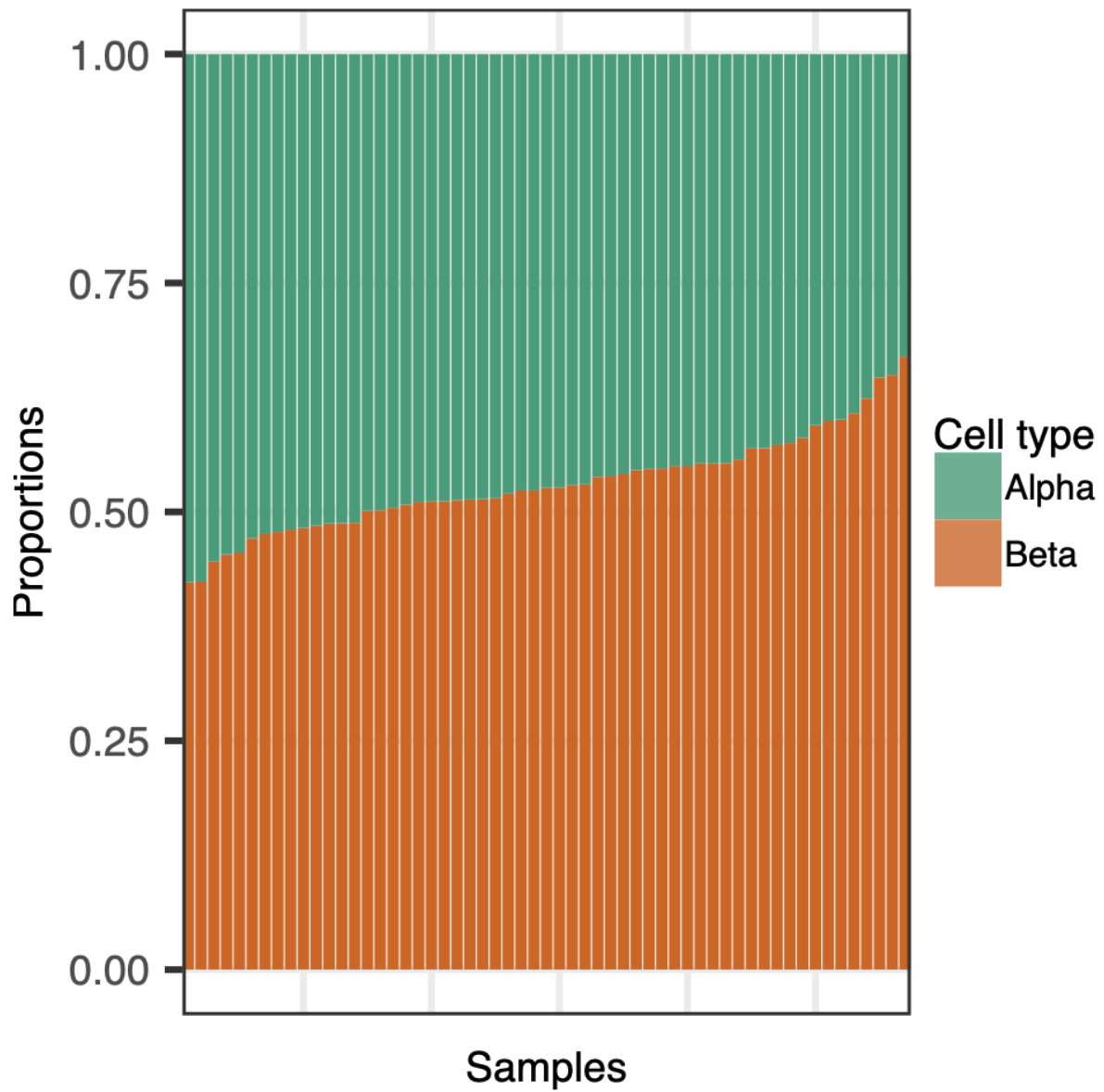


Fig. S20. Estimated cell type proportions. Proportion of beta and alpha cells (y-axis) in each sample (x-axis) estimated using sorted beta and alpha cells as reference (Kameswaran et al., 2014).

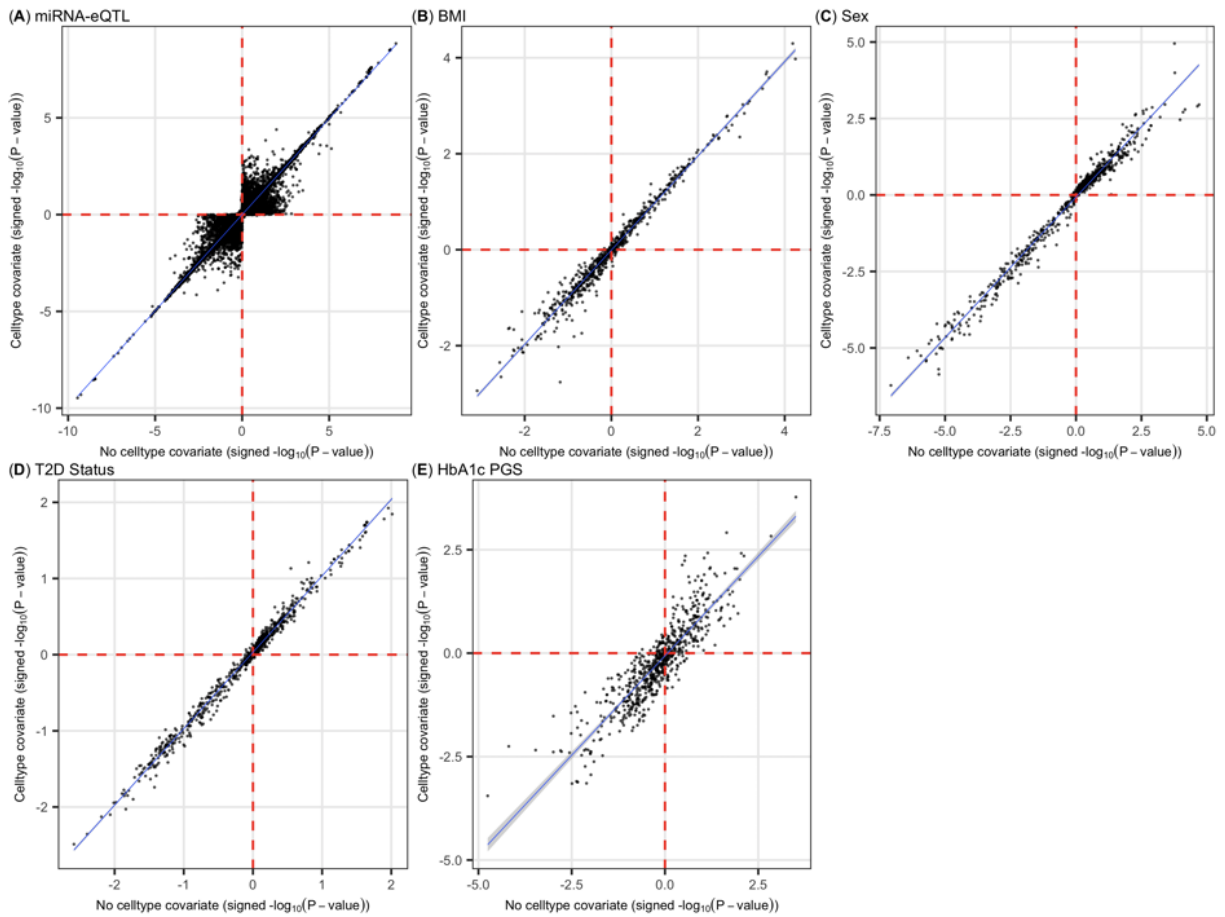


Fig. S21. Effect of cell type proportion covariate. Comparison of signed $-\log_{10}(P\text{-values})$ from models with (y-axis) and without (x-axis) cell type proportions as a covariate. (A) miRNA-eQTL results. (B-E) Differential miRNA expression results across (B) BMI, (C) sex (male vs. female), (D) T2D status, and (E) HbA1c PGS.

Supplementary Tables

Table S1. Study characteristics. Data presented are from the samples collected in this study only (i.e., LP1 and LP2).

	miRNA	miRNA+Genotypes	mRNA+Genotypes	miRNA+mRNA+Genotypes
N	63	57	39	33
Age (mean (SD))	46.38 (10.69)	46.25 (10.48)	45.44 (9.11)	45.7 (8.78)
BMI (mean (SD))	28.01 (4.75)	28.25 (4.82)	27.64 (4.68)	28.61 (4.07)
Weight (kg.) (mean (SD))	83.36 (17.62)	84 (17.66)	83.2 (16.21)	85.81 (15.89)
Height (in.) (mean (SD))	67.96 (3.98)	67.74 (3.85)	67.37 (3.65)	67.66 (3.8)
Sex				
Male	37	33	21	21
Female	26	24	18	12
T2D status				
NGT	59	55	39	33
T2D	4	2	0	0

Table S2. Characteristics of individuals in T2D status differential miRNA expression analysis. Data presented are from the samples collected in this study only (i.e., LP1 and LP2).

	NGT	T2D
N	59	4
Age (mean (SD))	46.08 (10.31)	50.75 (16.82)
BMI (mean (SD))	27.82 (4.79)	30.52 (3.76)
Weight (kg.) (mean (SD))	82.89 (18.08)	89.97 (6.71)
Height (in.) (mean (SD))	67.97 (4.08)	67.75 (2.5)
Sex		
Male	34	3
Female	25	1

Table S3. miRNA-eQTL results. We identify 5 miRNA-eQTLs ($FDR \leq 5\%$). Note, empirical P -values were limited by the number of permutations performed in QTL mapping (max 10,000 permutations).

miRNA	Lead SNP	Beta	Std. error	P-value	Empirical P-value
miR-1343	<i>rs2986402</i>	0.965931	0.157083	7.22×10^{-8}	1.00×10^{-4}
miR-1908	<i>rs174559</i>	0.890558	0.124302	1.45×10^{-9}	1.00×10^{-4}
miR-3615	<i>rs8064299</i>	-0.971173	0.128919	3.48×10^{-10}	1.00×10^{-4}
miR-641	<i>rs3730055</i>	1.54092	0.243557	3.66×10^{-8}	1.00×10^{-4}
miR-671-3p	<i>rs7805967</i>	-0.957895	0.152226	4.17×10^{-8}	1.00×10^{-4}

Table S4. T2D-related credible set SNPs within miRNA target sites. SNPs from 99% credible sets for T2D and glycemic traits that lie within target sites of highly expressed miRNAs in human pancreatic islets.

miRNA	SNP rsid	Target gene	Trait
miR-125a-5p	rs535165413	<i>SLC13A3</i>	T2D
miR-301a-3p	rs145512944	<i>ANKFY1</i>	T2D
miR-454-3p	rs145512944	<i>ANKFY1</i>	T2D
miR-130b-3p	rs145512944	<i>ANKFY1</i>	T2D
miR-130a-3p	rs145512944	<i>ANKFY1</i>	T2D
miR-136-5p	rs28399585	<i>CCNE2</i>	T2D
miR-149-5p	rs11655020	<i>ERN1</i>	T2D
miR-182-5p	rs540515957	<i>OGDH</i>	T2D
miR-186-5p	rs184830298	<i>UBE2B</i>	T2D
miR-19a-3p	rs779689846	<i>VPS4B</i>	T2D
miR-204-5p	rs150987217	<i>PCGF3</i>	T2D
miR-212-5p	rs145527012	<i>RNF10</i>	T2D
miR-330-5p	rs147493553	<i>MRFAP1</i>	T2D
miR-326	rs147493553	<i>MRFAP1</i>	T2D
miR-335-5p	rs2849383	<i>KDSR</i>	T2D
miR-34a-5p	rs551080524	<i>HNF4A</i>	T2D
miR-369-3p	rs193171458	<i>GABPB2</i>	T2D
miR-374a-5p	rs193171458	<i>GABPB2</i>	T2D
miR-374b-5p	rs193171458	<i>GABPB2</i>	T2D
miR-505-3p	rs34611001	<i>EVC</i>	T2D
miR-543	rs773055626	<i>PPP2R2C</i>	T2D
miR-665	rs139252054	<i>TMEM41A</i>	T2D
miR-1271-5p	rs540515957	<i>OGDH</i>	T2D
miR-96-5p	rs540515957	<i>OGDH</i>	T2D
miR-125a-5p	rs7522956	<i>WDR26</i>	HbA1c
miR-199b-3p	rs7295294	<i>NAA25</i>	HbA1c
miR-200c-3p	rs3088285	<i>ATXN1L</i>	HbA1c
miR-429	rs3088285	<i>ATXN1L</i>	HbA1c
miR-200b-3p	rs3088285	<i>ATXN1L</i>	HbA1c
miR-200c-3p	17:77767816_CT_C	<i>CBX8</i>	HbA1c
miR-429	17:77767816_CT_C	<i>CBX8</i>	HbA1c
miR-200b-3p	17:77767816_CT_C	<i>CBX8</i>	HbA1c
miR-339-5p	rs144010860	<i>PLD1</i>	HbA1c
miR-339-5p	rs1076504	<i>PLD1</i>	HbA1c
miR-485-5p	rs9605070	<i>ZDHHHC8</i>	HbA1c
miR-532-3p	rs1464569	<i>NICN1</i>	HbA1c
miR-146a-5p	rs72763690	<i>LUC7L</i>	Blood glucose

Table S5. T2D status, age, sex, and BMI differential expression covariates. Covariates accounted for within each miRNA library preparation for differential miRNA expression analyses across T2D status, age, sex, and BMI.

Tested trait	Library preparation		
	LP1	LP2	Kameswaran
T2D status	<i>sex, age, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>	<i>sex, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>	<i>sex, age, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>
Sex	<i>T2D status, age, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>	<i>T2D status, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>	<i>T2D status, age, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>
Age	<i>T2D status, sex, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>	<i>T2D status, sex, RUVseq Factor 1</i>	<i>T2D status, sex, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>
BMI	<i>T2D status, sex, age, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>	<i>T2D status, sex, RUVseq Factor 1</i>	<i>T2D status, sex, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>

Table S6. PGS differential expression covariates. Covariates accounted for within each ancestry for the PGS differential miRNA expression analyses.

Tested trait	Ancestry		
	European	African	Hispanic/Latino
PGS	<i>sex, age, genetic PCs 1-4, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>	<i>sex, age, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>	<i>sex, RUVseq Factors 1 & 2</i>

Table S7. Sample UNOS numbers. United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) numbers for samples analyzed in LP1, LP2, and mRNA datasets.

miRNA	
LP1	AAEJ316, AAFH472, ABCU196, ABEI419, ABFG272, ABG2361, ABJL185, ABKA304, ABKI404, ACAF166, ACAP236, ACEK420, ACEQ383, ADAC418, HP2184, HP2191, HP2200, TGH282, TGY436, TH4128, TH5160, TJA073, TJE083, UBS172, UBZ379, UCO492, UGQ298, UHI140, UJG192, UK2184, UKI217, ULI102, ULM047, VA2103, VAD335, VB3063, VBL403, VBS118, VC2154, VD3037, VDB248, VEF019, VEM410, VEY129, VFM167, VFT204, WBB020, WHY272, XAK069, XFK356, XFS109, XJY097, XK2367, XKG309, YHM329, YHN107, ZHE289
LP2	AEKC285, HP17300, HP17307, HP17328, HP18320, HP2285
mRNA	
	TF1232, TGH282, TH4128, TH5160, TJ1029, TJA073, TJE083, UBS172, UBZ379, UCO492, UG3360, UHI140, UJG192, UK2184, UKI217, ULI102, ULM047, VA2103, VAD335, VB3063, VBL403, VBS118, VC2154, VD3037, VDB248, VDH041, VDZ067, VEF019, VEM410, VEY129, VFM167, WHY272, XAK069, XEC010, XFS109, XJY097, YHM329, YHN107, ZHE289

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