

Review of: "The Intelligence of Nations. National IQs. Update 2023."

Hui Liew¹

¹ University of Nebraska, Kearney

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I find considerable merit in this manuscript. Even though it wasn't clearly stated in the article, this may be one of the pioneering studies that attempt to reconcile findings from two major branches of research on national intelligence – the psychometric intelligence research and the international student assessment studies conducted via PISA, TIMSS and Co. It also seemed to me that the author attempted to assess the reliability and to a lesser extent, the validity, of assessments conducted via these two branches of research. The author did an adequate job tracing the developments of these two approaches to assessing national intelligence. The author also adequately compared the similarities and differences between these two approaches.

A few of my comments / suggestions:

1. Clearly spell out the objective(s) of the study.
2. The title of Table 1 is "Table 1. Correlation between estimates of national IQs and number of nations." It's not clear to me if these product moment correlations were estimated by the author or was obtained from another source. Please clarify that. If it's the latter, please provide the necessary in-text citation(s) and reference(s). Clarifications are also needed on whether these product moment correlations were based on selected variables of these datasets or the entire dataset.
3. Were the median national IQs estimated by the author or did the author obtain the medians through some other source(s)? please clarify that and provide the necessary in-text citation(s) and reference(s).
4. If this was an empirical study and not a review of previous research, please provide the strengths and limitations of the analytic procedures.