Abstract

Objectives: The aim of this study was to determine the relationship between somatotype and intellectual ability (IA) in 11-12 and 15-16 year-old students (n = 1,015) in the Chile’s Metropolitan Region from a representative sample of 33 educational establishments chosen at random. Methods: The Heath-Carter somatotype and the IA assessed through the Raven Progressive Matrices Test were measured. Results: The endomorph was observed in 59% of the students; 28% had a mesomorph and 13% ectomorph. The IA was distributed in: 11.2% Grade I, 26.8% Grade II, 41% Grade III, 17.6% Grade IV and 3.2% Grade V. A positive and significant correlation of IA with the endomorphic component (r = 0.074, p = 0.02) was found in the total sample and only in females (r = 0.109, p = 0.02); at the same time, a positive and significant correlation with the ectomorph component was also observed (r = 0.067, p < 0.05). Conclusions: This suggests that other variables would influence more strongly the IA for which further research is needed to quantitate this multifactorial problem.

Keywords

Key words, Intelligence, Somatotype, Endomorphism, Adolescent, Students.