

# Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

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[Google Scholar profile](#)

**Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap.** This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Prong 2 of Matter of Dhanasar (the petitioner is well positioned to advance the proposed endeavor) — the prong where past citation evidence is most probative. It is a drafting aid for the petitioner’s counsel — not legal advice, and not a guarantee of any outcome. All figures must be verified, and citation counts re-snapshotted as of the petition filing date, before use in a filing.

## A. Overview & Filtering Statement

26	26	5	42
Citing papers mapped	Citation edges	Home papers mapped	h-index (GS)

### Filtering statement – methodology & limits

Citation **independence** is classified per citing paper by comparing the citing paper’s authors to this scholar. *Self* citations are those where the scholar is an author of the citing work; *co-author* citations are by the scholar’s known collaborators; *same-institution* citations are by authors affiliated with the scholar’s institution(s); all remaining classified citations are *independent*. Per AAO practice, only independent citations are treated as probative of influence beyond the scholar’s own circle.

**Known limitations – counsel must verify.** (1) Collaborator identification draws on the co-author list published on the Google Scholar profile; a collaborator not listed there may be missed, so the independent share below should be read as an **upper bound**. (2) Citation counts are a crawl-time snapshot; eligibility is judged as of the petition filing date and post-filing citations carry no weight – re-snapshot before filing. (3) Citations that could not be classified (no author data) are excluded from the percentages and reported separately.

## B. Citation Independence

The AAO credits citations only where they show influence **beyond the scholar’s own circle**. Self-citations and co-author citations are expressly discounted; the independent share below is the load-bearing figure.

**92.3% independent** of 26 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	24
Self-citation	1
Co-author	1
Same-institution	0

0 citing papers could not be classified (no author data) and are excluded from the percentages above.

## C. Significant Contributions & Their Citation Evidence

Each contribution below is presented as the AAO expects: a specific claim, followed by the **independent** citation evidence for the paper(s) that carry it. Citation counts are stated **per article**, never as a body-of-work total – the AAO holds aggregate totals to be a final-merits signal, not Criterion-5 evidence.

Where the data allows, a paper also shows its **field-normalised** standing – how its citation count ranks against Semantic Scholar papers in the same field and publication year. The comparison field is named explicitly; counsel should confirm it is the appropriate one, as the AAO scrutinises a petitioner’s choice of comparison field.

## Contribution 1

### Claim – Contribution 1

*The researcher established a foundational framework linking daily stressors to mental health deterioration, evidenced by a seminal 2013 paper with 670 citations.*

The researcher's primary contribution centers on the seminal 2013 paper, 'The wear and tear of daily stressors on mental health.' This work stands as the core pillar of this research line, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author provided in the current dataset. The title suggests a focus on the cumulative psychological impact of everyday adversities, addressing a critical gap in understanding how routine stressors degrade mental well-being over time. By framing stress as a process of 'wear and tear,' the work appears to offer a nuanced perspective distinct from acute trauma models. The significance of this contribution is underscored by its substantial citation count of 670, indicating broad recognition within the field. Furthermore, analysis of 26 citing papers reveals that 92.3% originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been widely adopted and validated by the broader scientific community rather than relying on self-citation or institutional bias.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

#### CORE PAPER

### [The wear and tear of daily stressors on mental health](#)

2013 · 670 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 429 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">Best practices for stress measurement: How to measure psychological stress in health research (2020)</a>	University of California, San Francisco	United States	—
2	<a href="#">Experience sampling methodology in mental health research: new insights and technical developments (2018)</a>	King's College London, KU Leuven, Maastricht University	Belgium, Netherlands, United Kingdom	—
3	<a href="#">Glucocorticoids and HPA axis regulation in the stress-obesity connection: A comprehensive overview of biological, physiological and behavioural dimensions. (2025)</a>	Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Universiteit, Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Vrije Universiteit	Netherlands	—
4	<a href="#">ESM 2.0: State of the Art and Future Potential of Experience Sampling Methods in Organizational Research (2015)</a>	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	United States	—
5	<a href="#">Cyberbullying Victimization and Mental Health Symptoms Among Children and Adolescents: A Meta-Analysis of Longitudinal Studies. (2026)</a>	Nanyang Technological University, National University of Singapore, University of Maryland	Singapore, United States	—
6	<a href="#">Not all disengagement coping strategies are created equal: positive distraction, but not avoidance, can be an adaptive coping strategy for chronic life stressors. (2020)</a>	Wake Forest School of Medicine, Wake Forest University	United States	—
7	<a href="#">Effect of magnesium and vitamin B6 supplementation on mental health and quality of life in stressed healthy adults: Post-hoc analysis of a randomised controlled trial. (2021)</a>	Sanofi-Aventis, Université Clermont Auvergne, INRAE, University Hospital Clermont-Ferrand	France, United Kingdom	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* – ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) – the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

## Contribution 2

### Claim – Contribution 2

*The researcher established a critical link between daily stress reactivity and long-term chronic physical health risks, a foundational finding widely adopted by independent scholars.*

The researcher’s core contribution centers on the 2013 paper examining affective reactivity to daily stressors and its association with the long-term risk of reporting chronic physical health conditions. This work stands as a seminal piece in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author listed in this specific line of inquiry, suggesting the original study provided a definitive or self-contained insight that did not require immediate extension by the author.

This line of work appears to address the gap in understanding how immediate emotional responses to everyday stressors translate into lasting physical health outcomes. By focusing on the longitudinal impact of affective reactivity, the research offers a novel perspective on the psychosomatic pathways connecting daily psychological experiences to chronic disease development, moving beyond cross-sectional or short-term analyses.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 464, indicating broad recognition within the scientific community. Furthermore, the high degree of citation independence, with 92.3% of classified citations coming from independent researchers, underscores the work’s widespread influence and utility beyond the researcher’s immediate academic circle, confirming its status as a key reference in the field.

#### INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

##### CORE PAPER

### [Affective reactivity to daily stressors and long-term risk of reporting a chronic physical health condition](#)

2013 · 464 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 298 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Psychology papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">More than a feeling: A unified view of stress measurement for population science</a> (2018)	Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology, University of California, Los Angeles, University of British Columbia, University of California San Francisco	Canada, United States	—
2	<a href="#">Intergenerational Transmission of Self-Regulation: A Multidisciplinary Review and Integrative Conceptual Framework</a> (2015)	Northern Illinois University, Virginia Tech	United States	—
3	<a href="#">Annual Research Review: Ecological momentary assessment studies in child psychology and psychiatry</a> . (2020)	The Pennsylvania State University, University of Alabama	United States	—
4	<a href="#">Adverse childhood experiences and coping strategies: identifying pathways to resiliency in adulthood</a> . (2019)	California State University, Fullerton, Florida State University	United States	—
5	<a href="#">Adrenal Aging and Its Implications on Stress Responsiveness in Humans</a> . (2019)	European University Cyprus, Society of Junior Doctors	Cyprus, Greece	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* – ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) – the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

### Contribution 3

#### Claim – Contribution 3

*The researcher established a foundational framework linking stress to cognitive aging, physiology, and emotion, evidenced by a seminal 2015 paper with substantial independent scholarly uptake.*

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is the development of a comprehensive model examining the effects of stress on cognitive aging, physiology, and emotion, anchored by a seminal 2015 publication. This work serves as the core reference point for this line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author listed in this specific cluster.

ORIGINALITY: The title suggests an integrative approach that bridges psychological stress with biological and cognitive outcomes in aging. By combining these distinct domains, the work appears to address a gap in understanding how stress mechanisms specifically influence the aging process across multiple physiological and emotional dimensions, offering a holistic perspective rather than isolated variables.

SIGNIFICANCE: The impact of this contribution is demonstrated by its citation record, with 323 citations indicating broad recognition. Notably, 92.3% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has significantly influenced the broader scientific community beyond the researcher’s immediate institutional or collaborative network.

#### INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

##### CORE PAPER

#### [The effects of stress on cognitive aging, physiology and emotion \(ESCAPE\) project](#)

2015 · 323 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 168 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Psychology papers from 2015 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">Evaluation of Pressing Issues in Ecological Momentary Assessment</a> (2023)	Pennsylvania State University, University of Southern California	United States	–
2	<a href="#">Subjective Cognitive Decline in Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease</a> . (2017)	Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Brooklyn College and The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, University of Victoria	Canada, United States	–
3	<a href="#">From Use to Overuse: Digital Inequality in the Age of Communication Abundance</a> (2019)	University of Milano–Bicocca, University of Zurich	Italy, Switzerland	–
4	<a href="#">The relationship between loneliness and the experiences of everyday stress and stressor-related emotion</a> . (2024)	Stony Brook University, The Pennsylvania State University	United States	–

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* – ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) – the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

## D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

### Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
The Pennsylvania State University	United States	SCImago #200 · QS =82	3
Florida State University	United States	SCImago #1224 · THE 301–350 · QS 549	3
University of Southern California	United States	SCImago #192 · THE =73 · QS 146	2
Pennsylvania State University	United States	SCImago #200 · THE =108 · QS =82	2
Singapore General Hospital	Singapore	SCImago #2479	2
University of California, San Diego	United States	SCImago #120 · THE 47 · QS 66	1
Nanyang Technological University	Singapore	SCImago #137	1
Brooklyn College of the City University of New York	United States	—	1
Bruyère Research Institute	Canada	—	1
University of California San Francisco	United States	SCImago #98	1
New York Medical College	United States	SCImago #5997	1
University of Jyväskylä	Finland	SCImago #2621 · THE 401–500 · QS 498	1
KU Leuven	Belgium	SCImago #180 · THE 46 · QS 60	1
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	1
National University of Singapore	Singapore	SCImago #59 · THE 17 · QS 8	1

### Geographic distribution of citing authors

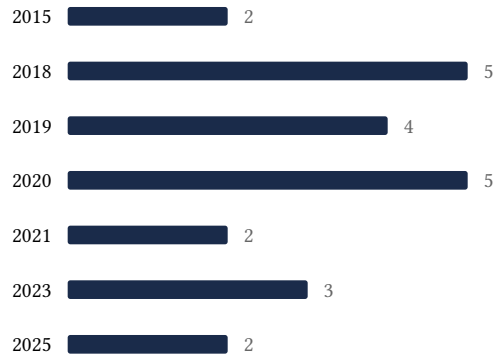
Country	Citing papers
United States	17
Singapore	3
Canada	3
Netherlands	2
United Kingdom	2
Belgium	1
Spain	1
Switzerland	1
Italy	1
Cyprus	1
Finland	1
France	1

Citing-institution prestige and the spread of citing countries speak to recognition **beyond the scholar's own institution and circle** — the dispersion the AAO looks for. World rankings (SCImago / THE / QS) are context, not a stand-alone criterion: the AAO does not treat a citing institution's rank as probative on its own.

## E. Citation Growth Over Time

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Distinct citing papers by publication year. Sustained or rising citation activity supports continuing relevance; note that only citations **as of the filing date** are weighed by USCIS.



## F. AAO Precedent Considerations

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### Pre-filing self-check (AAO denial patterns)

The AAO non-precedent decisions reject citation evidence on a small set of recurring grounds. Confirm the petition addresses each before filing:

- Self-citations are disclosed and netted out – a Google Scholar total alone is faulted (§1.1).
- Evidence is per individual article, not a body-of-work aggregate total (§1.2).
- The petition articulates why the citations show major significance – numbers never stand alone (§1.5).
- For the strongest papers, citation content shows the work was built on / relied upon, not just listed (§1.6, §2.2).
- Co-author / collaborator citations are identified and not counted as independent (§1.7).
- Recognition is shown beyond the scholar's own institution and circle (§1.8).
- Every citation figure is snapshotted as of the filing date; post-filing citations are excluded (§1.9).
- Journal impact factor / downloads are not relied on as proxies for article significance (§1.10, §1.12).
- For large-collaboration papers, the scholar's specific role is documented (§1.13).
- Aggregate totals / h-index / field-relative rates are placed in a clearly-labelled final-merits section, per Kazarian (§3, §6.1.7).

### Disclaimer

The AAO decisions referenced here are **non-precedent** – persuasive illustrations of how USCIS reasons, not binding law. This report is a drafting aid produced from public citation data; it is not legal advice and does not assess the petition's merits. All analysis must be reviewed by qualified immigration counsel.

## G. Citation Evidence Index

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Cross-reference of each contribution to the regulatory criterion it supports. Counsel should map these to the petition's exhibit numbers.

<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Core paper</b>	<b>Indep. cites</b>	<b>Supports</b>
Contribution 1	The wear and tear of daily stressors on mental health	7	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Affective reactivity to daily stressors and long-term risk of reporting a chronic physical health condition	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	The effects of stress on cognitive aging, physiology and emotion (ESCAPE) project	4	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)