

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

8 CFR § 204.5(i)(3) · Authorship + Original Contributions

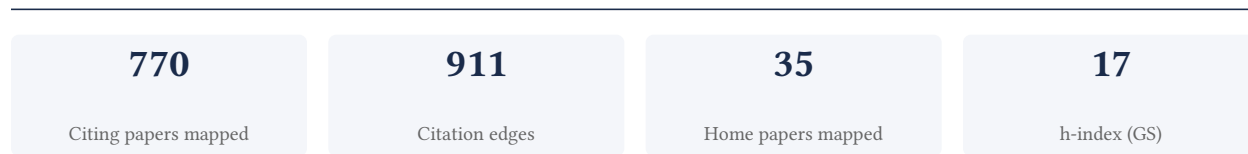
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to the 8 CFR § 204.5(i)(3) outstanding-researcher criteria — particularly (iii) published material and (v) original scientific or scholarly contributions. 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



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.

90.8% independent of 292 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	265
Self-citation	10
Co-author	0
Same-institution	17

478 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 workload and fatigue to performance, subsequently expanding this model to examine moderating factors like diet and sleep in specific clinical populations.

The researcher's core contribution centers on the 2017 paper 'The impact of workload and fatigue on performance,' which serves as the anchor for a sustained line of inquiry. This work appears to define the baseline relationship between occupational stressors and functional outcomes, providing a critical reference point for subsequent studies in the field.

Originality in this body of work is suggested by the chronological expansion from general performance metrics to specific moderating variables. The titles indicate a progression from broad performance impacts to nuanced examinations of well-being, unhealthy eating behaviors, and sleep quality among psychiatric staff. This trajectory suggests the researcher moved beyond establishing basic correlations to exploring complex, multi-factorial interactions within high-stress professional environments.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by the core paper's 243 citations, indicating substantial uptake by the academic community. With 90.9% of citing papers originating from independent researchers, the work demonstrates broad external validation and influence beyond the researcher's immediate circle. The follow-up papers, with 20 and 14 citations respectively, further illustrate the ongoing relevance and application of this foundational framework in contemporary research.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 163 · 1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

CORE PAPER

[The impact of workload and fatigue on performance](#)

2017 · International symposium on human mental workload: Models and applications ..., 2017 · 243 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 117 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Engineering papers from 2017 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Fatigue and Human Performance: An Updated Framework. (2023)	Institut de Neurosciences Cognitives et Intégratives d'Aquitaine (INICIA), Institute for Applied Training Science, Otto-Von-Guericke University Magdeburg	France, Germany	Background
2	Dissecting the fatigue experience: A scoping review of fatigue definitions, dimensions, and measures in non-oncologic medical conditions (2021)	National Institutes of Health	United States	—
3	Job load, job stress, and job exhaustion among Chinese junior middle school teachers: Job satisfaction as a mediator and teacher's role as a moderator. (2022)	Beijing Normal University, University of Hong Kong, University of Macau	China	Methodology
4	Pengaruh Stres Kerja, Beban Kerja Dan Motivasi Kerja Terhadap Kinerja Karyawan PT Perkebunan Mitra Ogan (2022)	Universitas Sarjanawiyata Tamansiswa	Indonesia	—
5	Unravelling the Complexity of Irregular Shiftwork, Fatigue and Sleep Health for Commercial Drivers and the Associated Implications for Roadway Safety. (2022)	Institut Teknologi Bandung, Virginia Tech	Indonesia, United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
6	A Multimodal Approach Exploiting EEG to Investigate the Effects of VR Environment on Mental Workload (2023)	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	Italy	—
7	Theory-based approach for assessing cognitive load during time-critical resource-managing human-computer interactions: an eye-tracking study (2022)	IWM Tübingen, Mercedes-Benz, UMIT-Tirol	Austria, Germany	—
8	Will Employee-AI Collaboration Enhance Employees' Proactive Behavior? A Study Based on the Conservation of Resources Theory (2025)	—	—	—
9	The association of work-related extended availability with recuperation, well-being, life domain balance and work: A meta-analysis (2022)	Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg	Germany	Background
10	Exploring gender differences in workload and job performance: insights from junior high school teachers. (2025)	Institute of Higher Education, Shantou University, Shantou University	China	—
11	A dual perspective on work stress and its effect on unsafe behaviors: The mediating role of fatigue and the moderating role of safety climate (2022)	—	—	—
12	Individual evaluation of fatigue at work to enhance the safety performance in the construction industry: A systematic review. (2024)	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	Malaysia	—
13	Measuring Cognitive Load Using In-Game Metrics of a Serious Simulation Game. (2021)	Daimler Trucks AG, Leibniz-Institut für Wissensmedien	Germany	—
14	Hypothesized the relationship between work-family boundaries, work-life balance, workload, and employees' well-being: Moderated mediation analysis (2025)	Central University of Punjab	India	—
15	Human Factors Engineering and Ergonomics: A Systems Approach, 3rd Edition (2023)	Marquette University	United States	—
16	Using IoT devices for sensor-based monitoring of employees' mental workload: Investigating managers' expectations and concerns (2022)	RWTH Aachen University	Germany	—
17	SenseCollect (2021)	University of Virginia, VibInt AI Limited	United States, Kingdom, United	Background
18	The non-visual effects of correlated color temperature on the alertness, cognition, and mood of fatigued individuals during the afternoon (2024)	Beijing Jiaotong University	China	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
19	I'd rather know what to expect...Work unpredictability as contemporary work stressor with detrimental implications for employees' daily wellbeing (2021)	University of Graz, University of Mannheim, University of Vienna	Austria, Germany	—
20	Psychometric validation of the European Portuguese version of the Fatigue and Altered Cognition Scale (FACs) . (2025)	Polytechnic of Porto, University Fernando Pessoa, University of Porto	Portugal	—
21	The Effect of Work Autonomy and Workload on Job Satisfaction of Female Workers in the Banking Sector: Mediating the Role of Work Life Balance (2020)	Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang	Indonesia	Influential
22	Workload, fatigue and performance in the rail industry (2017)	—	—	—
23	Eyes on the Phish(er): Towards Understanding Users' Email Processing Pattern and Mental Models in Phishing Detection (2024)	University of Auckland	New Zealand	Background
24	A Window Into the Tired Brain: Neurophysiological Dynamics of Visuospatial Working Memory Under Fatigue . (2024)	Texas A&M University	United States	Background
25	Mental Workload Monitoring: New Perspectives from Neuroscience (2019)	Sapienza University of Rome	Italy	—
26	Tracking the Unseen and Unaware: Deciphering Controllers' Detection Failures to Warnings Through Eye-Tracking Metrics (2025)	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Hong Kong	—
27	The Effect of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Adoption on Work Performance and Motivation (2018)	Curtin Mauritius, Curtin University	Australia, Mauritius	—
28	The impact of cognitive aids on resuscitation performance in in-hospital cardiac arrest scenarios: a systematic review and meta-analysis . (2022)	Alberta Children's Hospital, University of Calgary, University Hospital of Padova, University of Padova	Canada, Italy	Background
29	Cognitive Workload Classification in Industry 5.0 Applications: Electroencephalography-Based Bi-Directional Gated Network Approach (2023)	Changchun University of Science and Technology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China	China	—
30	The Impact of Stress and Workload on Human Performance in Robot Teleoperation Tasks (2024)	Georgia Institute of Technology	United States	—

Showing the 30 most-cited of 158 independent citing papers.

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

METHODOLOGY Job load, job stress, and job exhaustion among Chinese junior middle school teachers: Job satisfaction as a mediator and teacher's role as a moderator.

1 “The single-item job load measure was positively correlated with fatigue ($r = .38, p < .01$; Fan & Smith, 2017).”

FOLLOW-UP WORK

The relationship between occupational fatigue and well-being: the moderating effect of unhealthy eating behaviour

2024 · Behavioral Sciences 14 (1), 32, 2024 · 20 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The impact of work–family conflict on occupational fatigue among endoscopy nurses in China: a moderated mediation model	Deyang People's Hospital, Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital	China	—
2	Introducing sedatic hunger: eating to survive, not to savor	Bandirma Onyedi Eylul University	Turkey	—
3	Pathway Linking Problematic WeChat Use to Executive Functioning Among the Younger Generation: Mediating Effects of Depressive Symptoms and Subjective ...	Hainan Normal University, Huanghe Science & Technology University, Kuala Lumpur University of Science and Technology	China, Malaysia	—
4	The paradox of knowledge and food practices: navigating the tension between healthy eating, nutrition knowledge, and everyday life routines among middle-class ...	University of Surrey	United Kingdom	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

FOLLOW-UP WORK

The relationship between workload, fatigue and sleep quality of psychiatric staff

2021 · International Symposium on Human Mental Workload: Models and Applications ..., 2021 · 14 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Sleep quality and fatigue among nurses working in high-acuity clinical settings in Saudi Arabia: a cross-sectional study	Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University	Saudi Arabia	Background

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher developed and validated the COH-FIT framework to assess pandemic-related health impacts, establishing a widely adopted tool for evaluating physical and mental well-being across diverse populations.

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is the development of the Collaborative Outcomes study on Health and Functioning during Infection Times (COH-FIT), anchored by a 2022 core paper examining the physical and mental health impacts of COVID-19 on children, adolescents, and families.

ORIGINALITY: This line of work appears to address the need for standardized assessment tools during the pandemic. The researcher extended the initial framework by publishing a 2023 validation study for adults and a 2024 analysis of global well-being, suggesting a systematic effort to refine and broaden the applicability of the COH-FIT instrument beyond its original pediatric focus.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has garnered 114 citations, indicating substantial uptake. Notably, 90.9% of the scholar’s total citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the COH-FIT framework has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher’s immediate collaborators.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 24

CORE PAPER

[Physical and mental health impact of COVID-19 on children, adolescents, and their families: The Collaborative Outcomes study on Health and Functioning during Infection Times ...](#)

2022 · Journal of affective disorders 299, 367-376, 2022 · 114 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Long-COVID in children and adolescents: a systematic review and meta-analyses (2022)	Emory University, Houston Methodist Research Institute, Instituto Nacional de Cancerología	Mexico, Sweden, United States	—
2	Annual Research Review: The impact of Covid-19 on psychopathology in children and young people worldwide: systematic review of studies with pre- and within-pandemic data. (2023)	University of Cambridge, University of Exeter	United Kingdom	—
3	Mental health problems and associated factors of students at different learning stages during and after COVID-19 pandemic in Sichuan, China	Guangyuan Mental Health Center, Sichuan University, Sichuan Veterans Mental Health Center	China	—
4	Trauma and psychosocial adversity in youth with autism spectrum disorder and intellectual disability	University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School	United States	—
5	Long-term central nervous system (CNS) consequences of COVID-19 in children	King’s College London, University of Southampton	United Kingdom	—
6	Status and risk factors for depression, anxiety, and insomnia symptoms among adolescents in the post-pandemic era	Beijing HuiLongGuan Hospital, Beijing HuiLongGuan Hospital, Peking University HuiLongGuan Clinical Medical School, Beijing Normal University	Canada, China	—
7	True prevalence of long COVID in children: a narrative review	Pietro Barilla Children's Hospital, Università degli Studi di Milano, University Hospital of Parma	Italy	—
8	A qualitative dyadic approach to explore the experiences and perceived impact of COVID-19 restrictions among adolescents and their parents	Liverpool John Moores University	United Kingdom	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
9	Variation of parental feeding practices during the COVID-2019 pandemic: a systematic review	Affiliated Hospital of Yangzhou University, Yangzhou University, Yangzhou University	China	—
10	Editorial Perspective: COVID-19-related publications on young people's mental health—what have been the key trends so far and what should come next?	University Hospitals of Geneva, University of Southampton	Switzerland, United Kingdom	—
11	Commentary: The impact of Covid-19 on psychopathology in children and young people worldwide—reflections on Newlove-Delgado et al.(2023)	Charité Universitätsmedizin, University of Southampton	Germany, United Kingdom	—
12	Youth and social cohesion in times of the COVID pandemic: Most negatively affected? Most resilient?	Bertelsmann Stiftung, Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS), Constructor University	Germany	—
13	Predictors and barriers to engagement in caring for children with a mental health diagnosis: A qualitative study of caregivers perception of power	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth	United States	—
14	COVID-19 pandemic: Mental health, life habit changes and social phenomena	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Samara State Medical University, Semmelweis University	Greece, Hungary, Portugal	—
15	Feeding the Mind: The Systematic Review on the Impact of Mediterranean Diet on Mental Well-being	King Faisal University	Saudi Arabia	—
16	Nationwide Analysis of Child Development Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic	Ministry of Health, Tel-Aviv University	Israel	—
17	Lessons learned for pandemic preparedness in the neurodegenerative research and clinical fields: an advice report based on Parkinson's disease as an example	Erasmus University Medical Centre, Medical University of Bialystok, Parkinson Vereniging	Netherlands, Poland, United Kingdom	—
18	LessStress-how to reduce stress in school: evaluation of a universal stress prevention in schools: study protocol of a cluster-randomised controlled trial	University Hospital of Wuerzburg, University Medical Center Rostock	Germany	—
19	Clinical and epidemiological profile of patients with mental disorders in a specialized outpatient clinic and its role in the psychosocial care network	Faculdade de Medicina de São José do Rio Preto - FAMERP, Hospital de Base de São José do Rio Preto	Brazil	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Global and risk-group stratified well-being and mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic in adults: Results from the international COH-FIT Study](#)

2024 · Psychiatry research 342, 115972, 2024 · 19 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 13 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Psychology papers from 2024 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Return to work for people with chronic health conditions after medical or vocational rehabilitation during the COVID-19 pandemic: a scoping review	German Sport University Cologne	Germany	—
2	Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on adults accessing specialist psychiatric care: A cross-sectional Canadian analysis	Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, University of Toronto	Canada	—
3	Learning the hard way: What COVID-19 teaches us about the social determinants of mental health among the urban poor	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile	Chile	—
4	Long-term trajectories of mental health in Australia through COVID-19: Assessing distress and quality of life in priority populations	Orygen, Swinburne University of Technology, Tasmanian Health Service	Australia	—
5	Mental health prevention: moving forward with the evidence	University of Udine	Italy	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Validation of the Collaborative Outcomes study on Health and Functioning during Infection Times \(COH-FIT\) questionnaire for adults](#)

2023 · Elsevier, 2023 · 0 citations (GS)

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher established a foundational link between exercise and student sleep quality, subsequently expanding this framework to compare specific modalities and integrate environmental stressors.

The researcher's core contribution centers on the 2022 paper examining the effect of exercise on academic fatigue and sleep quality among university students. This work serves as the anchor for a subsequent line of inquiry that explores specific exercise types and broader mental health mediators.

This line of work appears to address the need for granular understanding of how physical activity influences student well-being. By progressing from general exercise effects to specific comparisons like rope skipping versus badminton, and later incorporating noise sensitivity, the researcher demonstrates an evolving, multi-dimensional approach to sleep and mental health interventions.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by the core paper's 62 citations, with 90.9% originating from independent researchers. This high level of independent uptake suggests the work has resonated broadly within the field, establishing a credible foundation for the researcher's ongoing investigations into sleep and mental health determinants.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 9

CORE PAPER

[The effect of exercise on academic fatigue and sleep quality among university students](#)

2022 · Frontiers in Psychology 13, 2022 · 62 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 32 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Education papers from 2022 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Anger and Anxiety as Sequential Predictors of Fatigue: A Two-Wave Longitudinal Study	Henan Normal University, Henan Provincial Department of Education	China	—
2	The mediating roles of cognitive emotion regulation and resilience in the association between life events and sleep quality among medical students	Central South University, Xinxiang Medical University	China	—
3	Beyond the liver: well-being as the bridge between fatigue and quality of life in chronic hepatitis B patients	Nanfang Hospital, Southern Medical University, Southern Medical University, The First Affiliated Hospital of Xiamen University	China	—
4	Fatigue and resilience in Master's and PhD students in the Covid-19 pandemic in Brazil: A cross-sectional study	Sena Aires Faculty of Science and Education, University of São Paulo	Brazil	—
5	Novel insight into prediction model for sleep quality among college students: a LASSO-derived sleep evaluation	Fujian Medical University, The Second Affiliated Hospital of Fujian Medical University	China	—
6	Exploring the mediating role of meaning in life and psychological resilience in the relationship between physical exercise and sleep quality among Chinese secondary ...	Beijing Sport University, Shangqiu Normal University, Zhaoqing University	China	—
7	The effect of ergonomic interventions on fatigue and musculoskeletal symptoms of university students during combined information and communication technologies ...	Eastern Mediterranean University	Turkey	—
8	Barriers and facilitators to achieving optimal oral health behaviours in university students	Colgate-Palmolive, University of Manchester	United Kingdom	—
9	The Correlation of Work-Related Stress, Sleep Quality, and Physical Activity Among Academic Staff in a Nigerian Medical School: A Cross-Sectional Study	Federal University of Technology Owerri, Nnamdi Azikiwe University	Nigeria	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Rope skipping or badminton? exercise reduced sleep onset latency in university students](#)

2025 · Frontiers in Sports and Active Living 7, 1514596, 2025 · 0 citations (GS)

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

FOLLOW-UP WORK

[Effect of noise sensitivity on mental health: Mediating role of sleep problems](#)

2025 · Noise and Health 27 (125), 158-167, 2025 · 3 citations (GS)

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Cardiff University	United Kingdom	SCImago #664 · THE 201–250 · QS 181	22
Shenzhen University	China	SCImago #229 · THE 351–400 · QS =452	7
University of Toronto	Canada	SCImago #39 · THE 21 · QS 29	4
University of Granada	Spain	THE 601–800 · QS =401	4
Monash University	Australia	THE =58 · QS =36	4
Queensland University of Technology	Australia	SCImago #789 · THE 201–250 · QS 226	3
University of Southampton	United Kingdom	SCImago #556 · THE 129 · QS 87	3
University of Vienna	Austria	THE =95 · QS 152	3
University College Cork	Ireland	SCImago #1176 · THE 351–400 · QS 246	3
Marquette University	United States	SCImago #4340 · QS 1201-1400	3
University of Bern	Switzerland	SCImago #600 · THE =108 · QS =184	3
McGill University	Canada	SCImago #168 · THE =41 · QS 27	3
University of Bristol	United Kingdom	SCImago #478 · THE =80 · QS 51	3
The University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	SCImago #195 · THE 33 · QS 11	3
University Health Network	Canada	SCImago #516	2

Geographic distribution of citing authors

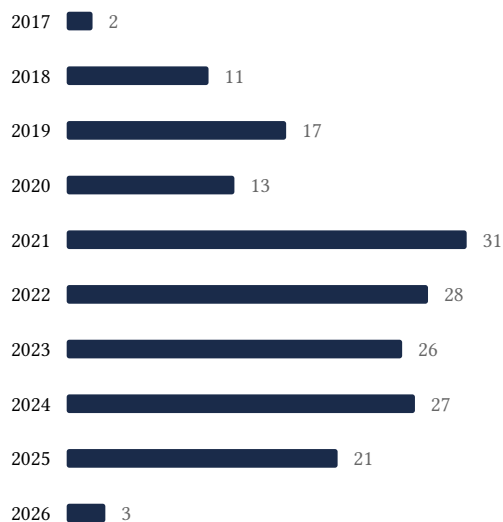
Country	Citing papers
China	40
United States	39
United Kingdom	39
Germany	30
Indonesia	22
Canada	16
Australia	16
Italy	9
Iran	9

Country	Citing papers
Austria	7
Spain	6
Turkey	6

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

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

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

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

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 1	The impact of workload and fatigue on performance	163	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 2	Physical and mental health impact of COVID-19 on children, adolescents, and their families: The Collaborative Outcomes study on Health and Functioning during Infection Times ...	24	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 3	The effect of exercise on academic fatigue and sleep quality among university students	9	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher