

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

25	25	3	80
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.

96.0% independent of 25 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	24
Self-citation	0
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 analysis of how race, ethnicity, age, gender, and weight status collectively impact physical activity levels among US youth.

CLAIM: The researcher’s contribution centers on a seminal 2010 study examining the multifaceted determinants of physical activity in US youth, specifically analyzing the interplay of race, ethnicity, age, gender, and weight status. This work serves as the core reference point for this line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: By integrating multiple demographic and physiological variables, this research appears to address a critical gap in understanding the complex, intersecting factors that influence youth physical activity. The titles suggest a comprehensive approach that moves beyond single-variable analyses to capture the nuanced realities of diverse youth populations.

SIGNIFICANCE: With 545 citations, this paper has achieved substantial recognition within the field. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher’s immediate circle. This high level of independent uptake underscores the study’s broad relevance and impact on public health research.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 10

CORE PAPER

[Physical activity in US youth: impact of race/ethnicity, age, gender, & weight status](#)

2010 · 545 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Progress in physical activity over the Olympic quadrennium (2016)	University of Edinburgh, University of Maiduguri, University of Sydney	Australia, Nigeria, Switzerland	—
2	Weight status and body image perceptions in adolescents: current perspectives. (2015)	University of North Carolina Wilmington	United States	—
3	Longitudinal associations of screen time, physical activity, and sleep duration with body mass index in U.S. youth. (2024)	National Cancer Institute	United States	—
4	A catalog of rules, variables, and definitions applied to accelerometer data in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2003–2006 (2012)	Pennington Biomedical Research Center	United States	—
5	Levels of physical activity and sedentary time among 10- to 12-year-old boys and girls across 5 European countries using accelerometers: an observational study within the ENERGY-project. (2012)	—	—	—
6	Obesity, insulin resistance and diabetes: sex differences and role of oestrogen receptors. (2011)	—	—	—
7	Physical Activity, Screen-Based Sedentary Behavior and Physical Fitness in Chinese Adolescents: A Cross-Sectional Study. (2021)	Shandong Sports University, Shandong University	China	—
8	Contribution of Walking to School to Individual and Population Moderate-Vigorous Intensity	University of Edinburgh	United Kingdom	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
	Physical Activity: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (2016)			
9	Physical activity and BMI in a nationally representative sample of children and adolescents. (2012)	—	—	—
10	Associations between physical activity, sedentary time, sleep duration and daytime sleepiness in US adults (2014)	Children's National Medical Center, George Washington University School of Medicine, National Cancer Institute	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.

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher established a foundational framework for evaluating mobile health technologies, as evidenced by a seminal 2013 paper that has garnered over 1,300 citations.

The researcher’s primary contribution lies in defining the methodological standards for assessing mobile health interventions. This work is anchored by the 2013 publication in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, which serves as the core reference for this line of inquiry.

This contribution appears to address the critical need for rigorous evaluation protocols in the emerging field of mobile health. By focusing on evidence-based assessment, the work likely provided a necessary structure for researchers and practitioners to validate the efficacy of digital health tools.

The significance of this work is demonstrated by its substantial citation count of 1,327. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the citations originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption and influence across the global scientific community beyond the researcher’s immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

[Mobile health technology evaluation: the mHealth evidence workshop](#)

2013 · American Journal of Preventive Medicine · 1,327 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 876 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Unraveling the role of cloud computing in health care system and biomedical sciences (2024)	College of Pharmacy, Prince Sat-tam Bin Abdulaziz University, IBM India Pvt. Ltd, University of Nizwa	India, Oman, Pak-istan	—
2	Hybrid Integration of Wearable Devices for Physiological Monitoring (2024)	Institute of Materials Research and Engineering (IMRE), National University of Singapore	Singapore	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
3	Just-in-Time Adaptive Interventions (JITAs) in Mobile Health: Key Components and Design Principles for Ongoing Health Behavior Support (2017)	Northwestern University, Penn State, University of Michigan	United States	—
4	AI in Health: State of the Art, Challenges, and Future Directions. (2019)	Weill Cornell Medicine, Cornell University	United States	—
5	Mobile Devices and Health. (2019)	University of California, San Francisco	United States	—
6	Demystifying theory and its use in improvement (2015)	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, University of Leicester	United Kingdom, United States	—
7	The Era of Digital Health: A Review of Portable and Wearable Affinity Biosensors (2019)	California Institute of Technology	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.

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher established a foundational synthesis of mindfulness-based interventions for obesity-related eating behaviors, creating a highly cited reference point for subsequent clinical and behavioral research.

The researcher’s contribution centers on the 2014 publication in *Obesity Reviews*, which provides a comprehensive literature review of mindfulness-based interventions for obesity-related eating behaviors. This work serves as the core anchor for this line of inquiry, with no follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in the provided data, indicating the review itself stands as the primary scholarly output in this specific cluster.

This line of work appears to address the need for a consolidated understanding of how mindfulness techniques intersect with dietary habits and weight management. By synthesizing existing literature, the researcher likely clarified the scope and potential efficacy of these interventions, offering a structured framework that was previously fragmented across disparate studies. The absence of follow-up papers suggests the review was intended as a definitive summary rather than the start of a longitudinal experimental series.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 859, indicating it has become a standard reference in the field. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the citations come from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community outside the researcher’s immediate circle, thereby confirming its broad impact and utility.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

[Mindfulness-Based Interventions for Obesity-Related Eating Behaviors: A Literature Review](#)

2014 · *Obesity Reviews* · 859 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Food cue reactivity and craving predict eating and weight gain: a meta-analytic review. (2016)	—	—	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
2	Brain-gut-microbiome interactions in obesity and food addiction (2020)	University of California Los Angeles	United States	—
3	Mindfulness Training and Physical Health: Mechanisms and Outcomes (2019)	University of Pittsburgh	—	—
4	Mindfulness-based interventions for weight loss: a systematic review and meta-analysis. (2018)	McGill University	Canada	—
5	Obesity is associated with a distinct brain-gut microbiome signature that connects Prevotella and Bacteroides to the brain's reward center. (2022)	UCLA Microbiome Center, Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases	United States	—
6	Mindful eating and common diet programs lower body weight similarly: Systematic review and meta-analysis. (2019)	University of Zurich	Switzerland	—
7	Mindfulness, Eating Behaviours, and Obesity: A Review and Reflection on Current Findings. (2015)	University of Portsmouth	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.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Edinburgh	United Kingdom	SCImago #182 · THE 29 · QS 34	2
National Cancer Institute	United States	SCImago #219	2
University of Tennessee	United States	—	1
World Health Organization	Switzerland	SCImago #172	1
McGill University	Canada	SCImago #168 · THE =41 · QS 27	1
University of North Carolina Wilmington	United States	SCImago #6878	1
National University of Singapore	Singapore	SCImago #59 · THE 17 · QS 8	1
University of Leicester	United Kingdom	SCImago #1023 · THE =192 · QS 326	1
University of Nizwa	Oman	SCImago #5086 · THE 401–500 · QS 761–770	1
University of California Los Angeles	United States	SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46	1
Weill Cornell Medicine, Cornell University	United States	—	1
UCLA	United States	—	1
University of Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	1
University of California, San Francisco	United States	SCImago #98	1
University of Michigan	United States	SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45	1

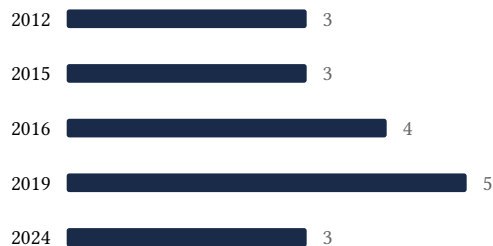
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	13
United Kingdom	4
Switzerland	2
India	1
Nigeria	1
Oman	1
Australia	1
Saudi Arabia	1
Singapore	1
Pakistan	1
Canada	1
China	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

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	Physical activity in US youth: impact of race/ethnicity, age, gender, & weight status	10	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Mobile health technology evaluation: the mHealth evidence workshop	7	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Mindfulness-Based Interventions for Obesity-Related Eating Behaviors: A Literature Review	7	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)