Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

Peiyao Zhu

PhD student, University of Michigan

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

31	31	6	3
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.

100.0% independent of 31 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	31
Self-citation	0
Co-author	0
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 advanced public health understanding by analyzing how race, religion, and political affiliation drive vaccine hesitancy spillover effects on adult COVID-19 and influenza vaccination in the United States.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2023 publication in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, which examines the spillover of vaccine hesitancy into adult COVID-19 and influenza uptake. This work specifically investigates the roles of race, religion, and political affiliation within the United States context.

This line of work appears to address a critical gap by linking broader societal hesitancy to specific adult vaccination behaviors across two major respiratory viruses. By isolating demographic and ideological factors, the research offers a nuanced perspective on the social determinants of vaccine acceptance during the pandemic era.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its citation record, with 49 citations indicating substantial engagement. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has resonated beyond the author's immediate network and influenced broader academic discourse on vaccine hesitancy.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 18 · **1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

Spillover of Vaccine Hesitancy into Adult COVID-19 and Influenza: The Role of Race, Religion, and Political Affiliation in the United States

2023 · International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health · 49 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 36 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Sociology papers from 2023 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Faith and vaccination: a scoping review of the relationships between religious beliefs and vaccine hesitancy (2024)	Simon Fraser University	Canada	Influential
2	Influence of COVID-19 on trust in routine immunization, health information sources and pandemic preparedness in 23 countries in 2023 (2024)	Baraka Impact Finance, Barcelona Institute for Global Health, Centre for the AIDS Program of Research in South Africa	France, Germany, Poland	—
3	Changes in Attitudes and Barriers to Seasonal Influenza Vaccination from 2007 to 2023 (2024)	Brigham Young University	United States	—
4	Influenza Vaccination Among People With Medicare by Race and Ethnicity, Education, and Rurality (2025)	Carnegie Mellon University, RAND	United States	—
5	Examining the Negative Sentiments Related to Influenza Vaccination from 2017 to 2022: An Unsupervised Deep Learning Analysis of 261,613 Twitter Posts (2023)	Duke-NUS Medical School, MOH Holdings Pte Ltd., NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine	Singapore, United Kingdom	Background
6	Vaccine Hesitancy and Associated Factors Among Caregivers of Children With Special Health Care Needs in the COVID-19 Era in China: Cross-Sectional Study (2025)	Children's Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine, First Affiliated Hospital	China, United Kingdom	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		of Zhejiang University, Imperial College London		
7	Examining Public Messaging on Influenza Vaccine over Social Media: Unsupervised Deep Learning of 235,261 Twitter Posts from 2017 to 2023 (2023)	NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore, Singapore General Hospital	Singapore, United Kingdom	Background
8	The politicization of influenza: partisan changes in flu vaccination before and after COVID-19 (2025)	University of Southern California	United States	—
9	Social and Structural Determinants of Health Associated with COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy among Older Adults in the United States (2024)	Georgia Southern University	United States	Background
10	Why do older adults hesitate to get the flu vaccine? A cross-sectional study on vaccine hesitancy in the post-COVID-19 era (2025)	Fudan University	China	—
11	Co-Administration of Influenza and COVID-19 Vaccines: A Cross-Sectional Survey of Canadian Adults' Knowledge, Attitudes, and Beliefs (2024)	CSL Seqirus, Travelrx and Immunize.io, University of Ottawa	Canada	—
12	A randomized assessment of the impact of 'Those Nerdy Girls' newsletters on adult vaccination outcomes (2026)	Hunter College, Magnolia Impact Solutions, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science	United Kingdom, United States	—
13	Vaccine acceptance and refusal in Western and Central and Eastern European countries: An analysis based on the European Social Survey data from 23 countries, using a classification and regression tree (2025)	Nicolaus Copernicus University	Poland	—
14	A scoping review of global COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among pregnant persons (2024)	Food and Drug Administration, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University	United States	Background
15	Advancing health equity in the aftermath of COVID-19: Confronting intensifying racial disparities (2024)	Pfizer Inc, Rowan University	United States	—
16	The relationship between COVID-19 vaccination, partisan self-identification, and flu vaccine uptake: A structural equation modeling approach (2024)	South Dakota State University	United States	—
17	Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on influenza vaccination rate among health care workers (2024)	Saudi Electronic University	Saudi Arabia	—
18	Predictors of seasonal influenza and COVID-19 vaccination coverage among	Meharry Medical College, The University of Memphis, Van-	United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
	adults in Tennessee during the COVID-19 pandemic (2024)	derbilt University Medical Center		

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 analyzed demographic disparities in U.S. COVID-19 vaccination timing and completion, providing critical insights into compliance patterns that have attracted independent scholarly attention.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2023 publication examining demographic differences in compliance with COVID-19 vaccination timing and completion guidelines in the United States. This work stands as the core piece in this specific line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author listed in the provided data.

This line of work appears to address the need for granular understanding of how different demographic groups adhered to vaccination protocols during the pandemic. By focusing on timing and completion, the research likely aimed to identify specific barriers or patterns of non-compliance that vary across population segments, offering a nuanced view beyond aggregate vaccination rates.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its citation record. With 11 citations, all originating from independent researchers outside the author's immediate circle, the work demonstrates genuine uptake by the broader scientific community. This 100% independent citation rate suggests the findings have been recognized as valuable and reliable by external scholars, validating the research's impact on public health discourse.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 9

CORE PAPER

Demographic differences in compliance with COVID-19 vaccination timing and completion guidelines in the United States

2023 · 11 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The lifestyle health index in the context of COVID-19 mortality and vaccination in the United States: A syndemic not to be repeated (2024)	HealthPartners Institute, Salve Regina University, University of Illinois Chicago	United States	—
2	Evaluation of adverse events and comorbidity exacerbation following the COVID-19 booster dose: A national survey among randomly-selected booster recipients (2025)	Ministry of Health	Israel	—
3	Disparity between expected spatial accessibility and actual travel time to vaccination sites: Implications for COVID-19 immunization delays (2025)	City of Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	United States	—
4	Abnormal uterine bleeding diagnoses and care following COVID-19 vaccination (2024)	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Kaiser Perma-	United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		nente Center for Health Research		
5	Pretransplantation coronavirus disease 2019 vaccination requirements: A matched case-control study of factors associated with waitlist inactivation (2024)	University of California, San Francisco	United States	—
6	Preventing SARS-CoV-2 superspreading events with antiviral intranasal sprays (2025)	Imperial College London, Leyden Laboratories BV	Netherlands, United Kingdom	—
7	Disparity between expected spatial accessibility and actual travel time to vaccination sites: Implications for COVID-19 immunization delays (2025)	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	United States	—
8	Social dominance and authoritarianism have mostly countervailing associations with attitudes about COVID-19 and its management (2024)	University of Auckland	New Zealand	—
9	Identifying beliefs driving COVID-19 vaccination: Lessons for effective messaging (2023)	The Ohio State University	United States	**Result**

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

> **RESULT** Identifying beliefs driving COVID-19 vaccination: Lessons for effective messaging
>
> *"This finding, which has been corroborated in other studies, 22–24 reiterates the need to develop messaging that is accessible to populations with diverse educational backgrounds."*

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine	Singapore	—	2
University of Glasgow	United Kingdom	SCImago #351 · THE 84 · QS 79	2
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	United States	SCImago #5927	2
Singapore General Hospital	Singapore	SCImago #2479	2
Imperial College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #69 · THE 8 · QS 2	2
Centre for the AIDS Program of Research in South Africa	South Africa	—	1
MOH Holdings Pte Ltd.	Singapore	—	1
Healthcare Research Institute of Santiago - IDIS	—	—	1
RAND	United States	—	1
Charité	Germany	—	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science	United States	SCImago #5595	1
Wits Health Consortium	—	—	1
The Fourth Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University	China	SCImago #10450	1
First Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University	China	SCImago #971	1
Travelrx and Immunize.io	Canada	—	1

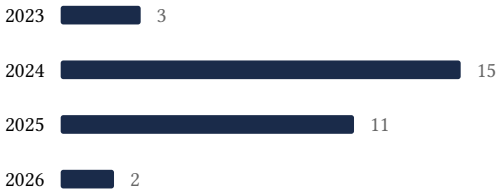
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	18
United Kingdom	6
China	3
Poland	2
Singapore	2
Canada	2
Saudi Arabia	1
South Africa	1
New Zealand	1
France	1
Germany	1
Israel	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).

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	Spillover of Vaccine Hesitancy into Adult COVID-19 and Influenza: The Role of Race, Religion, and Political Affiliation in the United States	18	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Demographic differences in compliance with COVID-19 vaccination timing and completion guidelines in the United States	9	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)