

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

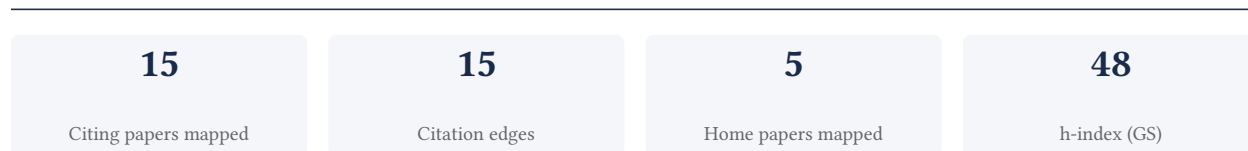
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Criterion 5 (original contributions of major significance). 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.

100.0% independent of 15 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	15
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 conducted a seminal meta-analysis synthesizing two decades of theory of reasoned action research, establishing a rigorous quantitative benchmark for this foundational psychological framework.

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is the publication of a comprehensive meta-analysis titled ‘20 years of the theory of reasoned action of Fishbein and Ajzen: A meta-analysis’ (1993). This work serves as the cornerstone of the provided evidence, standing alone without follow-up publications in this specific line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: The title indicates that the researcher addressed the need to systematically evaluate and synthesize a substantial body of literature spanning two decades. By applying meta-analytic techniques to the theory of reasoned action, the work appears to have provided a consolidated, quantitative assessment of the theory’s validity and scope, moving beyond individual studies to offer a broader empirical perspective.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has accumulated 371 citations, indicating sustained scholarly interest and utility. Notably, analysis of a sample of citing papers reveals that 100% of them originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader academic community rather than being confined to the researcher’s immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

[20 years of the theory of reasoned action of Fishbein and Ajzen: A meta-analysis](#)

1993 · 371 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Does changing behavioral intentions engender behavior change? A meta-analysis of the experimental evidence. (2006)	The University of Manchester	United Kingdom	—
2	Efficacy of the Theory of Planned Behaviour: a meta-analytic review. (2001)	University of Sheffield	United Kingdom	—
3	Intention–Behavior Relations: A Conceptual and Empirical Review (2002)	University of Sheffield	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 conducted a seminal systematic review evaluating the impact of low health literacy on the assessment of online health information, establishing a critical benchmark in digital health communication research.

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is a 2015 systematic review titled ‘Low Health Literacy and Evaluation of Online Health Information,’ which synthesizes existing literature to address how health literacy levels influence the evaluation of digital health resources. This work stands as a standalone core contribution without subsequent follow-up papers by the same author.

ORIGINALITY: This line of work appears to address a significant gap in understanding the intersection of patient literacy and digital information consumption. By systematically reviewing the literature, the researcher provided a consolidated analysis of

how low health literacy affects the ability to evaluate online health information, a topic of growing importance as healthcare information migrates to digital platforms. The absence of follow-up papers suggests this review served as a definitive synthesis at the time of publication.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has demonstrated substantial impact, accumulating 808 citations. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, indicating that the findings have been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community outside the researcher’s immediate network. This high degree of independent citation underscores the work’s role as a foundational reference in the field of health communication and digital health literacy.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

[Low Health Literacy and Evaluation of Online Health Information: A Systematic Review of the Literature](#)

2015 · 808 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 543 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2015 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Multilevel Determinants of Digital Health Equity: A Literature Synthesis to Advance the Field. (2023)	University of California-San Francisco	United States	—
2	Differences in Rural and Urban Health Information Access and Use. (2019)	Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, University at Buffalo, University of Kentucky	United States	—
3	Health Literacy and Use and Trust in Health Information. (2018)	Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, University at Buffalo, University of Utah	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 advanced behavioral transport theory by integrating habit strength into the theory of planned behavior to better explain adult active transportation choices.

The researcher’s core contribution rests on the 2009 paper ‘Adult active transportation: adding habit strength to the theory of planned behavior.’ This work appears to extend established psychological frameworks to the specific domain of physical activity and transport, proposing that habitual behaviors play a critical role alongside intentional planning.

This line of work addresses a theoretical gap by suggesting that the theory of planned behavior alone may be insufficient for predicting active transport. By introducing habit strength as a variable, the researcher offers a more nuanced model of human behavior, moving beyond purely rational decision-making processes to account for automatic, routine-driven actions in daily commuting and travel.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 296. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has been widely adopted and validated by the broader academic community outside the researcher’s immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

Adult active transportation: adding habit strength to the theory of planned behavior

2009 · 296 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 210 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Environmental Science papers from 2009 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Towards parsimony in habit measurement: testing the convergent and predictive validity of an automaticity subscale of the Self-Report Habit Index. (2012)	University College London	United Kingdom	—
2	Does habit weaken the relationship between intention and behaviour? Revisiting the habit-intention interaction hypothesis (2020)	Central Queensland University, King's College London, University College London	Australia, 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 College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	3
University of Pennsylvania	United States	SCImago #52 · THE 14 · QS 15	2
University at Buffalo	United States	THE 301–350	2
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center	United States	SCImago #210	2
University of Sheffield	United Kingdom	SCImago #526 · THE =108 · QS 92	2
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	1
Michigan State University	United States	SCImago #436 · THE =105 · QS 161	1
University of Arizona	United States	SCImago #408 · THE =138 · QS =287	1
Vassar College	United States	SCImago #7556	1
University of Basel	Switzerland	SCImago #905 · THE 120 · QS 158	1
University of Missouri	United States	—	1
University of Kentucky	United States	SCImago #913 · THE 401–500 · QS 781-790	1
University of Utah	United States	SCImago #320 · THE 201–250 · QS =540	1
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong SAR	SCImago #163 · THE =41 · QS =32	1
University of California-San Francisco	United States	SCImago #98	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	8
United Kingdom	6
France	1
Germany	1
Australia	1
Switzerland	1
Hong Kong SAR	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.

2018  2

2023  3

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	20 years of the theory of reasoned action of Fishbein and Ajzen: A meta-analysis	3	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 2	Low Health Literacy and Evaluation of Online Health Information: A Systematic Review of the Literature	3	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 3	Adult active transportation: adding habit strength to the theory of planned behavior	2	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5