

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

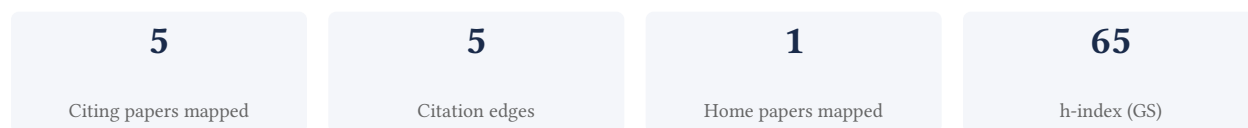
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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



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.

80.0% independent of 5 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	4
Self-citation	0
Co-author	0
Same-institution	1

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 evidence base for resilience training interventions through a seminal 2018 systematic review and meta-analysis published in BMJ Open.

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is the publication of a seminal systematic review and meta-analysis titled 'Road to resilience' in BMJ Open (2018), which synthesizes evidence on resilience training programmes and interventions.

ORIGINALITY: This work appears to address the need for rigorous, aggregated evidence in the field of psychological resilience. By conducting a systematic review and meta-analysis, the researcher provided a consolidated assessment of intervention efficacy, distinguishing this contribution from individual primary studies and offering a comprehensive overview of the existing literature at that time.

SIGNIFICANCE: The paper has garnered 1,280 citations, indicating substantial uptake by the academic community. Notably, 80% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has influenced scholars outside the researcher’s immediate institutional or collaborative network, thereby demonstrating broad independent recognition.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

CORE PAPER

[Road to resilience: a systematic review and meta-analysis of resilience training programmes and interventions](#)

2018 · BMJ Open · 1,280 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 716 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2018 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Resilience and mental health: how multisystemic processes contribute to positive outcomes (2020)	Dalhousie University, University of Pretoria	Canada, South Africa	—
2	A meta-analysis of cognitive reappraisal and personal resilience (2024)	University of Colorado Colorado Springs	United States	—
3	Employee well-being outcomes from individual-level mental health interventions: Cross-sectional evidence from the United Kingdom (2024)	Oxford University	United Kingdom	—
4	The Psychology of Religion: Fifth Edition: An Empirical Approach (2018)	Biola University, University of Denver, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	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
University of New South Wales	Australia	SCImago #107 · QS 20	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Toronto	Canada	SCImago #39 · THE 21 · QS 29	1
University of Cape Town	South Africa	SCImago #1052 · THE =164 · QS 150	1
Dalhousie University	Canada	SCImago #1299 · THE 351–400 · QS 283	1
University of Pretoria	South Africa	SCImago #1629 · THE 501–600 · QS =362	1
Oxford University	United Kingdom	—	1
KU Leuven	Belgium	SCImago #180 · THE 46 · QS 60	1
University of Kentucky	United States	SCImago #913 · THE 401–500 · QS 781-790	1
University of Colorado Colorado Springs	United States	SCImago #5151	1
University of Denver	United States	SCImago #3929 · THE 501–600 · QS 1001-1200	1
Technische Universität Dresden	Germany	SCImago #629 · QS 218	1
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	United States	—	1
Biola University	United States	—	1
University of Campania "L. Vanvitelli"	Italy	—	1
Brown University School of Medicine, Rhode Island Hospital	United States	—	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	3
South Africa	2
Canada	2
Australia	1
United Kingdom	1
Italy	1
Belgium	1
Germany	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.

2020  2

2024  2

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	Road to resilience: a systematic review and meta-analysis of resilience training programmes and interventions	4	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)