

# Ethnic Migration Behavior of Chinese Immigrants in the New York-Newark-Jersey City Metropolitan Area

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The population of Chinese immigrants in the United States has undergone progressive growth in the past 50 years and has reached an epidemic number. As minorities, the Chinese immigrants move into receiving places to adapt and succeed in a new social structure while not losing their own identity. Previous studies highlight the role of local contexts that lead to an internal moving decision. Most of these studies view local contexts as global factors assumed to apply equally over a study area. However, the contextual factors do not disperse evenly across space, nor do their relationships with migration behavior. Understanding the spatial variability of factors related to Chinese people's migration in the study area is necessary. Therefore, this paper aims to explore the role in which neighborhood context may predict migration behavior, with particular attention to how migration factors and their effects vary across space.

This research presents novel applications of two methods: clustering analysis (followed by regression models) and multiscale geographically weighted regression (MGWR) to the Chinese population in the New York-Newark-Jersey City metropolitan statistical area as a case study. Wages, education, English proficiency, and self-employment status are crucial variables in differentiating movers from non-movers. Having naturalized citizenship has a dual effect on migration behavior. Among the movers, stratifications exist in the immigrant Chinese population, as each subgroup has its particular migration pattern and significant indicators. Approaches considering data associations in both geographic and non-geographic dimensions are promising.

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