

ZHEN LI

Curriculum Vitae (September 2026)

School of Sociology and Political Science

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EDUCATION

University at Albany, SUNY	Sociology	Ph.D	2008--2016
University at Albany, SUNY	Biometry and Statistics	M.S.	2010--2012
Shandong University of Finance and Economics	Social Work	B.A.	2002--2006

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Vu, Ngoc Thi, **Zhen Li**, Yu Zhu, and Congcong Deng. "The gender wage gap among highly educated workers in Vietnam: patterns and explanations." *China Population and Development Studies* (2026): 1-24.

Zhen Li*, Lei Lei. 2025. Understanding Residential Mobility in Urban China: A Comparative Analysis of Hukou Residents and Temporary Migrants in Shanghai. *Population, Space and Place*, 31 (7), e70097.

Zhen Li*, Yu Zhu, and Yingji Wu. 2024. Migrant Optimism in Educational Aspirations for Children in Big Cities in China: A Case Study of Native, Permanent Migrant and Temporary Migrant Parents in Shanghai. *Population Research and Policy Review*, 43(1), 1.

Zhen Li. 2023. "Effects of Influencing Factors of Temporary Migrants' Settlement Intention in China". *Journal of the Beifang University of Nationalities*, 1:121-127. (in Chinese)

Zhen Li. 2022. "Ethnic Differences in Temporary Migrants' Settlement Intention in China". Pp. 163-183 in Ren Yuan and Zhao Deyu (Editors). *Fudan Development and Policy Review*. Shanghai Renmin Chubanshe. (in Chinese)

Zhen Li. 2022. "Co-Ethnic Networks and Inter-Provincial Migration Destination Choice of Ethnic Minority Migrants in China". *Asian Population Studies*, 18(3): 213-238.

Zhen Li. 2021. "Ethnic Disparities in Labor Market Outcomes among Migrant Populations in China: A Study of Thirteen Minority Groups and the Han". *Chinese Sociological Review* 53(3), 285-311.

Zhen Li. 2021. "Education and Upward Socioeconomic Mobility of Children of Migrants in the Chinese Urban Labor Market: Institutional Barrier, Social Support, and Personal Efforts". Pp. 245-251 in Laurence Roulleau-Berger and Liu Yuzhao (editors). *Sociology of Migration and Post-Western Theory*. ENS EDITIONS.

Zhen Li. 2021. "Blocked Upward Socioeconomic Mobility: Family Background, Social Support, and Education in a Segmented Labor Market". Pp. 252-257 in Laurence Roulleau-Berger and Liu Yuzhao (editors). *Sociology of Migration and Post-Western Theory*. ENS EDITIONS.

Zhen Li, 2020, “Current Patterns of Inter-Provincial Return Migration and the Relocation of Inter-Provincial Return Migrants in China: A Study Based on Fixed-Interval Migration Data”. *Population and Development* 26 (4): 2-13. (in Chinese)

Wu, Jinjing, Jia Chen, **Zhen Li**, Boshen Jiao, and Peter Muennig. 2020. “Spatiotemporal Variation of the Association between Urbanicity and Incident Hypertension among Chinese Adults”. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 17 (1): 304.

Zai Liang, Jiejing Li, Glenn Deane, **Zhen Li**, Bo Zhou. 2018. From Chinatown to Every Town: New Patterns of Employment for Low-Skilled Chinese Immigrants in the United States. *Social Forces* 97(2): 893-920. (ASA Louis Wirth Best Article Award)

Liang, Zai, **Zhen Li** (Corresponding Author) and Morrooka Hideki. 2017. Differential Effects of Migration Networks: The Case of China. *Chinese Journal of Sociology* 3(3): 354-378.

Liang, Zai, **Zhen Li** and Zhongdong Ma. 2014 “Changing Patterns of the Floating Population in China, 2000-2010.” *Population and Development* 40(4): 695-716.

Li, Zhen and Zai Liang. “Gender and Job Mobility Among Migrants in the Pearl River Delta in China.” *Urban Studies* 53(16): 3455-3471.

Li, Zhen and Zai Liang. 2012. “Job Mobility of Rural Migrants in China’s Urban Labor Market: The Case of the Pearl River Delta Region.” Pp. 3-24 in Zai Liang, Steven F. Messner, Cheng Chen and Youqin Huang (editors). The Emergence of a New Urban China: Insiders’ Perspectives. Lexington Books. (The book was awarded “Outstanding Academic Title” for 2012 from Choice)

Li, Zhen, Linping Liu and Zai Liang. 2012. “Job Mobility of Rural Migrants in China’s Urban Labor Market: An Event History Analysis based on the Pearl River Delta Region.” Pp.3-27 in Daming Zhou, Linping Liu and Zai Liang (editors). The Emergence of a New Urban China: Insiders’ Perspectives. Social Sciences Academic Press (China).

Liang, Zai and **Zhen Li**. 2015. “Event History Analysis.” in Social Statistics with SPSS. China Renmin University Press.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2025- The National Social Science Fund of China. “Residential Mobility and Integration of the Floating Population”. (Role: PI)
- 2018-2024 The National Social Science Fund of China. “Dynamic Differentiation of Temporary Migration and Its Impact on Population Redistribution in China”. (Role: PI)
- 2017-2020 Shanghai Pujiang Scholar. “Spatial Distribution and Socioeconomic Integration of Ethnic Minority Migrants in Shanghai”. (Role: PI)

CONFERENCES

Li, Zhen. “Current Patterns of Inter-Provincial Return Migration and the Relocation of Inter-Provincial Return

Migrants in China: A Study Based on Fixed-Interval Migration Data.” Paper presented at the Urban China Research Network conference. (Nanjing University, June, 2019)

Li, Zhen. “The relationship between initiation of migration and entry into first marriage and its effect on assortative mating patterns of the floating population in China.” Paper presented at the Urban China Research Network conference. (Shanghai University, June, 2017).

Li, Zhen and Zai Liang. Gender Differences in Job Mobility Patterns of Rural-Urban Migrant Workers in the Pearl River Delta of China, 1979—2006. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. (New York, August 2013).

Zai Liang, Jiejun Li, **Zhen Li**, Lin-ping Liu and Qian Song. Understanding the Puzzle of “Shortage of Migrant Labor” in the Pearl River Delta Region in China. Paper presented at the North American Chinese Sociologists Association (Denver, August 2012).

Li, Zhen. Housing and the Psychological Well-being of Rural-to-Urban Migrants in China”, Paper presented (poster) at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (Las Vegas, August 2011).

Li, Zhen. Rural-to-Urban Migrants’ Self-Rated Health in China: An Empirical Evaluation of the Effects of Access to Health Insurance and Work Arrangement. Paper presented (poster) at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America (Washington D.C, April 2011).

Li, Zhen. Job Mobility of Rural Migrants in China’s Urban Labor Market: The Case of the Pearl River Delta Region. Paper presented at the International Conference on Contemporary Urban Research: Social Science Perspectives From China and North America (Albany, N.Y., May, 2010).

Courses

Introduction to Demography

Sociology in Daily Life

Theories in Demography

Academic Writing in English