

# Stanford

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## Yue Ma

Ph.D. Student in Education, admitted Autumn 2024

### Bio

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#### BIO

Yue Ma is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Education Policy at the Stanford Graduate School of Education. His research focuses on evaluating the impacts of early childhood development interventions and school learning improvement programs. Prior to continuing his educational journey, Yue was a Research Scholar with the Rural Education Action Program. Yue received his Ph.D. in Economics from Shaanxi Normal University in 2017. He has extensive experience managing international research projects, including survey design, enumerator training, building local partnerships, and cultural adaptation of proven educational interventions.

### Research & Scholarship

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#### RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Child Development
- Early Childhood
- Economics and Education
- Educational Policy
- Equity in Education
- Gender Issues
- Literacy and Language
- Parents and Family Issues
- Poverty and Inequality
- Social and Emotional Learning
- Technology and Education

### Publications

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#### PUBLICATIONS

- **Education on the cheap and early child development: Evidence from the free compulsory education reform in rural China** *WORLD DEVELOPMENT*  
Zhang, X., Jia, X., Ma, Y.  
2026; 204
- **Who sits next to whom? The role of physical distance in shaping academic achievement in rural China** *CHINA AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC REVIEW*  
Gao, Y., Bai, Y., Ma, Y., Rule, A., Rozelle, S.

2026

- **The impact of vision care program on the mental health of migrant children in Eastern China: evidence from a cluster-randomized controlled trial.** *International journal for equity in health*  
Wang, Y., Li, C., Zhang, H., Ma, Y.  
2026
- **Caregiver mental health is associated with early childhood language outcomes and perception bias in rural China.** *Scientific reports*  
Jiang, Q., Qian, Y., Feng, T., Du, M., Zhang, H., Zhang, E., Dill, S. E., Ma, Y., Rozelle, S.  
2026
- **A decomposition of the Han-minority achievement gap in rural China** *SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY OF EDUCATION*  
Jia, X., Zhang, X., Rule, A., Ma, Y.  
2025; 28 (1)
- **Active vs. passive urbanization: Does urbanization type affect early childhood cognitive and language development? Evidence from peri-urban China** *APPLIED DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCE*  
Ju, Q., Feng, T., Ma, Y., Zhang, X., Zhang, H., Feng, C., Rozelle, S.  
2025
- **The gender gap in early language development among children from peri-urban China** *EARLY CHILDHOOD RESEARCH QUARTERLY*  
Ma, Y., Jia, X., Pappas, L., Guo, Y., Feng, T., Feng, J., Rozelle, S.  
2025; 70: 154-166
- **Constraints to Child Language Development in Peri-Urban and Rural Areas: A Mixed-Methods Analysis From Southwestern China.** *Language, speech, and hearing services in schools*  
Zhang, X., Jia, X., Pang, Z., Guo, J., Feng, T., Rule, A., Rozelle, S., Ma, Y.  
2024: 1-25
- **Does Vision Health Knowledge Matter? A Cross-Sectional Study of Primary School Students in Rural China.** *Risk management and healthcare policy*  
Pang, Z., Jia, X., Zhou, M., Zhang, X., Feng, C., Ma, Y.  
2024; 17: 2881-2892
- **Rural China and the gender gap in early social-emotional development** *CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES REVIEW*  
Li, S., Jia, X., Medina, A., Weber, A. M., Ma, Y.  
2024; 163
- **Isolating the "Tech" from EdTech: Experimental Evidence on Computer-Assisted Learning in China** *ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL CHANGE*  
Ma, Y., Fairlie, R., Loyalka, P., Rozelle, S.  
2024
- **Electronic media exposure, parental language input, and child vocalizations in rural and peri-urban China** *APPLIED DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCE*  
Jia, X., Zhou, M., Pang, Z., Rule, A., Rozelle, S., Ma, Y.  
2024
- **Gap in protective behaviors between Han and minority ethnicities during COVID-19 pandemic in rural western China: A decomposition analysis.** *Preventive medicine reports*  
Ye, R., Wu, Y., Sun, C., Wang, Q., Ma, Y., Chen, Y., Pappas, L., Feng, C., Rozelle, S., Zhou, H.  
2024; 39: 102617
- **Generalizable evidence that computer assisted learning improves student learning: A systematic review of education technology in China** *COMPUTERS AND EDUCATION OPEN*  
Abbey, C., Ma, Y., Akhtar, M., Emmers, D., Fairlie, R., Fu, N., Johnstone, H., Loyalka, P., Rozelle, S., Xue, H., Zhang, X.  
2024; 6
- **Unraveling the Relationship Between Teachers' and Students' Mental Health: A One-to-One Matched Analysis** *JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL EDUCATION*  
Yan, W., Zhang, X., Wang, Y., Peng, K., Ma, Y.

2024

- **Computer Assisted Learning and Academic Performance in Rural Taiwan** *JOURNAL OF RESEARCH ON EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS*  
Ma, Y., Zhang, X., Abbey, C., Hu, D., Lee, O., Hung, W., Chang, C., Wu, C., Friesen, D., Rozelle, S.  
2023
- **Factors of parental investment in the home language environment in peri-urban China: A mixed methods study.** *PLoS one*  
Feng, T., Guo, J., Dill, S. E., Zhang, D., Liu, Y., Ma, Y., Pappas, L., Rozelle, S.  
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- **Associations between urbanization and the home language environment: Evidence from a LENA study in rural and peri-urban China.** *Child development*  
Ma, Y., Zhang, X., Pappas, L., Rule, A., Gao, Y., Dill, S. E., Feng, T., Zhang, Y., Wang, H., Cunha, F., Rozelle, S.  
2023
- **The home language environment and early childhood development: a LENA study from rural and peri-urban China** *APPLIED DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCE*  
Zhang, X., Liu, D., Pappas, L., Dill, S., Feng, T., Zhang, Y., Zhao, J., Rozelle, S., Ma, Y.  
2023
- **The Salience of Information: Evidence from a Health Information Campaign in Rural China** *ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL CHANGE*  
Ma, Y., Sylvia, S., Friesen, D., Overbey, K., Medina, A., Rozelle, S.  
2023
- **Education and EdTech during COVID-19: Evidence from a Large-Scale Survey during School Closures in China (vol 67, pg 53, 2023)** *COMPARATIVE EDUCATION REVIEW*  
Li, G., Liu, D., Zhang, X., Ma, Y., Abbey, C., Fairlie, R.  
2023
- **Variations in the home language environment and early language development in a peri-urban community in China** *EARLY CHILDHOOD RESEARCH QUARTERLY*  
Feng, T., Zhang, X., Zhou, L., Zhang, Y., Pappas, L., Dill, S., Rozelle, S., Ma, Y.  
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- **The home language environment in rural China: variations across family characteristics.** *BMC public health*  
Ma, Y., Jonsson, L., Yao, Z., Zhang, X., Friesen, D., Medina, A., Rozelle, S., Pappas, L.  
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- **Education and EdTech during COVID-19: Evidence from a Large-Scale Survey during School Closures in China** *COMPARATIVE EDUCATION REVIEW*  
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- **How does the family environment affect toddlerhood language and cognitive development? Evidence from peri-urban China** *APPLIED DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCE*  
Ma, Y., Pappas, L., Zhang, X., Feng, T., Eve-Dill, S., Rozelle, S., Weber, A.  
2023
- **Family-level factors of early childhood development: Evidence from rural China.** *Infant behavior & development*  
Ma, Y., Pappas, L., Zhang, X., Feng, T., Su, W. B., Wang, Q., Zeng, Y., Dill, S., Rozelle, S.  
2022; 70: 101787
- **Effect of Eyeglasses on Student Academic Performance: What Matters? Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial in China** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND PUBLIC HEALTH*  
Du, K., Wang, H., Ma, Y., Guan, H., Rozelle, S.  
2022; 19 (17)
- **Academic Performance and the Link with Depressive Symptoms among Rural Han and Minority Chinese Adolescents.** *International journal of environmental research and public health*  
Feng, T., Jia, X., Pappas, L., Zheng, X., Shao, T., Sun, L., Weisberg, C., Li, M. L., Rozelle, S., Ma, Y.

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- **Off the COVID-19 Epicentre: The Impact of Quarantine Controls on Employment, Education and Health in China's Rural Communities** *CHINA QUARTERLY*  
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- **The impact of nonboarding on the development of disadvantaged boarding students in western rural China** *ASIA PACIFIC EDUCATION REVIEW*  
Jia, X., Zhang, X., Jing, J., Zhou, M., Li, H., Friesen, D., Ma, Y.  
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- **The home language environment and early language ability in rural Southwestern China.** *Frontiers in psychology*  
Zhang, X., Ma, Y., Feng, T., Zhang, V., Wu, X., Li, M., Li, Q., Thani, Z., Pappas, L., Dill, S., Rozelle, S.  
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- **Early childhood development and parental training interventions in rural China: a systematic review and meta-analysis.** *BMJ global health*  
Emmers, D., Jiang, Q., Xue, H., Zhang, Y., Zhang, Y., Zhao, Y., Liu, B., Dill, S., Qian, Y., Warrinnier, N., Johnstone, H., Cai, J., Wang, et al  
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- **Health, economic, and social implications of COVID-19 for China's rural population** *AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS*  
Wang, H., Dill, S., Zhou, H., Ma, Y., Xue, H., Sylvia, S., Smith, K., Boswell, M., Medina, A., Loyalka, P., Abby, C., Friesen, D., Rose, et al  
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Wang, H., Dill, S. E., Zhou, H., Ma, Y., Xue, H., Sylvia, S., Smith, K., Boswell, M., Medina, A., Loyalka, P., Abby, C., Friesen, D., Rose, et al  
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- **Variations in the Home Language Environment and Early Language Development in Rural China** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND PUBLIC HEALTH*  
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- **The impact of Internet use on adolescent learning outcomes: evidence from rural China** *CHINA AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC REVIEW*  
Li, L., Ma, Y., Friesen, D., Zhang, Z., Jin, S., Rozelle, S.  
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- **The Impact of Online Computer Assisted Learning at Home for Disadvantaged Children in Taiwan: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment** *SUSTAINABILITY*  
Tang, B., Ting, T., Wu, C., Ma, Y., Mo, D., Hung, W., Rozelle, S.  
2020; 12 (23)
- **Maternal health behaviors during pregnancy in rural Northwestern China.** *BMC pregnancy and childbirth*  
Ma, Y., Gao, Y., Li, J., Sun, A., Wang, B., Zhang, J., Dill, S., Medina, A., Rozelle, S.  
2020; 20 (1): 745
- **Safety of eyeglasses wear for visual acuity among middle school students in northwestern rural China: a cluster-randomised controlled trial.** *BMJ open ophthalmology*  
Ma, Y., Zhang, X., Li, H., Ma, X., Friesen, D., Rozelle, S., Pang, X., Zhou, M., Congdon, N.  
2020; 5 (1): e000572
- **Safety of eyeglasses wear for visual acuity among middle school students in northwestern rural China: a cluster-randomised controlled trial** *BMJ OPEN OPHTHALMOLOGY*  
Ma, Y., Zhang, X., Li, H., Ma, X., Friesen, D., Rozelle, S., Pang, X., Zhou, M., Congdon, N.  
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- **Impact of spectacles wear on uncorrected visual acuity among urban migrant primary school children in China: a cluster-randomised clinical trial.** *The British journal of ophthalmology*  
Zhang, X., Zhou, M., Ma, X., Yi, H., Zhang, H., Wang, X., Jin, L., Naidoo, K., Minto, H., Zou, H., Rozelle, S., Congdon, N., Ma, et al  
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- **Depressive Symptoms and the Link with Academic Performance among Rural Taiwanese Children.** *International journal of environmental research and public health*  
Gao, Y., Hu, D., Peng, E., Abbey, C., Ma, Y., Wu, C., Chang, C., Hung, W., Rozelle, S.  
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Ma, Y. n., Zhang, X. n., He, F. n., Ma, X. n., Yi, H. n., Rose, N. n., Medina, A. n., Rozelle, S. n., Congdon, N. n.  
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- **The Landscape of Early Childhood Development in Rural China** *ASIA-PACIFIC JOURNAL-JAPAN FOCUS*  
Dill, S., Ma, Y., Sun, A., Rozelle, S.  
2019; 17 (16)
- **Teachers' influence on purchase and wear of children's glasses in rural China: The PRICE study** *CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL OPHTHALMOLOGY*  
Wang, X., Ma, Y., Hu, M., Jin, L., Xiao, B., Ni, M., Yi, H., Ma, X., Wang, C., Varga, B., Huang, Y., Rozelle, S., Congdon, et al  
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- **Impact of a Local Vision Care Center on Glasses Ownership and Wearing Behavior in Northwestern Rural China: A Cluster-Randomized Controlled Trial.** *International journal of environmental research and public health*  
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- **Effect of a Local Vision Care Center on Eyeglasses Use and School Performance in Rural China A Cluster Randomized Clinical Trial** *JAMA OPHTHALMOLOGY*  
Ma, Y., Congdon, N., Shi, Y., Hogg, R., Medina, A., Boswell, M., Rozelle, S., Iyer, M.  
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- **Cluster-randomized controlled trial of the effects of free glasses on glasses purchase in China: the PRICE (Potentiating Rural Investment in Children's Eyecare) study**  
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- **Teachers' influence on glasses purchase and wear in China: the PRICE (Potentiating Rural Investment in Children's Eyecare) study**  
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- **Inequities in the allocation of medical resources in China's Township Health Centers** *CHINA AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC REVIEW*  
Ma, Y., Zhang, L., Boswell, M.  
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- **Dropping Out of Rural China's Secondary Schools: A Mixed-methods Analysis** *CHINA QUARTERLY*  
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- **Exploring the dropout rates and causes of dropout in upper-secondary technical and vocational education and training (TVET) schools in China** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT*  
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