Supplementary Table 1. The detailed search strategy for all three databases incl. search terms used for the systematic literature searches

Database	Search Term	Result
PubMed	#1: "self injurious behavior"[MeSH Terms] OR ("self injurious"[All Fields] AND "behavior"[All Fields]) OR "self injurious	89,627
	behavior"[All Fields] OR ("nonsuicidal"[All Fields] AND "self"[All Fields] AND "injury"[All Fields]) OR "nonsuicidal self	
	injury"[All Fields] OR ("self injurious behavior"[MeSH Terms] OR ("self injurious"[All Fields] AND "behavior"[All Fields])	
	OR "self injurious behavior"[All Fields] OR ("non"[All Fields] AND "suicidal"[All Fields] AND "self"[All Fields] AND	
	"injury"[All Fields]) OR "non suicidal self injury"[All Fields]) OR "NSSI"[All Fields]	
	#2: "migrat*"[All Fields] OR "migrant*"[All Fields] OR "emigrat*"[All Fields] OR "immigrat*"[All Fields] OR "transient*"[All	898,005
	Fields] OR ("left"[All Fields] AND "behind"[All Fields])	
	#3: #1 AND #2	1,008
Web of Science	#1: TS=(nonsuicidal self-injury OR non-suicidal self-injury OR NSSI)	4,591
	#2: TS=(migrat* OR migrant* OR emigrat* OR immigrat* OR transient* OR left behind)	2,300,324
	#3: #1 AND #2	45
EMBASE	#1: 'nonsuicidal self-injury' OR (nonsuicidal AND ('self injury'/exp OR 'self injury')) OR 'non-suicidal self-injury'/exp OR 'non-suicidal sel	28,296
	suicidal self-injury' OR ('non suicidal' AND ('self injury'/exp OR 'self injury')) OR nnsi	
	#2: migrat* OR migrant* OR emigrat* OR immigrat* OR transient* OR (left AND behind)	1,224,392
	#3: #1 AND #2	444
Time	October 25, 2024	

Supplementary Table 2. Characteristics of included studies investigating the impact of parental migration on nonsuicidal self-injury

Number	First author,	Study design	No. of LBCAs /NSSI	No. of controls/NSSI	Definition of LBCAs and type of migration;	NSSI
	publication	(period)			participant demographics	Assessment
	year					
1	Huang C, 2022	CS	366/140	412/124	Children whose parents work (ever or currently)	A screening
		(2020-2021)			in other cities; more than half a year;	questionnaire for NSSI
					mean (SD) 12.68y (1.34y); 50.3% male	
2	Li XY, 2020	CS (2018)	610/92	1674/247	Both parents have been away, or one parent has	Youth Risk Behavior
					been out, and the other party does not have the	Surveillance System
					ability to support and monitor; more than 6	(YRBSS) questionnaire
					months; mean (SD) 7-16y; 52.9% male	
3	Ma Y, 2021	CS (2015)	1152/1152*19.3%	1483/1483*15.9%	Father or/and mother migrated to an urban area	The Chinese version of
			(Less frequent NSSI)	(Less frequent NSSI)	for employment and not living with their	the Functional
			702/702*11.8%	1081/1081*11.6%	children; at least half a year	Assessment of Self-
			(More frequent NSSI)	(More frequent NSSI)	mean (SD) 15.1y (1.8y); 51.6% male	mutilation
4	Wang DF,2023	CS (2021)	22855/3292	101502/9467	One or both parents stay away from the place	An investigation
					their children are living for a minimum of 6	questionnaire
					months; mean (SD) 13.23y (1.93y); 54.2% male	

5	Wang F, 2021	CS	1322/181 (S- LBCAs)	1160/132	One parent was currently migrating away for	Composite International
		(2018-2019)	1026/158 (B- LBCAs)		work and no longer lived with their children	Diagnostic Interview
					(SLBC); both father and mother were currently	(CIDI)
					migrating to others places for work (BLBC);	
					more than 6 months mean (SD) 13.0y (1.3y);	
					55.4% male	
6	Wang QQ,	CS (NA)	431/431*33.6%	447/447*31.6%	NA; mean (SD) 11-17y; 47.7% male	The Deliberate Self-
	2020					Harm Inventory
						(DSHI)
7	Xie QW, 2022	CS (2020)	1054/76 (currently	903/43	One or both parents were currently or previously	A self-designed question
			LBCAs for NSSI)	(never LBC for NSSI)	absent; over six months;	
			1054/170 (currently	903/130	mean (SD) 11.93y (1.23y); 50.6% male	
			LBCAs for Pre-NSSI)	(never LBC for Pre-		
			780/45 (Previously	NSSI)		
			LBCAs for NSSI)			
			780/152 (Previously			
			LBCAs for Pre-NSSI)			
8	Yong N, 2023	CS (2020)	6096/282	10770/359	Rural children younger than 18 years who are	The Ottawa Self-Injury
					left at home when one or both parents migrate to	Inventory (OSI)
					the city for work; more than 6 months;	
					mean (SD) 10-18y;52.8% male	

9	Yu L, 2022	CS (2020)	3596/243	5854/300	Children whose parents or one of them had been	The Chinese version of
					working outside the household registration	the Ottawa Self-injury
					place; three months or more;	Inventory (OSI Chinese
					mean (SD) 12-18y; 52.11% male (LBCAs)	version)
10	Wang F, 2024	CS(2020)	1570/498	785/498	NA	a question from the
					grades 5-8; 50.8% male	Composite International
						Diagnostic Interview

LBCAs:left-behind children and adolescents; NSSI: non-suicidal self-injury;CS: cross-sectional survey