

This research study compared children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in China and the Netherlands. The researchers wanted to understand how the age of diagnosis, gender, and other conditions like attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and epilepsy differed between the two countries. They looked at when parents first noticed concerns about their child, how old the children were when they received a formal diagnosis of ASD, and if they had any other medical conditions. The study found that children in China were diagnosed with ASD at a younger age compared to children in the Netherlands. They also discovered that there were more boys diagnosed with autism than girls in both countries, with a higher ratio of boys in China. Additionally, children in China were more likely to have other conditions like ADHD and epilepsy, while children in the Netherlands had more allergies. The researchers suggested that cultural differences and the educational settings in each country may play a role in how autism is identified and diagnosed. These findings can help healthcare professionals and educators better understand and support children with autism in different cultural contexts. By recognizing these differences, they can provide more tailored and effective help for children with ASD in China and the Netherlands.