Parents of children with ASD reported positive impacts on the child from ESM use 11.2% more than those of TD children.

CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD) EXPERIENCE INCREASED POSITIVE PARENT-PERCEIVED IMPACTS DUE TO TECHNOLOGY USE COMPARED TO TYPICALLY DEVELOPING (TD) CHILDREN.

BACKGROUND
Excessive electronic screen media (ESM) use in children is negatively correlated with both physical and mental development, with increased risks of obesity and psychological problems.

OBJECTIVE
To identify the parent-perceived impacts of ESM use on children with ASD and their families.

METHODS & ANALYSIS
A 44-question parent-report survey was used to identify the social, environmental, and behavioural factors of ESM use for children, as well as its perceived impacts. Multinomial ordinary logistic regression and statistical analyses were performed using R.

RESULTS
Parents of children with ASD had a significantly higher likelihood of reporting both a positive impact on the child and on the family compared to parents of TD children.

CONCLUSION
Although children with ASD are reported to have higher screen time exposure, they associate ESM use with a more positive experience and greater impacts compared to TD children.

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RELEVANCE TO CLIENTS & FAMILIES
Parents and individuals or clinicians involved in supporting children with ASD can further implement ESM into their delivery of support.