

Data for this graph was sourced from the Nevada Department of Education, School Climate Surveys 2021-2022. Survey reports for district and schools can be found at: https://nevadaschoolclimate.org/Reports

What These Results Mean

Social and emotional learning (SEL) refers to the process through which children and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to manage emotions; set and achieve positive goals; feel and exhibit empathy for others; maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. SEL is fundamental not only to children's social and emotional development but also to their health, ethical development, citizenship, motivation to achieve, and academic learning.

The social and emotional competence composite score measures students' perceptions of their own skills in the areas of self-awareness, social awareness, self-management, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. **Developing students' SEL skills improves their grades, attendance, behavior, and attitudes toward school.** Many risky behaviors (e.g., drug use, violence) can be prevented when schools strive to develop students' social and emotional skills through effective SEL instruction and student engagement with positive activities. Students with good social and emotional skills are less likely to drop out of school.

In schools where social and emotional competence scores are high, students report that social and emotional skills are very easy for them to employ. For example, students may report that they have little difficulty recognizing their own emotions, learning from others with different opinions, or finishing challenging tasks. Students also may report that they have an easy time calming themselves and showing empathy.

Source: The Nevada Department of Education, "The Nevada School Climate / Social Emotional Learning Survey," 2021-2022. https://nevadaschoolclimate.org/Reports