

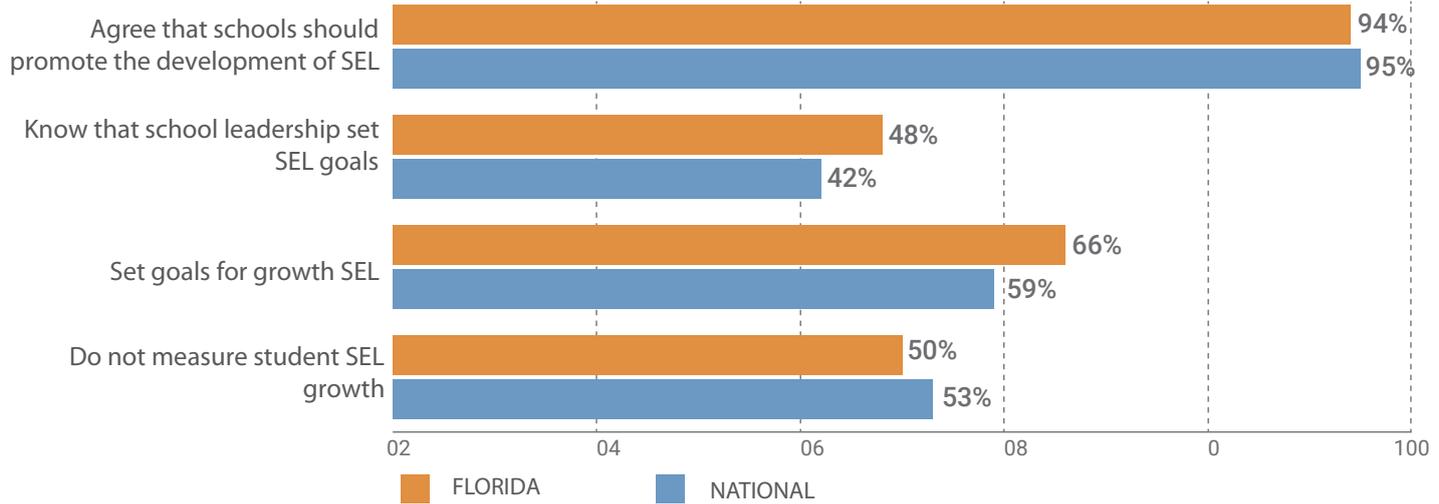


Florida Measure to Learn and Improve Study Social Emotional Learning

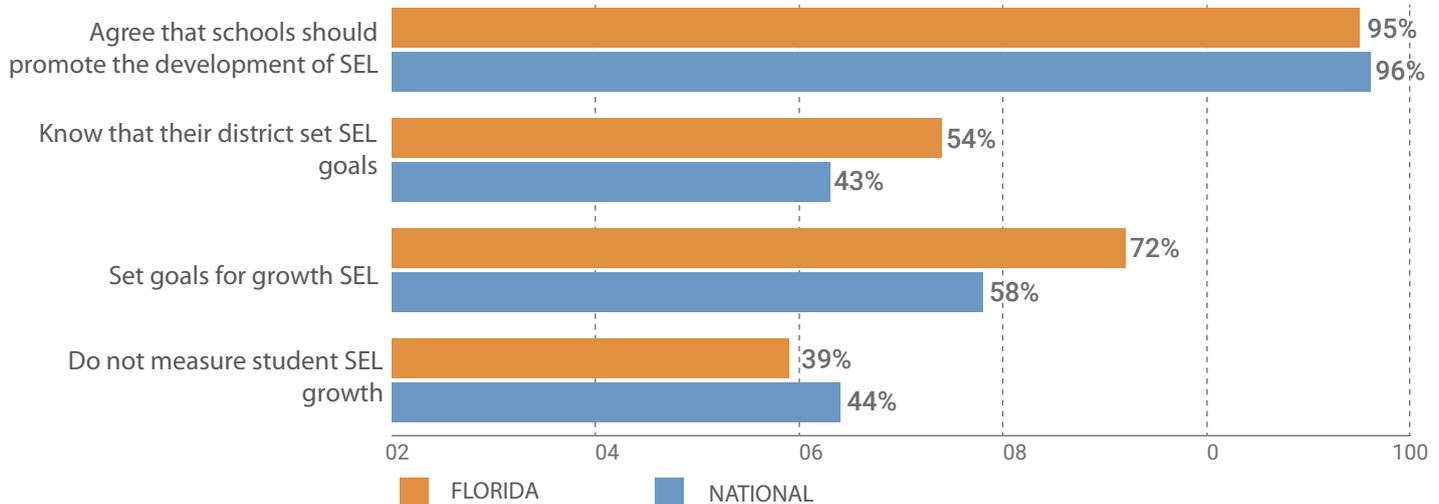
Social and emotional learning (SEL) programs have shown immediate improvements in mental health, social skills, and academic achievement, and continue to benefit students for months and even years to come. SEL is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. -CASEL, the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (2017)

Key Findings

Teacher responses regarding Social Emotional Learning (SEL) goals, in percentage:



School leader responses regarding Social Emotional Learning (SEL) goals, in percentage:





Summary and Implications

An overwhelming majority of teachers and school leaders believe social emotional learning plays a critical role in a student's overall success and plan and implement strategies to achieve growth in this area. However, there is a discrepancy in awareness at each level of whether goals have been set by teachers, school leaders, and the district to promote SEL growth.

In addition, a significant percentage of both teachers (50%) and school leaders (39%) indicated that they do not measure social emotional learning growth in their classrooms or schools. While many teachers and leaders set goals for SEL growth, the majority do not measure progress. This may be due to a lack of access to appropriate measurement tools and strategies to assess SEL growth.



Recommendations

-  Further analyze the impact of social emotional learning on students.
-  Teachers, school leaders, and districts should clearly communicate goals for SEL growth within and across schools.
-  Develop appropriate measurement tool(s) to be used by teachers and/or school leaders to assess the impact that strategies have on SEL growth.

Project Background

The University of Florida Lastinger Center is a national leader in researching, developing, implementing, and scaling innovative solutions that transform teacher practice and student learning. In partnership with the Florida Department of Education, the Lastinger Center has developed a series of briefs that summarizes data collected by the RAND Corporation's American Teacher Panel (ATP) and American School Leader Panel (ASLP) on critical topics in education from teachers' and school leaders' perspectives. Data were collected through the Measure to Learn and Improve (MLI) study, conducted with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The MLI focuses on teacher and administrator perceptions of state standards and related instructional materials, professional development opportunities, teacher evaluation systems, and personalized and digital learning opportunities available for students.

Questions for Consideration

-  What is the impact of social emotional learning on students, families and community members?
-  Without systematic measurement of social emotional learning at the class and school levels, what evidence do they have of growth and impact of the strategies currently being implemented by teachers and school leaders?