The American Library Association tracked 1,269 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2022. Of the 2,571 unique titles that were challenged or banned in 2022, here are the top 13 most challenged.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>REASONS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>GENDER QUEER</td>
<td>Maia Kobabe</td>
<td>LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ALL BOYS AREN’T BLUE</td>
<td>George M. Johnson</td>
<td>LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>THE BLUEST EYE</td>
<td>Toni Morrison</td>
<td>rape, incest, claimed to be sexually explicit, EDI content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>FLAMER</td>
<td>Mike Curato</td>
<td>LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>LOOKING FOR ALASKA</td>
<td>John Green</td>
<td>claimed to be sexually explicit, LGBTQIA+ content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>THE ABSOLUTELY OUT OF A COURT OF CRANK ME AND EARL THIS BOOK TRUE DIARY OF DARKNESS MIST AND FURY</td>
<td>Ellen Hopkins</td>
<td>claimed to be sexually explicit, LGBTQIA+ content, rape, drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>LAWN BOY</td>
<td>Jonathan Evison</td>
<td>LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>OUT OF DARKNESS</td>
<td>Sherman Alexie</td>
<td>claimed to be sexually explicit, profanity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>A COURT OF MIST AND FURY</td>
<td>Sarah J. Maas</td>
<td>claimed to be sexually explicit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>CRANK</td>
<td>Ellen Hopkins</td>
<td>claimed to be sexually explicit, drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ME AND EARL AND THE DYING GIRL</td>
<td>Jesse Andrews</td>
<td>claimed to be sexually explicit, profanity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>THIS BOOK IS GAY</td>
<td>Juno Dawson</td>
<td>LGBTQIA+ content, sex education, claimed to be sexually explicit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association
CENSORSHIP

BY THE NUMBERS

In 2022, the American Library Association tracked the highest number of attempted book bans since ALA began compiling data about censorship in libraries more than 20 years ago; 2,571 unique titles were challenged last year, up from 1,858 in 2021. Learn more at ala.org/bbooks

WHO INITIATES CHALLENGES?

- **30%** Parents
- **28%** Patrons
- **17%** Political/religious groups
- **15%** Board/administration
- **3%** Librarians/teachers
- **3%** Elected officials
- **4%** Other
  (Includes non-custodial relatives, nonresidents, community members without library cards, etc.)

WHERE DO CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE?

- **48%** Public libraries
- **41%** School libraries
- **10%** Schools
- **1%** Higher education libraries and other institutions

Books and Beyond

ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom tracked 1,269 challenges in 2022. Here’s the breakdown:

- **82%** Books, graphic novels, and textbooks
- **6%** Displays and exhibits
- **4%** Programs and meeting rooms
- **1%** Films
- **7%** Other
  (Includes filtering, access, databases, magazines, online resources, artwork, social media, music, pamphlets, student publications, and reading lists)

CENSORSHIP ON THE RISE

The unparalleled number of reported book challenges in 2022 nearly doubled the number reported in 2021. The number of unique titles targeted marked a 38% increase over 2021.

CENSORSHIP STATISTICS COMPILED BY:

Office for Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association