

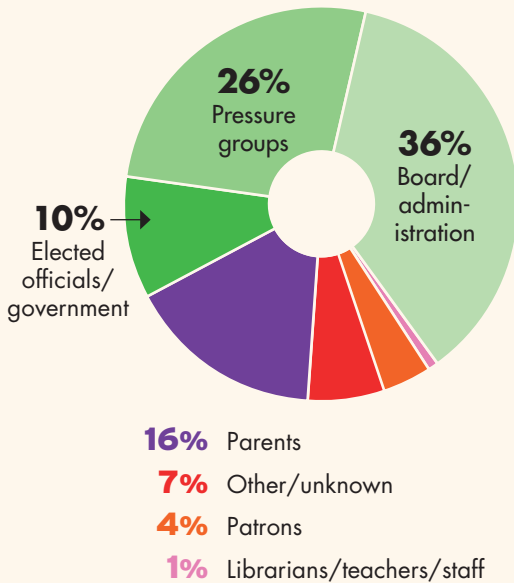
CENSORSHIP BY THE NUMBERS



The American Library Association documented another year in an unabating deluge of efforts to censor library materials in 2024, continuing an extremist campaign to suppress access to books that began in 2021. Last year, **2,452 unique titles** were challenged, the third highest number ever documented by ALA and significantly exceeding the annual average of 273 unique titles over the period from 2001–2020. [Learn more at ala.org/bbooks](https://ala.org/bbooks)

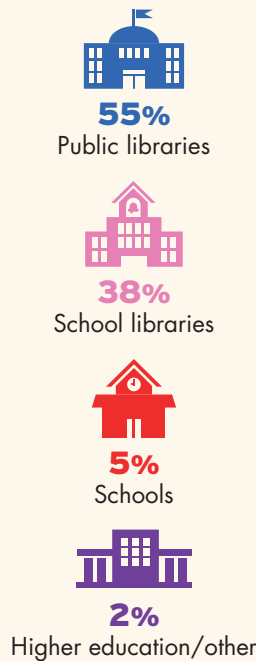
WHO CHALLENGES BOOKS?

Nearly **72% of censorship attempts** in 2024 were initiated by pressure groups and decision makers who have been swayed by them.



Statistics based on 5,813 book challenges.

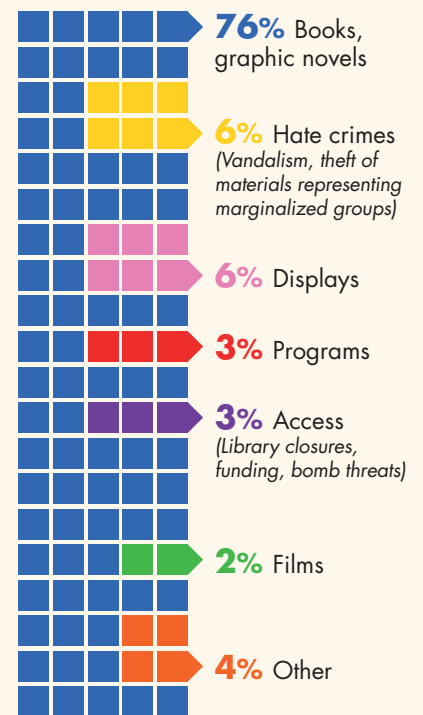
WHERE DO CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE?



Statistics based on 804 cases with known locations.

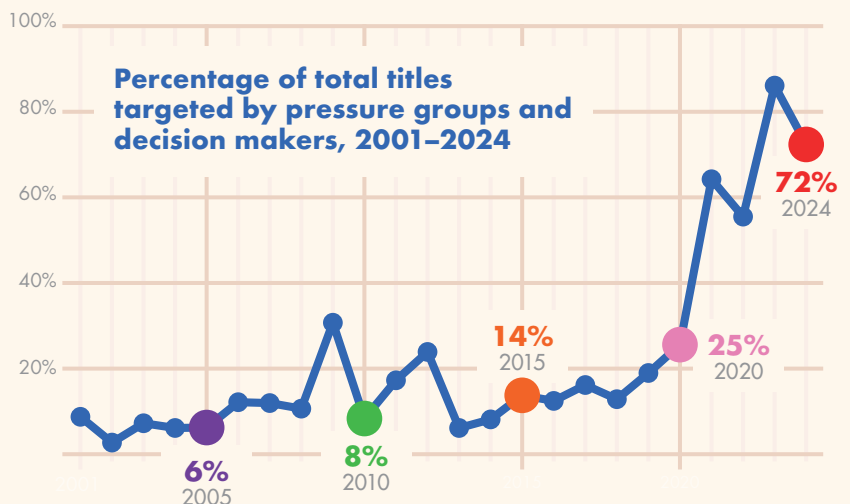
BOOKS AND BEYOND

ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom tracked **821 censorship attempts** in 2024. Here's the breakdown:



CENSORSHIP TRENDS

The majority of library censorship can be tied to organized campaigns. Pressure groups and the administrators, board members, and elected officials they influenced targeted 4,190 total titles in 2024. From 2001–2020, this constituency attempted to remove an average of 46 titles per year.



CENSORSHIP STATISTICS COMPILED BY:

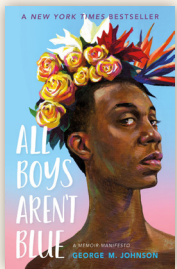


OFFICE FOR Intellectual Freedom American Library Association

TOP 10 MOST CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2024

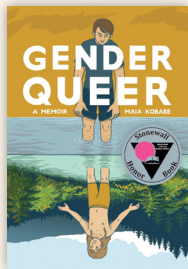
The American Library Association documented **821 attempts to censor** materials and services at libraries, schools, and universities in 2024. The most common reasons for challenges were false claims of illegal obscenity for minors; inclusion of LGBTQIA+ characters or themes; and dealing with topics of race, racism, inclusivity, equity, and social justice. Of the **2,452 unique titles** that were challenged or banned in 2024, here are the top 10 most frequently targeted.

1



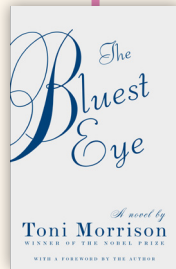
ALL BOYS AREN'T BLUE: A MEMOIR-MANIFESTO
by George M. Johnson
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/allboysBR

2

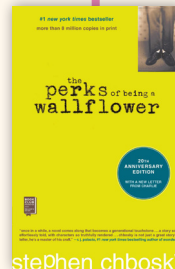


GENDER QUEER: A MEMOIR
by Maia Kobabe
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/genderBR

3/4

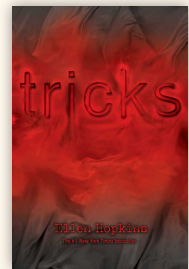


THE BLUEST EYE
by Toni Morrison
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/bluestBR



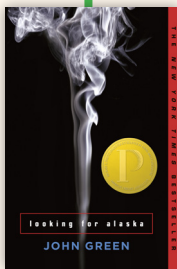
THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER
by Stephen Chbosky
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/wallflowerBR

5

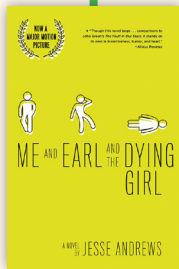


TRICKS
by Ellen Hopkins
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/tricksBR

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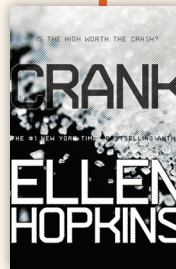


LOOKING FOR ALASKA
by John Green
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/alaskaBR

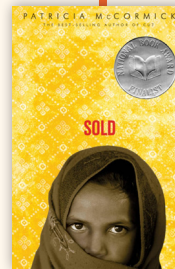


ME AND EARL AND THE DYING GIRL
by Jesse Andrews
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/earlBR

8/9



CRANK
by Ellen Hopkins
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/crankBR



SOLD
by Patricia McCormick
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/soldBR

10



FLAMER
by Mike Curato
Why this book matters:
bit.ly/flamerBR



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association

ALA.ORG/BBOOKS