

TDP 13

MOST CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2022

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.



1

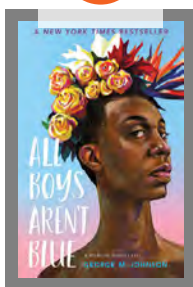


GENDER QUEER

by Maia Kobabe

REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

2

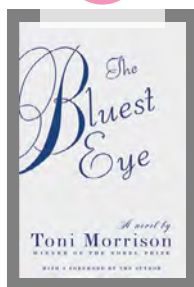


ALL BOYS AREN'T BLUE

by George M. Johnson

REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

3

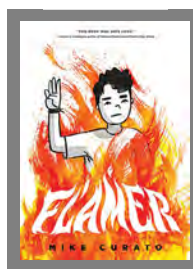


THE BLUEST EYE

by Toni Morrison

REASONS: rape, incest, claimed to be sexually explicit, EDI content

4

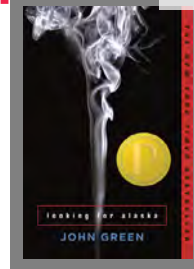


FLAMER

by Mike Curato

REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

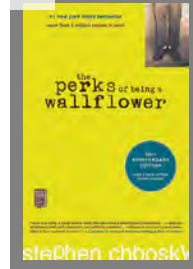
5



LOOKING FOR ALASKA

by John Green

REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, LGBTQIA+ content

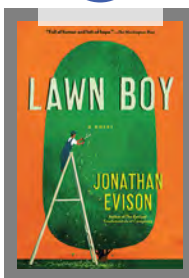


THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER

by Stephen Chbosky

REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, LGBTQIA+ content, rape, drugs, profanity

7

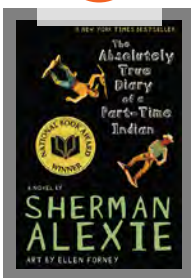


LAWN BOY

by Jonathan Evison

REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

8



THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART-TIME INDIAN

by Sherman Alexie

REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, profanity

9

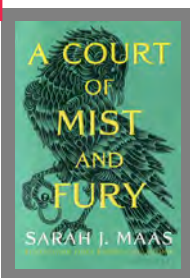


OUT OF DARKNESS

by Ashley Hope Perez

REASON: claimed to be sexually explicit

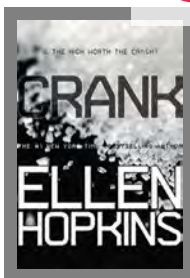
10



A COURT OF MIST AND FURY

by Sarah J. Maas

REASON: claimed to be sexually explicit



CRANK

by Ellen Hopkins

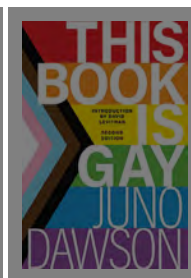
REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, drugs



ME AND EARL AND THE DYING GIRL

by Jesse Andrews

REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, profanity



THIS BOOK IS GAY

by Juno Dawson

REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, sex education, claimed to be sexually explicit



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association

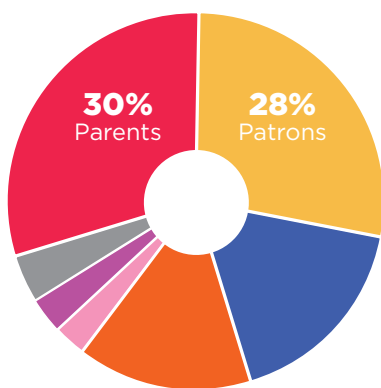
CENSORSHIP

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](https://ala.org/bbooks)



WHO INITIATES CHALLENGES?



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.)

Statistics based on 1,207 cases with known initiators.

WHERE DO CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE?



48%
Public libraries



41%
School libraries



10%
Schools

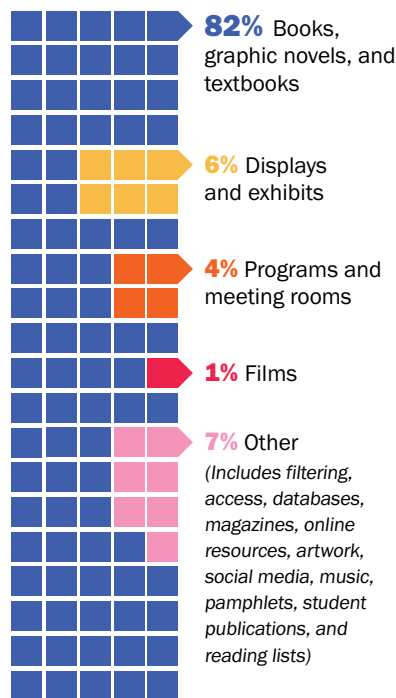


1%
Higher education libraries and other institutions

Statistics based on 1,264 cases with known locations.

BOOKS AND BEYOND

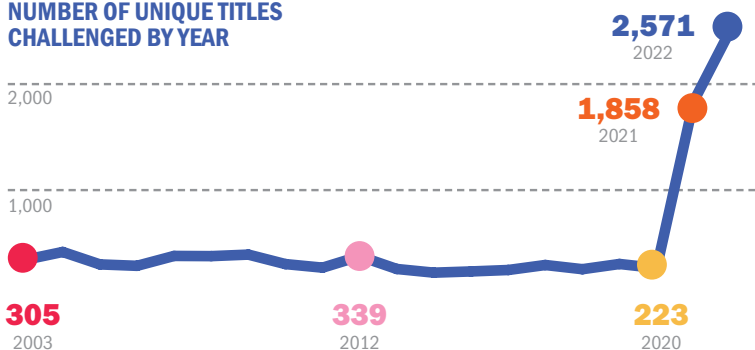
ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom tracked **1,269 challenges** in 2022. Here's the breakdown:



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.

NUMBER OF UNIQUE TITLES CHALLENGED BY YEAR



CENSORSHIP
STATISTICS
COMPILED BY:



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association