

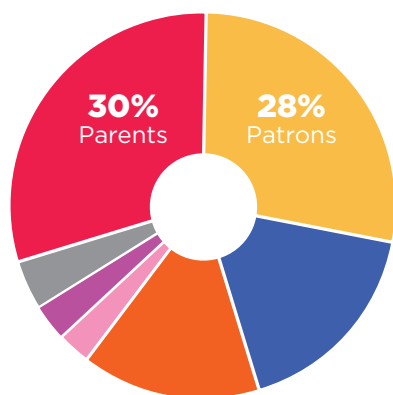
# CENSORSHIP

## 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://www.ala.org/bbooks)



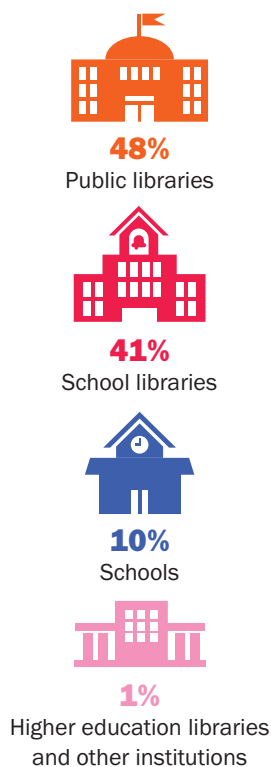
### WHO INITIATES CHALLENGES?



- 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.

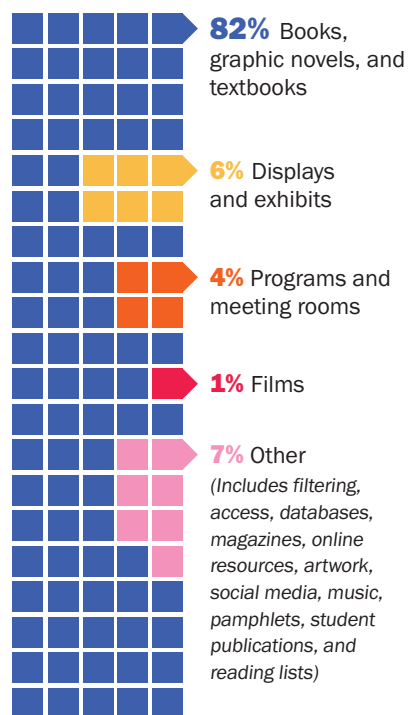
### WHERE DO CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE?



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:

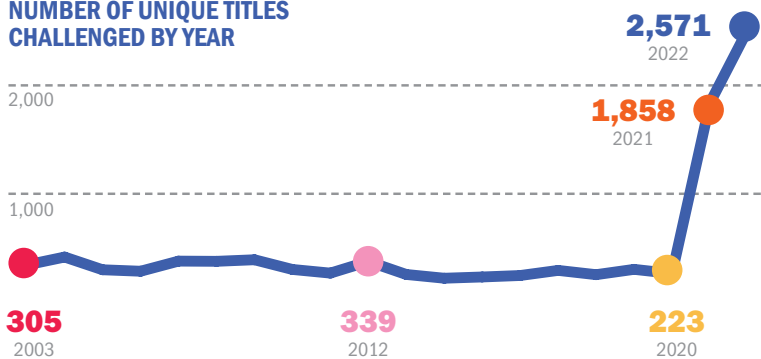


### CENSORSHIP ON THE RISE

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.

CENSORSHIP STATISTICS COMPILED BY: OFFICE FOR Intellectual Freedom American Library Association

### NUMBER OF UNIQUE TITLES CHALLENGED BY YEAR



# 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

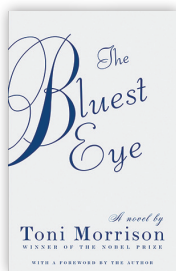


### ALL BOYS AREN'T BLUE

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

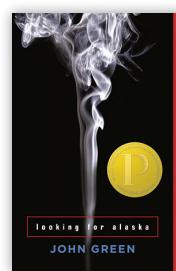


### FLAMER

by Mike Curato

**REASONS:** LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

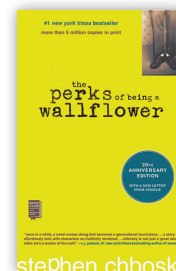
5



### LOOKING FOR ALASKA

by John Green

**REASONS:** claimed to be sexually explicit, LGBTQIA+ content

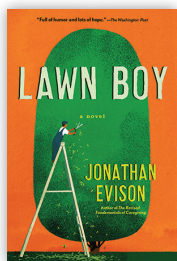


### THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER

by Stephen Chbosky

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

7

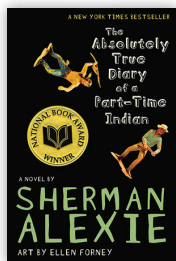


### LAWN BOY

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

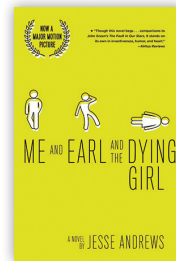
**REASON:** claimed to be sexually explicit



### CRANK

by Ellen Hopkins

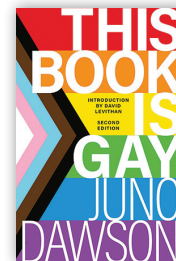
**REASONS:** claimed to be sexually explicit, drugs



### 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