

## ALA Releases *State of America's Libraries 2025* Report

Report looks at censorship attempts, artificial intelligence, and sustainability in US libraries

April 8, 2025

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On April 7, ALA released its *State of America's Libraries 2025* report, an annual snapshot of library trends, as part of National Library Week taking place April 6–12. As in recent years, the 2025 report documented censorship in libraries from the previous year. In 2024, ALA recorded 821 attempts to censor library books and other materials across all library types. This is a decrease from the 1,247 attempts that were recorded in 2023 but still the third-highest number since ALA began tracking library censorship in 1990.



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**O**n April 7, the American Library Association (ALA) released its *State of America's Libraries 2025*

<https://www.ala.org/news/2025/04/american-library-association-kicks-national-library-week-top-10-most-challenged-books>) report, an annual snapshot of library trends. The [report](https://www.ala.org/sites/default/files/2025-04/state-of-americas-libraries-report-2025-WEB.pdf) (<https://www.ala.org/sites/default/files/2025-04/state-of-americas-libraries-report-2025-WEB.pdf>) is published during [National Library Week](#)

<https://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek>), this year taking place April 6–12.

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(<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com/>).

The book bans and challenges at public, school, and university libraries documented by ALA in 2024 involved 2,452 unique titles. Here are the 10 most-frequently challenged books:

1. ***All Boys Aren't Blue: A Memoir-Manifesto***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/all-boys-arent-blue-a-memoir-manifesto-by-george-m-johnson/>) by George M. Johnson
2. ***Gender Queer: A Memoir***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/gender-queer-a-memoir/>) by Maia Kobabe
3. (tie) ***The Bluest Eye***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/the-bluest-eye/>) by Toni Morrison
4. ***The Perks of Being a Wallflower***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/the-perks-of-being-a-wallflower/>) by Stephen Chbosky
5. ***Tricks***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/tricks/>) by Ellen Hopkins
6. (tie) ***Looking for Alaska***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/looking-for-alaska-by-john-green-fiction-young-adult/>) by John Green
7. ***Me and Earl and the Dying Girl***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/me-and-earl-and-the-dying-girl/>) by Jesse Andrews
8. (tie) ***Crank***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/crank/>) by Ellen Hopkins
9. ***Sold*** (<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/sold-2/>)  
by Patricia McCormick
10. ***Flamer***  
(<https://bookresumes.uniteagainstbookbans.org/flamer/>) by Mike Curato

According to the report, the most common reasons for book challenges were false claims of illegal obscenity for minors; inclusion of LGBTQIA+ characters or themes; and inclusion of topics on race, racism, equity, and social justice.

In 2024, organized groups—including pressure groups, board members, administrators, and elected officials—initiated nearly 72% of censorship attempts. That number is up from 2023, when organized campaigns were tied to 35% censorship attempts.

ALA also announced that the theme for Banned Books Week 2025 is “Censorship Is So 1984,” invoking the dystopian novel *1984* by George Orwell. The book is a cautionary tale about the dangers of censorship. This year, [Banned Books Week](#) (<https://bannedbooksweek.org/>) will take place October 5–11.

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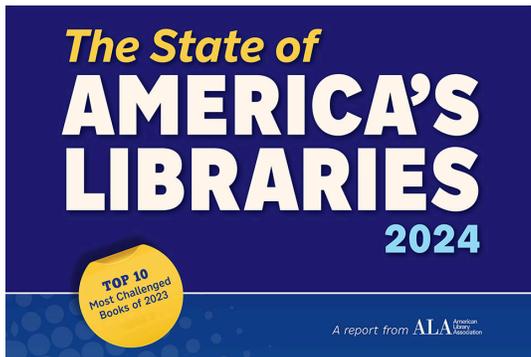
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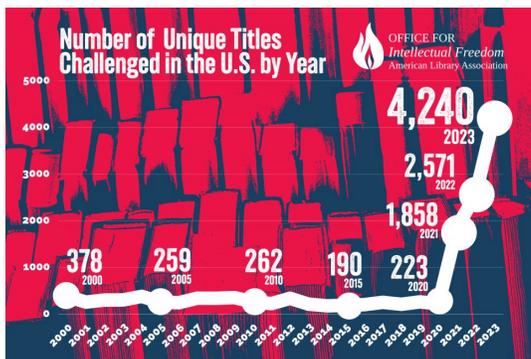


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Number of books targeted surpasses last year's high

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