

1,145 BOOKS

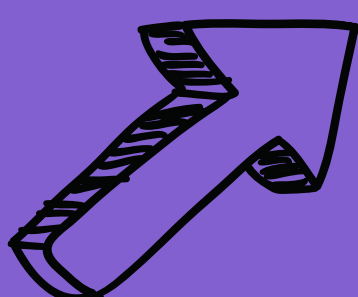


BANNED

FROM PUBLIC LIBRARIES, K-12 SCHOOLS, HIGHER ED

2,889 SCHOOLS

The PEN America Index of Banned Books lists "1,145 book bans that have occurred in 86 school districts in 26 states between July 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022. These districts represent 2,899 schools with a combined enrollment of over 2 million students."



467% RISE IN 2021

"156 challenges to curriculum in 2019 to 729 in 2021, represents a 467% rise in challenges to library, school and university materials."

41% PEOPLE OF COLOR

"Fiction and non-fiction books with protagonists of color also made up a significant part of banned books in the Index, including 467 titles (41%)."



379 LGBTQ+ TITLES

"Titles that deal explicitly with LGBTQ+ topics, or have LGBTQ+ protagonists or prominent secondary characters have been a major target in the current wave of book bans. This is reflected in the Index, with 379 such titles (33%), including a distinct subset of 84 titles that deal with transgender characters and topics (7%)."

22% ADDRESS RACE, RACISM, & SOCIAL JUSTICE

"The Index identified 247 titles (22%) that address subjects related to race and racism, including fiction and non-fiction titles that primarily address racism in the United States."

184 HISTORICAL TITLES

"The Index also includes 184 titles (16%) that cover historical topics or figures, and of those, 111 feature individuals or narratives centered on protagonists of color (10%). This includes 42 children's picture books, including biographies of Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., Ruby Bridges, Duke Ellington, Katherine Johnson, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Cesar Chavez, Sonia Sotomayor, Nelson Mandela, and Malala Yousafzai."

