Michigan Library Association Statewide Survey on Book Banning and Other Issues

Executive Summary
and
Demographic Analysis

Report - Draft 1
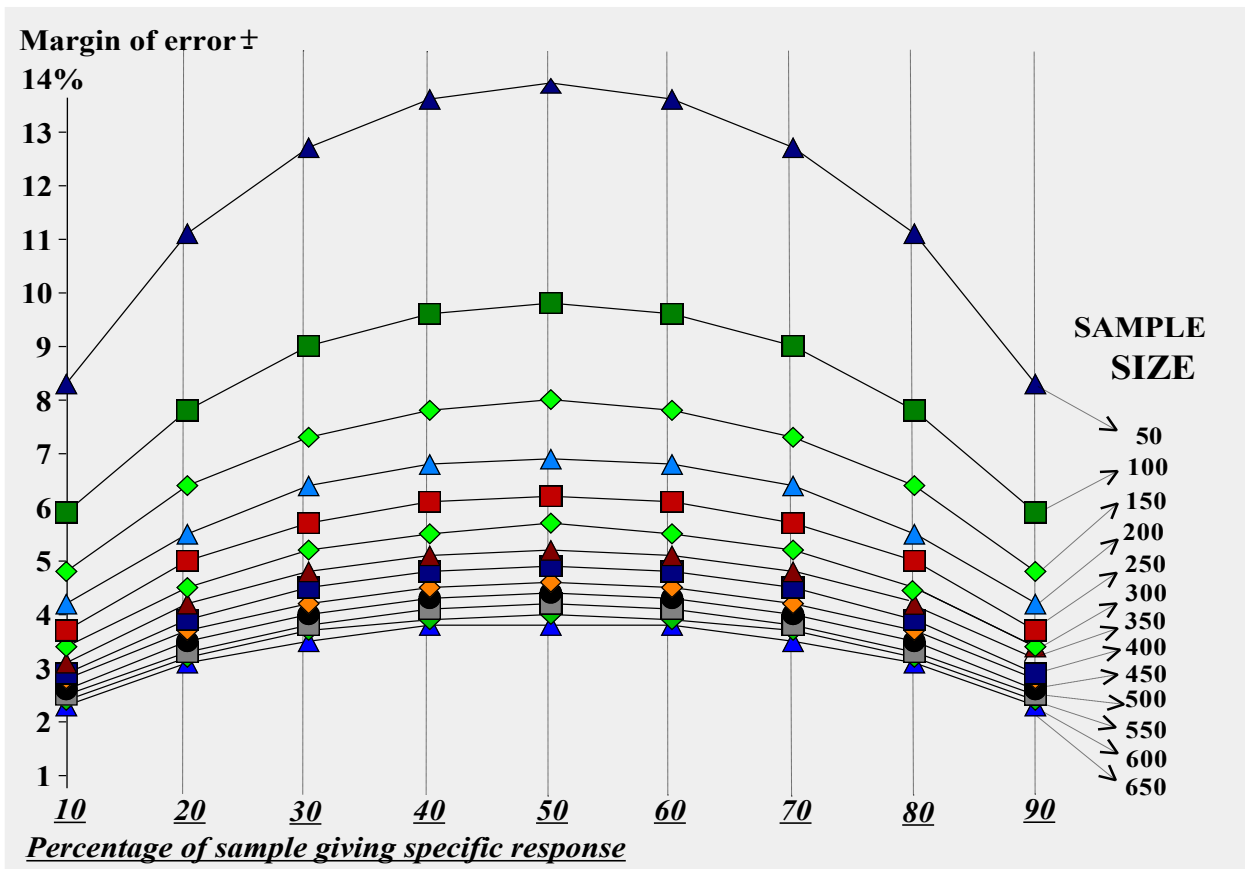
June 2025

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METHODOLOGY

EPIC ▪ MRA administered live telephone interviews with 800 likely November 2026 general election voters, including an oversample of 46 interviews to make sure that each of the 11 Library Regions in Michigan were represented by *at least* 40 respondents each. The interviews were conducted using live operator telephone interviewers, with 80 percent of all interviews conducted via cell phone. The interviews were conducted from June 6, 2025, through June 15, 2025. Respondents were included in the sample if they confirmed that they voted in the November general elections of 2024, 2022, both, or were too young or not registered at those times, and said that they are very certain to vote, somewhat certain, will likely vote, have a 50-50 chance of voting in November 2026.

Respondents for the interviews were randomly selected from records of registered voter households that exhibit participation in November general elections and have commercially available landline or cell phone telephone numbers. The sample was stratified so that every geographic area of the state was represented in the sample according to its contribution to the average of voter participation in prior November general elections for Governor in Michigan.

Generally, in interpreting survey results, all surveys are subject to error; that is, the results of the survey may differ from what would have been obtained if the entire population was interviewed. Sampling error depends on the total number of respondents asked a specific question. The table on the next page represents the sampling error for different percentage distributions of responses based on sample sizes.

For example, when all survey respondents were asked whether things in Michigan are generally headed in the right direction, or have things pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track (Q.3), a bare 50 percent majority of all 800 respondents said things in Michigan are headed in the right direction. As indicated in the chart that follows, this percentage would have a sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 points; meaning that with repeated sampling, it is very likely (95 out of every 100 times), that the percentage for the entire population would fall between 46.5 percent and 53.5 percent, hence 50 percent ±3.5 points.

EPIC ▪ MRA **SAMPLING ERROR BY PERCENTAGE (AT 95 IN 100 CONFIDENCE LEVEL)**

Percentage of sample giving specific response

	_10_	_20_	_30_	_40_	_50_	_60_	_70_	_80_	_90_
SAMPLE SIZE				% Margin of error ±					
800	2.1	2.9	3.1	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.1	2.9	2.1
700	2.2	3.0	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.2
650	2.3	3.1	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.1	2.3
600	2.4	3.2	3.7	3.9	4	3.9	3.7	3.2	2.4
550	2.5	3.3	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.3	2.5
500	2.6	3.5	4	4.3	4.4	4.3	4	3.5	2.6
450	2.8	3.7	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.2	3.7	2.8
400	2.9	3.9	4.5	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.5	3.9	2.9
350	3.1	4.2	4.8	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.8	4.2	3.1
300	3.4	4.5	5.2	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.2	4.5	3.4
250	3.7	5	5.7	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.7	5	3.7
200	4.2	5.5	6.4	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.4	5.5	4.2
150	4.8	6.4	7.3	7.8	8	7.8	7.3	6.4	4.8
100	5.9	7.8	9	9.6	9.8	9.6	9	7.8	5.9
50	8.3	11.1	12.7	13.6	13.9	13.6	12.7	11.1	8.3

Margin of error ±

14%

SAMPLE SIZE

50
100
150
200
250
300
350
400
450
500
550
600
650

Percentage of sample giving specific response

2

KEY FINDINGS

- A 50% bare majority of respondents said Michigan is headed in the "right direction," 31% said Michigan is "off on the wrong track," and 19% were "undecided."

- A 54% majority of respondents had an "unfavorable" opinion of Donald Trump (47% very unfavorable), 38% had a "favorable" opinion of Trump (23% very favorable), with 8% "undecided."

- A 59% majority of respondents had a "favorable" opinion of Gretchen Whitmer (34% very favorable), 33% had a "unfavorable" opinion of Whitmer (22% very unfavorable), with 8% "undecided."

- A 41% plurality of respondents did not recognize Dana Nessel, 25% had a "favorable" opinion of Nessel (12% very favorable), 17% had an "unfavorable" opinion of Nessel (11% very unfavorable), with 17% "undecided."

- A 38% plurality of respondents had an "unfavorable" opinion of State legislative Republicans (23% very unfavorable), 30% had a "favorable" opinion of Republicans (9% very favorable), with 29% "undecided."

- A 41% plurality of respondents had a "favorable" opinion of community activist groups in general (12% very favorable), 21% had an "unfavorable" opinion of community activists groups (9% very unfavorable), 5% did not recognize them, with a large 33% "undecided."

- A 40% plurality of respondents had a "favorable" opinion of State legislative Democrats (13% very favorable), 32% had an "unfavorable" opinion of Democrats (16% very unfavorable), with 26% "undecided."

- A 61% solid majority of respondents gave Donald Trump a "negative" rating for the job he is doing as President (48% poor), 36% gave Trump a "positive" job rating (16% excellent), with 3% "undecided."

- A 56 percent majority of respondents gave Gretchen Whitmer a "positive" rating for the job she is doing as Governor (20% excellent), 42% gave her a "negative" job rating (20% poor), with 2% "undecided."

- A 79% solid majority of respondents gave local public libraries in Michigan – including "your local public library" – a positive rating for the job they are doing providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials to their library patrons (39% excellent), with only 8% giving libraries a negative rating (2% poor), and 13% "undecided." This rating is up from 71% in 2023.

- Top reasons cited by the 8% of respondents offering a negative rating for the job libraries do include: "too liberal/transgender books/readers" (17%); "book selection limited" (15%); "lack of outreach/information/awareness" (13%); "do not use it/use the internet" (10%); "lack of adequate funding" (8%); "programs/events are limited" (8%); and other/less than 1% each" (8%).

- A 42% plurality of households uses the programs and services of their local public library "every day or almost every day" (4%); "a few times a week" (11%); or a "few times a month" (27%); with 40% using the library "a few times a year" (24%) or "seldom" (16%); and 17% "never" using their local public library."

- The top main reasons respondents said they visit their local public library were "to check out books" (68%); "to attend programs provided by the library" (14%); "to access the Internet" (6%); "to check out materials other than books" (4%); "to access social services/other community resources" (3%); and "quiet space for reading/study" (2%).

- A 75% majority of respondents said librarians are very capable (45%) or mostly capable (30%) and trustworthy to decide which books and reading materials should be included in your local library collections. Another 12% said librarians are only a little capable (8%) or not really capable at all (4%) in deciding what books and reading materials should comprise the collection, with 13% undecided. This is up from 70% in 2023.

- A 50% bare majority of respondents agreed that "there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries" (up from 42% in 2023), 39% said "there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries" (down from 45%), with 8% saying "there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries" (down from 9%).

- 84% of respondents support (72% strongly) current policy of dividing materials into age-appropriate sections of the library, with 12% opposing it and 4% undecided.

- 91% of respondents said, "descriptions and depictions of slavery," "discussions about race," and "criticisms of people and events in U.S. history" should never be banned.

- 88% of respondents said "political ideas you disagree with" should never be banned.

- 68% of respondents said that "books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation" should never be banned, with 18% saying they should sometimes be banned and 11% saying they should always be banned.

- 85% of respondents opposed (80% strongly) legislation proposed in some states to hold librarians criminally liable for what some people deem to be objectionable books or materials contained in library collections.

- 66% of respondents said boards that govern the operation of local public libraries should be non-partisan, with 27% saying it really doesn't matter if library boards are aligned with partisan political parties.

- When asked where children and teenagers are able to get materials that are objectionable, 57% of respondents said "the Internet," and 25% said "social media."

- 82% of respondents said they agree the most that "we need to protect the ability of young people to have access to books from which they can learn about and understand different perspectives and help them grow into adults who can think for themselves," while only 15% agreed that "we need to protect young people from books that they might find upsetting or that reflect ideologies and lifestyles that are outside of the mainstream." This is up from 75% in 2023.

- 85% of respondents said they agree the most that "individual parents can set rules for their own children, but they do not have the right to decide for other parents what books are available to their children," with 13% agreeing that "parents have a right NOT to have their children exposed to objectional books at the library and should be able to join with other parents to have those books removed from the library." This is up from 80% in 2023.

- 77% of respondents agree more with the statement that "books that contain sexual content or discuss issues like gender identity and sexual orientation are tools for understanding complex issues, and young people should have access to them, but at an age-appropriate level, while 21% percent agrees that "books that contain sexual content or discuss issues like gender identity and sexual orientation should NOT be in local public libraries where young people can access them against their parents' wishes." This is up from 74% in 2023.

- 73% of respondents agreed that "book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy," with 24% agreeing that "books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries." This is up from 71% in 2023.

- If elected officials supported legislation that would allow or require books to be banned from your local public library, 63% of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for that person in the next election (46% much less likely), 28% said it would not influence them, and only 5% said they would be more likely to vote for their elected official.

- 78% of respondents said that IMLS funding from the federal government should remain as part of the federal budget, while 15% said it should NOT remain as part of the federal budget, with 7% undecided.

- If federal funding for libraries is no longer part of the federal budget, 82% of respondents said it is important for state government to replace funding lost for libraries (40% said it is critically important and 42% said it is very important).

- When all respondents were asked if they consider themselves part of the LGBTQ community, 10% said yes, 87% said no and 3% were undecided. In 2023, 7% said yes.

As was the case in the survey conducted in 2023, groups and organizations that favor banning books in Michigan are clearly going against the grain of public opinion that opposes book banning, with an overwhelming 79% majority of respondents offering a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs and services, and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for library patrons (up from 71% in 2023).

Just about every question asked in the 2023 survey that was repeated in 2025 showed improvement in the results, which can clearly be attributed to the successful efforts by the Michigan Library Association and their supporters to communicate with Michigan voters about how wrong-minded book banning efforts are in the state, as well as initiatives that seek to control the activities of local public libraries, and the boards that provide direction for them.

A 50% bare majority of respondents said that things in Michigan are generally headed in the right direction, 31% said things have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track with 19% undecided. In the 2023 survey, 46% said Michigan was headed in the right direction, 37% said things were seriously off on the wrong track, with 17% undecided.

A 54% majority of respondents said they had an unfavorable opinion of President Donald Trump (47% very unfavorable), with 38% offering a favorable opinion (23% very favorable), and 8% undecided. In the 2023 survey when he was not president, a 58% majority had an unfavorable opinion of Trump, 32% offered a favorable opinion with 10% undecided.

A 59% majority of respondents had a favorable opinion of Governor Gretchen Whitmer (34% very favorable), 33% had an unfavorable opinion of her (22% very unfavorable), with 8% undecided. In 2023, a 54% majority had a favorable opinion of Whitmer, 37% had an unfavorable opinion of her, with 9% undecided.

A 38% plurality of respondents said they had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans (23% very unfavorable), 30% had a favorable opinion of them (9% very favorable), with 29% undecided. In the 2023 survey, 42% had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans and 33% had a favorable opinion of them.

A 41% plurality of respondents said they had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, 21% had an unfavorable opinion, with 33% undecided. In the 2023 survey, 33% had a favorable opinion of community activist groups, 19% had an unfavorable opinion of them, with 42% undecided.

A 40% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats (13% very favorable), 32% had an unfavorable opinion of them, with 26% undecided. In the 2023 survey, a slightly higher 42% had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats, as did a slightly higher 36% say they had an unfavorable opinion of them, with 22% undecided.

A 56% majority of respondents offered a positive job rating for the job Gretchen Whitmer is doing as Governor (20% excellent), 42% offered a negative job rating (20% poor), with 2% undecided. In the 2023 survey, 52% offered a positive job rating (24% excellent), 44% offered a negative rating (23% poor), with 4% undecided.

A 42% strong plurality of respondents said that they use the programs and services of their local public library every day or almost every day (4%); a few times a week (11%); or a few times a month (27%). Another 24% said they use their library a few times a year, with 16% saying they seldom use it, and 17% saying they never use the library. In the 2023 survey, 39% said they use the library a few times per month or more often, which means library usage increased by 3 points.

Among current survey respondents who said they use their local library facilities at lease a few times a month or more often, 68% said they check out books from the library, 14% said they attend programs provided by the library, 6% said they access the Internet, either in the building or by borrowing a remote hotspot, 4% said they check out materials other than books, 3% said they access social services or other community resources, and 2% said they go o the library to have a quiet place for reading and study.

An impressive 75% solid majority of respondents said that librarians are very capable (45%) and trustworthy in deciding which books and reading materials should be included in their local public library, with another 30% saying librarians are mostly capable in making those decisions. Only 12% said librarians are only a little capable (8%) or not really capable at all (4%), with 13% undecided. In the 2023 survey, 70% said librarians are capable of making decisions about what books and material should be included in local library collections. The increased result of this question is another good example of the successful efforts of the

Michigan Library Association in communicating with voters about the issues and claims confronting librarians.

In a reversal of opinion, a 50% bare majority of respondents said that "there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries," with another 39% saying "there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries, and 8% saying "there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries." These results are flipped from the 2023 survey when 45% said "there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries," with only 42% saying "there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries, with 9% saying "there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries. The difference in this key question on book banning is probably one of the best examples of how the communications efforts by the Michigan Library Association had a significant impact on public opinion among Michigan voters.

When survey respondents were informed that while some people want to restrict access to library materials, local public libraries already divide books and materials by sections in the library that are appropriate for children, teenagers and adults, which helps guide age-appropriate selections, an 84% solid majority said they supported current library policy of dividing materials into age-appropriate sections (including 72% who strongly support), with only 12% opposing the policy and 4% undecided. This question was not asked in the 2023 survey.

A 91% majority of respondents said that "descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned" (up from 90% in 2023); a 91% majority said that "discussions about race" should never be banned (up from 89% in 2023).

A 91% majority of respondents also said that "criticisms of people and events in U.S. history" should never be banned (up from 88% in 2023), as did an 88% majority saying "political ideas you disagree with" should never be banned (up from 87% in 2023).

Opposition to book banning about "books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation" was not as strong, but a two-thirds majority of Michigan voters said they should not be banned. A 68% majority of respondents said that "books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation" should never be banned (up from 67% in 2023), with 18% saying they should "sometimes be banned" (down from 21%), with 11% saying they should "always be banned" (up from 9% in 2023).

When survey respondents were informed that legislation has been proposed in some states that would hold librarians criminally liable for what some people deem to be objectionable books or materials contained in library collections, an 85% overwhelming majority of respondents said they opposed such legislation (80% strongly), with 7% saying they support it and 5% undecided. In the 2023 survey, a similarly worded question had 76% saying they oppose such legislation, with 14% saying they support it, showing a 9-point increase in opposition. This is another key question that stronger opposition shows the success of the communications efforts by the Michigan Library Association.

When asked if the boards that govern the operation of local public libraries should be non-partisan, or if it really doesn't matter whether they are aligned with partisan political parties, a 66% majority s of respondents said they should be non-partisan, with 27% saying it "doesn't matter" and 7% undecided. It is worth noting that 69% of Democrats, 65% of Independents and 63% of Republicans said boards should be non-partisan. This question was not asked in the 2023 survey.

All respondents were asked where they would say that children and teenagers are able to get materials that are objectionable. A 57% majority of respondents said, "on the Internet," 25% said from "social media," 5% said "from friends," 4% said "in school," and 4% said "in libraries."

When asked which of two competing statements they agreed with the most, an 85% solid majority of respondents said they agree more with the statement that "individual parents can set rules for their own children, but they do not have the right to decide for other parents what books are available to their children." In the 2023 survey, 80% offered the same opinion. Only 13% agreed with the statement that "parents have a right NOT to have their children exposed to objectionable books at the library and should be able to join with other parents to have those books removed from the library."

An 82% majority of respondents agreed more with the statement that "we need to protect the ability of young people to have access to books from which they can learn about and understand different perspectives and help them grow into adults who can think for themselves." In the 2023 survey, 75% offered the same view on this question. Only 15% agreed with the statement that "we need to protect young people from books that they might find upsetting or that reflect ideologies and lifestyles that are outside of the mainstream."

A 77% majority of respondents agreed the most with the statement that "books that contain sexual content or discuss issues like gender identity and sexual orientation are tools for understanding complex issues, and young people should have access to them, but at an age-appropriate level." The majority opinion in the current survey increased by 3 points from 74% in the 2023 survey. Another 21% said they agreed more with the statement that "books that contain sexual content or discuss issues like gender identity and sexual orientation should NOT be in local public libraries where young people can access them against their parents' wishes."

A 73% majority of respondents said, "book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy." In the 2023 survey, 71% agreed with the majority. Another 24% said they most agree with the statement that said, "books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries."

If elected officials supported legislation that would allow or require books to be banned from your local public library, a 63% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for that person (46% much less likely), 28% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 5% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In the 2023 survey, 57% said they would be less likely to vote for an elected official supporting such legislation (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them, with 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for the elected official.

A 78% majority of respondents said that IMLS funding, which is the funding the federal government currently provides for libraries nationwide, should remain as part of the federal budget. Another 15% said IMLS funding SHOULD NOT remain as part of the federal budget, with 7% undecided. This question was not asked in the 2023 survey.

If federal funding for libraries is no longer part of the federal budget, how important do you think it is for state government to replace the federal funding lost as part of the state budget, 82% of respondents said it would be critically important to replace federal funding (40%), or very important to replace federal funding lost for libraries (42%). Another 13% said it is only somewhat important, with 3% saying it is not really important at all for state government to replace federal funding lost for libraries.

Finally, 10% of respondents said they consider themselves part of the LGBTQ community, which is up from 7% in the 2023 survey.

MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS

Nearly 8-In-10 Offer A Positive Job Rating For Michigan Public Libraries - Q.12

A 79% solid majority offered a positive rating of "excellent" (39%) or "pretty good" (40%) for the job done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their patrons, with only 8% offering a negative rating and 13% "undecided." In the 2023 survey, 71% offered a positive rating.
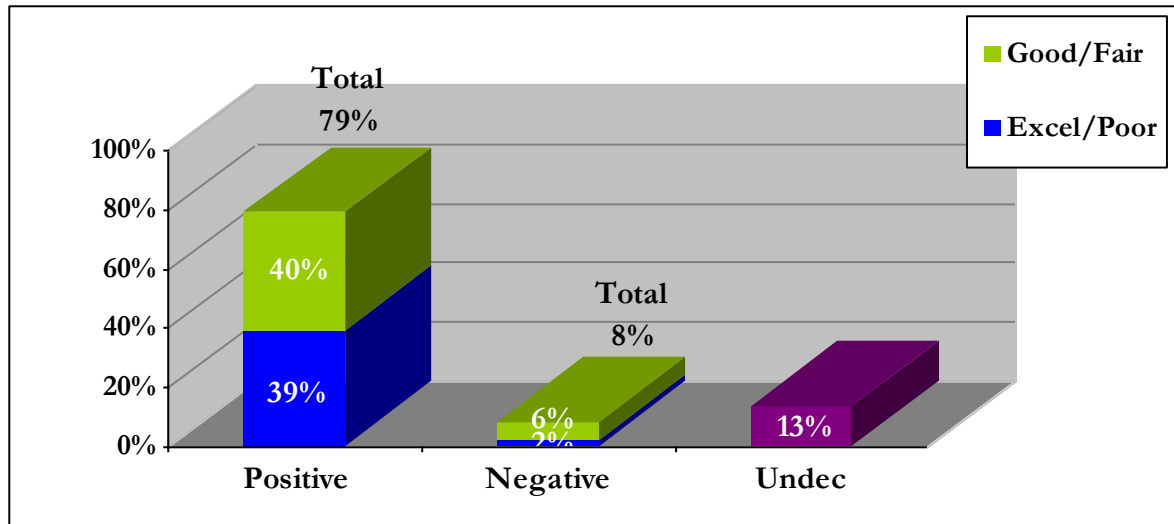
Key demographic groups that showed the highest positive job rating percentages for Michigan public libraries by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide 79% included:

- 93% Uses public libraries for other purposes
- 92% Uses public libraries a few times a month or more often
         Uses public library to take out books
         Democrats with kids
- 91% Librarians are very capable of deciding which books to include in libraries
         Democratic women
- 90% Favorable opinion of Nessel
         Considers themselves part of LGBTQ community
- 89% Liberals
- 88% Unfavorable opinion of Trump
         Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
         All Democrats
         Women with kids
- 87% Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
         Negative job rating for Trump
         Positive job rating for Whitmer
         Gets objectionable material from friends

Income under $25K
- 86% Favorable opinion of Whitmer
  Favorable opinion of community activist groups
  Women age 18-49
  College educated women
- 85% Michigan headed in right direction
  Use public libraries a few times a year or seldom
  Pro-choice on the abortion issue
  Independent women
  Democrats without kids
- 84% Western Michigan
  Bay area
  Critically important for state government to replace lost federal funding
  All women
  College educated age 50 and over
- 83% Undecided about Nessel
  A few parents should be able to decide for all parents about books
  Less likely to vote for elected official if they support book bans
  IMLS federal funding for libraries should remain in the federal budget
  Someone else in household a union member
  College educated
  No religious preference
  Moderates

Key demographic groups that showed the highest percentages offering a negative job rating for Michigan public libraries (8%), or were undecided (13%) by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide total of 21% included: * = Small sample size

- 68% Never uses the library
- 56% Undecided about policy of dividing books and materials into sections*
- 43% Librarians are somewhat capable or not capable at all to decide about books
  Depends on what books or materials are in question about making librarians liable*
  Undecided about books about sex*
- 42% Undecided about legislation to make librarians criminally liable*
- 41% Unfavorable opinion of Nessel
  Undecided about whether banning books is un-American*
- 40% Undecided about abortion*
- 39% Federal funding for libraries should be cut
- 38% Undecided about book banning*
- 36% Favorable opinion of Trump
  Republican men
- 35% Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
  Positive job rating of Trump
- 34% Unfavorable opinion of Whitmer
  Undecided about protecting children or helping them grow*

Undecided about cutting federal funding for libraries
Republicans without kids

- 33% Respondents who say we should protect young people from books that upset them
  Books that contain sexual content or discuss sexual identity should not be in libraries
  More likely to vote for elected officials who supports banning books*
  It's somewhat important or not important at all to have federal funding replaced
  Conservatives
- 32% Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
  Unfavorable opinion of community activist groups
  Negative job rating of Whitmer
  Pro-life on abortion
  Men without college
- 31% Opposes library policy of dividing books into sections in the library
  Republicans
- 30% Michigan off on wrong track
  Sometimes books about race should be banned
  Parents have the right to remove books they find objectionable
- 29% Always ban books about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation
  Supports legislation to make librarians criminally liable
  If elected officials support book bans it will not influence vote
  Age 50 or older without college
  Men without kids
- 28% Books critical of American ways should be removed from libraries
- 27% Undecided about Whitmer favorable rating
  There are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries
  Sometimes banning books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
  Sometimes ban books with criticisms of people and events in U.S. history
  High school or less education
  All men
  Men age 18-49
  Men age 50 and older
  Republican women
- 26% Less than a college education
  Outer Wayne County
  Independent men
  Republicans with kids
- 25% Outer metro area
  Northern Michigan
  Somewhat likely or will probably vote in November 2026
  Undecided about community activist groups
  Undecided about library boards being non-partisan
  Wayne County
  Men with kids

Top Reasons For Offering A Negative Job Rating For Michigan Public Libraries - Q.13

Respondents offering a negative job rating were asked, in an open-ended question to describe "the main reason why you gave Michigan's local public libraries a negative job rating of **(Just fair/Poor)** for the job they do providing programs and services for their patrons?" The responses were:

N=63

17%	Too liberal – Transgender books/readers
15%	Book selection is limited
13%	Lack outreach/information/awareness
10%	I do not use it – Use the internet
8%	Lack of adequate funding
8%	Programs/events are limited
8%	Undecided/Refused
5%	Too political/conservative – Against banning books
3%	Children's programs/events limited
2%	Charging a fee for items
2%	Location is poor
2%	Outdated facilities/equipment
2%	Poorly managed/run
2%	Taxes are too high for services returned
8%	Other (*less than 1% each*)
2%	Understaffed

4-In-10 Use Their Local Public Library A Few Times A Month Or More - Q.14

How often do you or one or more members of your household use the programs and services of your local public library, including checking out books and eBooks? A 42% plurality of households said that they, someone else or more than one member of the household uses the programs and services of their local public library at least a few times a month or more, which is an increase of 3 points from the 39% offering the same response in the 2023 survey.

 4%   Every day or almost every day
11%   A few times a week
27%   A few times a month
42%   Total daily to a few times a month
24%   A few times a year
16%   Seldom
40%   Total a few times a year or seldom
17%   Or never
 1%   Undecided/Refused

Key demographic groups with the highest percentages using local public libraries a few times a month or more, by significantly higher percentages than the statewide total of 42% included:

* = Small sample

- 61% Democrats with kids
- 59% Independent women
        Women with kids
- 58% Considers themselves part of the LGBTQ community
- 56% Households with children
        Independents with kids
- 54% Librarians are very capable of deciding which books/materials to include in libraries
- 53% Favorable opinion of Nessel
        Women age 18-49
        Democratic women
- 52% Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
        Favorable opinion of community activist groups
        Liberals
        Men with kids
        College educated women
        Republicans with kids
- 51% Western Michigan
- 50% Positive job rating for local public libraries
        Critically important for state government to replace federal library funding if cut
- 49% Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
        Children and teenagers get objectionable material from social media

Undecided about voting for elected officials who support book bans*
All Democrats
- 48% Outer metro region
Unfavorable opinion of Trump
Negative job rating for Trump
Banning books is un-American
Less likely to vote for elected officials who support book bans
Age 35-49
Incomes of $75K-$100K
Age 18-49 without college
Outer Wayne County
- 47% Favorable opinion of Whitmer
Positive job rating for Whitmer
Books should never be banned
Books about sex and gender should never be banned
Other races
All women
Age 18-49
College educated age 18-49
- 46% Local libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books containing sex content
Respondent a union member
Pro-choice on abortion
Age 18-34
Moderates
Incomes of $100K-$150K
- 45% Very certain to vote in November 2026
Michigan headed in the right direction
Supports current policy of dividing up books into age-appropriate sections of libraries
Books about race should never be banned
Different perspectives help children grow
IMLS library funding should remain in the federal budget
Someone else in household a union member
Undecided about abortion*
College educated
Other religions
Wayne County

Top Reasons Cited For Visiting Local Public Libraries - Q.15

    Respondents who use public libraries were asked, in an open-ended question, to describe "the main reason why [they] visit your local public library?" The responses were:

N=340
68%	To check out books
14%	To attend programs provided by the library
6%	To access the Internet, either in the building or by borrowing a mobile hotspot
4%	To check out materials other than books
3%	To access social services or other community resources
2%	Quiet space for reading/study
1%	I work there
1%	Kids programming/events/play space
1%	Printing – Copier – Fax
0%	Atmosphere – Beautiful facilities
0%	Other (*less than 1% each*)
2%	Undecided/Refused

This question was not asked in the 2023 survey.

3-In-4 Say Librarians Capable Of Deciding Books/Materials To Include - Q.16

A 75% solid majority said that librarians are "very capable" (45%) or "mostly capable" (30%) in deciding which books and reading material should be included in your local public library collection, with another 12% saying librarians are "only a little capable" (8%) or "not really capable at all" (4%) in making decisions about library collections, with 13% "undecided." In the 2023 survey, 70% said librarians are "very capable" (33%) or "mostly capable" (37%) of deciding which books to include in library collections.
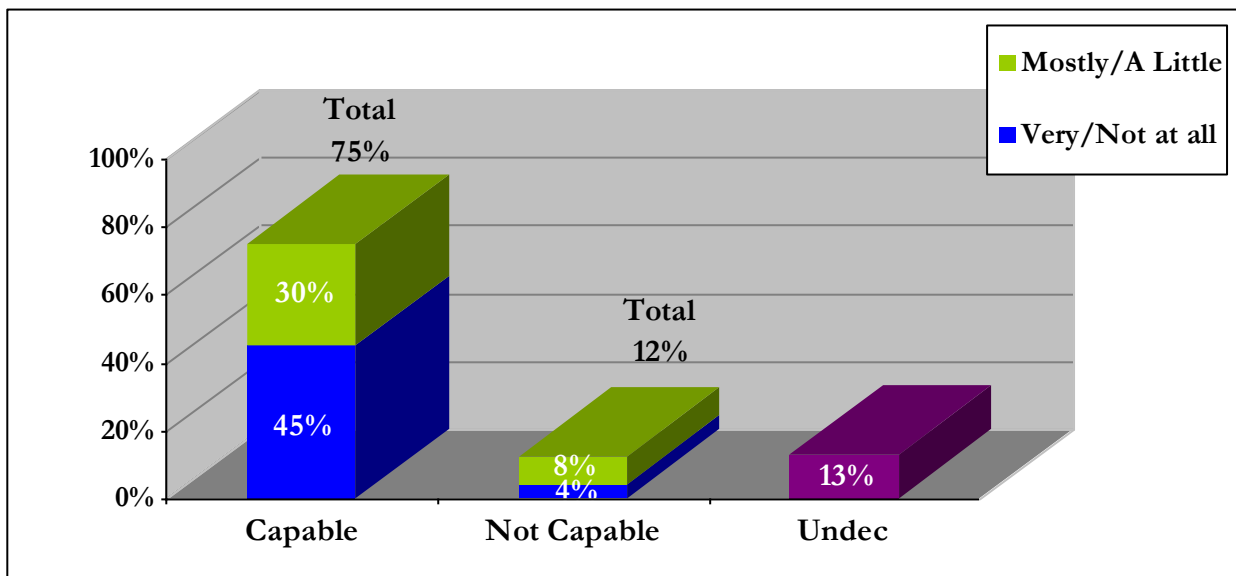
Demographic groups that said by the highest percentages that librarians are NOT CAPABLE of deciding which books and reading material should be included in the collections of local public libraries, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide total of 12%, included:

*= Small sample

- 42%   Negative job rating for local public libraries
- 41%   Discussions about race should always be banned*
- 40%   Political ideas you disagree with should always be banned*
- 39%   Opposes current policy of dividing books into age-appropriate sections
- 37%   Supports legislation that would make librarians criminally liable for library content
- 34%   There are many inappropriate books that should be banned from libraries
        Depends on what books to make librarians criminally liable for library content*
- 33%   Schools are where children and teenagers get objectionable material*
- 31%   More likely to vote for elected officials that support book banning*
- 29%   Parents have a right to remove books they find objectionable from all library users
- 28%   Books about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation should always be banned
        We need to protect young people from books they might find upsetting

19

Books that contain sexual content/discuss gender identity should not be in libraries
- 27% Unfavorable opinion of Nessel
- 26% Descriptions or depictions of slavery should sometimes be banned
       IMLS federal funding for libraries should be cut
- 25% Criticisms of people and events in U.S. History should sometimes be banned
- 24% Somewhat important/not important at all for the state to replace federal funding
- 23% Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
       Descriptions or depictions of slavery should always be banned*
       Libraries are where children and teenagers get objectionable material*
- 22% Michigan is seriously off on the wrong track
       Unfavorable opinion of Whitmer
- 21% Unfavorable opinion of community activist groups
       Positive job rating for Trump
       Discussions about race should sometimes be banned
       Criticisms of people and events in U.S. History should always be banned*
       Undecided about legislation to make librarians criminally liable for library content*
       Books critical of American ways should be removed
       Conservatives
- 20% Favorable opinion of Trump
       Negative job rating for Whitmer
       Political ideas that you disagree with should sometimes be banned
       Pro-life on abortion
- 19% Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
       Undecided about job rating for Whitmer
       Other races
       All Republicans
       Republican men
       Republicans without kids
- 18% Books about sex, sexual identity or sexual orientation should sometimes be banned
       Undecided about books about sex/discuss gender identity being placed in libraries*
       If elected officials support book banning it will not influence a vote for that official
       Income under $25K
       Independent men
       Republican women
       Republicans with kids
- 17% Northern Michigan
       Somewhat certain/will likely vote in November 2026
       Undecided about whether library boards should be non-partisan
       Other religions
       Men with kids
       Men without college
- 16% Uses local libraries a few times per year/seldom
       Never uses local public libraries
       Undecided about removing books critical of American ways*
       Men age 18-49

Macomb County
- 15%   Undecided about community activist groups
       Undecided about job rating for local public libraries
       Undecided about cutting IMLS federal library funding
       Age 50-64
       High school or less education
       Post HS technical education
       Less than a college education
       African American/Black
       Income over $150K
       All men
       Age 50 and over without college
       Men without kids

Although 75% saying librarians are capable of deciding what books and material to include in library collections is an impressive result - to the extent possible - targeting the demographic groups listed above, the Michigan Library Association may be able to increase the percentage of Michigan voters who consider librarians capable of deciding on and making those decisions about what books and material should be included in library collections.

Half Of All Respondents Say Books Should Never Be Banned - Q.17

All respondents were asked: "Which of the following statements best describes your overall view about banning books and other reading material in public libraries?" The responses were:

50%   There is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries

39%   There are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries

8%   There are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries

2%   Undecided/Refused

In the 2023 survey, 45% said "there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries;" 42% said "there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries;" and 9% said "there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries." The 8-point increase in the percentage of respondents saying, "there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries," and the 6-point drop in the percentage that said, "there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries," is another example of the success of the communications efforts of the Michigan Library Association over the past two years.

Key demographic groups indicating by the highest percentages that "there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries," by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 50%, included: * = Small sample

- 75%   Liberals
- 74%   Considers themselves part of the LGBTQ community
- 70%   Democrats with kids
- 69%   Democratic women
- 67%   Favorable opinion of Nessel
         Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
         All Democrats
- 66%   Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
         Never ban books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation
         Democrats without kids
- 64%   Unfavorable opinion of Trump
         No religious preference
         Democratic men
- 63%   Librarians are very capable of deciding which books to include in library collections

Less likely to vote for elected officials who support book bans
Pro-choice on abortion
- 62% Favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
  Negative job rating for Trump
  Positive job rating for Whitmer
  Children and teenagers get objectional materials from libraries*
  Banning books is un-American
- 61% Local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books with sexual content
  Critically important for state government to replace federal funding for libraries if cut
- 60% Favorable opinion of Whitmer
  Other races
  Detroit
- 59% Someone else in household is a union member
- 58% Incomes of $100K-$150K
- 57% Michigan headed in the right direction
  Uses the library mostly to check out books
  Among those saying different perspectives helps young people grow
  Age 18-34
  Women age 18-49
  Women with kids
  College educated women
- 56% Parents do not have the right to decide about book bans for all parents
- 55% Uses local public libraries a few times a month or more
  Supports policy to divide books and materials into age-appropriate sections
  Never ban books with political ideas you disagree with
  Opposed to legislation that would make librarians criminally liable for library content
  IMLS federal funding for libraries should remain in the federal budget
  African American/Black
  Incomes of $25K-$50K
  Age 18-49 without college
- 54% Never ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
  Never ban books with discussions of race
  Union members
  Age 50-64
  All women
  Age 18-49
  College educated age 18-49
  Wayne County
  Independents with kids
- 53% Voted in one or last two general elections
  Never ban books with criticisms of people and events in U.S. history
  Respondents who say it doesn't matter if library boards are non-partisan or not
  Households with children
  Incomes of $75K-$100K

Demographic groups that said by the highest percentages that there are many inappropriate books that should be banned in local public libraries, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 8%, included:

- 50% More likely to vote for elected officials who support book bans*
- 43% Always ban books with content about sex, sexual identity or sexual orientation
- 41% Always ban books with discussions about race*
- 40% Always ban books with political views I disagree with*
- 34% Supports legislation that makes librarians criminally liable for library content
- 31% Parents have a right to ban books for all parents
- 30% Opposes policy of dividing books and materials into sections of the library
- 28% Protect children from books that would upset them
       Books critical of people and events in U.S. history should be removed from libraries
- 27% Sometimes ban books with political views I disagree with
       Sometimes ban books with criticisms of people and events in U.S. history
- 26% Books with sexual content should not be in local public libraries
- 24% Sometimes ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
       Sometimes ban books with discussions about race
- 23% Librarians are only somewhat capable or not capable at all of deciding about books
       Always ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery*
- 20% Undecided about rights of parents to ban books for all*
       Republican women
- 19% Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
       Unfavorable opinion of community activist groups
       Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
       Conservatives
       Republicans without kids
- 18% Unfavorable opinion of Whitmer
       Unfavorable opinion of Nessel
       Positive job rating for Trump
       Pro-life on abortion
- 17% Favorable opinion of Trump
       Children and teenagers get objectionable material from schools*
       IMLS federal funding for libraries should be cut
       Macomb County
- 16% Negative job rating for Whitmer
       Undecided about making library boards non-partisan
       All Republicans
       Age 50 and older without college
- 15% Undecided about legislation to make librarians criminally liable for library content*
       Age 65 and over
- 14% Michigan off on wrong track
       If elected officials support book bans it will have no influence on vote
       Only somewhat important/not important for state government to replace IMLS funding

Incomes of $50K-$75K
- 13% Bay area
Negative rating for libraries
Undecided about books critical of people and events in U.S. history*
Women age 50 and older
Republican men
- 12% Undecided about job rating for Whitmer*
Never visits their local public library
Other races
Protestants
- 11% Visits their local public library a few times a year or seldom
Undecided about protecting children from upsetting content or helping them grow*
Undecided about voting for or against elected officials who support book bans*
Someone else in household a union member
High school or less education
Post high school technical education
Less than a college education
Catholics
Ag 50 and older
Men without a college education
Women without a college education
Republicans with kids
- 10% Western Michigan
Sometimes ban books with content about sex, sex identity or sexual orientation
Undecided about books with sexual content*
Men age 50 and older
Women without kids

Majority Supports Library Policy Of Dividing Books Into Sections –- Q.18

Respondents were told: "Some people want to restrict access to library materials, but local public libraries already divide books and materials by sections in the library that are appropriate for children, teenagers and adults. This helps guide age-appropriate selections." They were then asked: "Do you support the current policy of local public libraries of dividing books and other material by age-appropriate sections of the library, or do you oppose current policy and feel it should be more restrictive?" The responses were:

72% Strongly support
12% Mostly support
84% *TOTAL SUPPORT*
12% *TOTAL OPPOSE*
7% Mostly oppose
5% Strongly oppose
4% Undecided/Refused
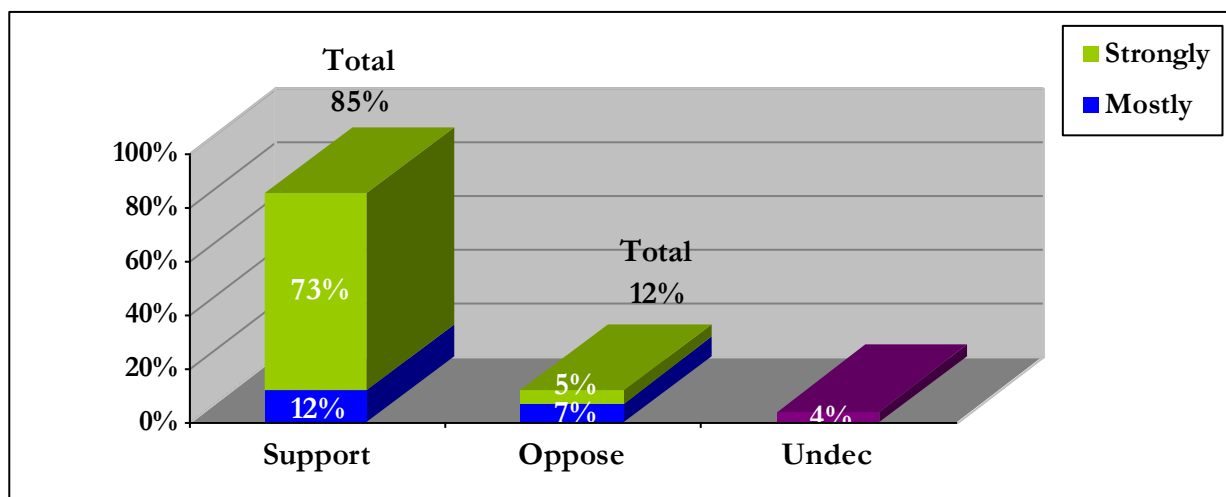
This question was not asked in the 2023 survey. With more than 8-in-10 supporting the current policy of libraries in Michigan, demographic analysis would be of very limited value.

9-In-10 Say That 4-Of-5 Types Of Books Should Never Be Banned - Q.19 to Q.23

All respondents were asked: For each of the following types of books, please tell me if you think they should always be banned, sometimes banned, or never banned? Books that include …?

[ROTATE Q.19 THROUGH Q.23]	Always banned	Sometimes banned	Never banned	Und/ Ref
_19. Political ideas you disagree with?	2%	9%	88%	2%
_20. Descriptions and depictions of slavery?	1%	6%	91%	2%
_21. Discussions about race?	1%	6%	91%	2%
_22. Criticisms of people and events in U.S. history?	2%	6%	91%	1%
_23. Books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation?	11%	18%	68%	3%

With voter opinion of about 90% saying that books with political ideas [they] disagree with, descriptions and depictions of slavery, discussions about race, and criticisms of people and events in U.S. history should never be banned, there is limited value in examining demographic differences in responses on those issues. However, on books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation, it is important to examine which groups say books with sexual content should always or sometimes be banned.

Demographic groups responding by the highest percentages that there are many inappropriate books that should always or sometimes be banned in local public libraries, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 29%, included:

- 92% Always ban books with political opinions I disagree with*
- 88% Always ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery*
- 86% Sometimes ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
- 81% Sometimes ban books with criticisms of people and events in U.S. history
  Books that contain sexual content should not be in local public libraries
- 79% There are many inappropriate books that should be banned from libraries
  A few parents have the right to ban books they find objectionable for all library users
- 77% We need to protect children from books they might find upsetting
- 75% Always ban books with criticisms of people and events of U.S. history
- 73% More likely to vote for elected officials who support book bans*
- 72% Undecided about legislation to make librarians criminally liable for library contents

- 71% Opposes policy of dividing books into age-appropriate sections of libraries
- 68% Books critical of American ways should be removed from local public libraries
- 65% Supports legislation that would make librarians criminally liable for library content
- 64% Sometimes we should ban books with political opinions they disagree with
- 59% Somewhat important/not important at all for state to replace IMLS library funds
- 58% Depends on books banned in making librarians liable for library content
- 55% Conservatives
  Republican women
- 54% Favorable opinion of Trump
  IMLS federal funding for libraries should be cut
- 53% Unfavorable opinion of Nessel
  Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
  Positive job rating for Trump
  Pro-life on abortion
- 52% Somewhat capable or not capable at all deciding which books should be in libraries
- 51% Unfavorable opinion of Whitmer
  If elected officials support book bans it won't make a difference
  Republicans without kids
- 50% Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
- 49% Unfavorable opinion of community activist groups
  All Republicans
- 48% Undecided about protecting children from being upset or helping them grow*
- 47% Negative job rating for Whitmer
  Undecided about a few parents having the right to ban books for all users*
- 46% Republicans with kids
- 44% There are rare times when books should be banned
  Republican men
- 41% Undecided about keeping or removing books critical of American ways*
  Undecided about cutting IMLS federal funding for libraries
  High school or less education
  Age 50 and over without college
- 40% Michigan off on the wrong track
  Never uses the library
  Outer Wayne County
- 39% Income under $25K
- 38% Negative job rating for local public libraries
  Children and teenagers get objectionable materials from schools*
- 37% Undecided about book banning
  Children and teenagers get objectionable materials from libraries*
  Undecided about voting for elected officials who support book bans
- 36% Somewhat certain or will probably vote in November 2026
  Age 65 and older
  Other religious preferences
- 34% Undecided about job rating for libraries
  Librarians are mostly capable of deciding which books should be in libraries

Less than a college education
Catholics
Macomb County
Women without college

- 33%   Undecided about the direction of Michigan
Undecided about policy to divide books into age-appropriate sections of libraries
Undecided about books with sexual content kept or removed from libraries*
Age 50 and over
Men age 50 and over
Women age 50 and over
Independents without kids

- 32%   Northern Michigan
Doesn't matter if library boards are non-partisan
Incomes of $50K-$75K
Does not consider themselves part of the LGBTQ community
Men without kids
Men without college

Overwhelming Opposition To Legislation To Charge Librarians With A Crime - Q.24

Respondents were told: "Legislation has been proposed in some states that would hold librarians criminally liable for what some people deem to be objectional books or materials contained in library collections." They were then asked: "Do you support such state proposals that would impose criminal punishment on librarians for including objectionable materials in library collections, or do you oppose such proposals and think there should be protections for librarians from such actions?" The responses were:

5%	Strongly support
2%	Somewhat support
7%	*TOTAL SUPPORT*
85%	*TOTAL OPPOSE*
5%	Somewhat oppose
80%	Strongly oppose
3%	Depends on the books in question (*volunteered – do not read*)
5%	Undecided/Refused
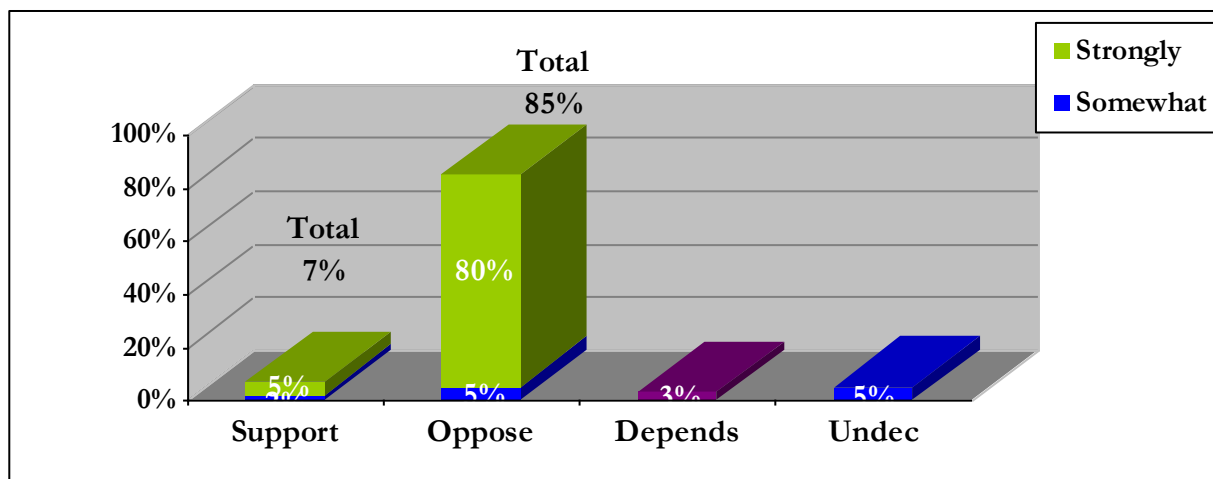
In the 2023 survey, a 76% majority opposed charging librarians on a similarly worded question, with 14% in support. Opposition increased by 9-points and support dropped by 7-points. With such overwhelming opposition to this proposed legislation, any demographic analysis would be of limited value.

2-In-3 Respondents Support Non-Partisan Library Boards - Q.25

Respondents were asked: "Should the boards that govern the operation of local public libraries be non-partisan, or do you think it really doesn't matter whether they are aligned with partisan political parties in governing the operations of local public libraries?" The responses were:

66%   Boards should be non-partisan
27%   It doesn't really matter if library boards are aligned with partisan political parties
7%   Undecided/Refused

This question was not asked in the 2023 survey.

Demographic groups saying by the highest percentages that library boards should be non-partisan, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 66%, included:

*=Small sample

- 78%   College educated age 50 and older
- 76%   Considers themselves part of the LGBTQ community
- 75%   Central Michigan
       Favorable opinion of Nessel
       Undecided about banning books with sexual content*
       Liberals
       Incomes over $150K
- 74%   Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
       Incomes of $100K-$150K
- 73%   More likely to vote for elected official who supports book bans
       Other races
       Oakland County
       College educated women
- 72%   Unfavorable opinion of Trump
       Favorable opinion of community activist groups
       College educated
       No religious preference
       Democrats without kids
       Independents without kids
- 71%   Northern Michigan
       Unfavorable opinion of Nessel
       Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
       Used library for reasons other than checking out books
       Less likely to vote for elected officials who support book bans
       Critically important that state government replace federal library funds if cut

Age 65 and older
Men age 50 and older
Democratic men
College educated men
- 70% Undecided about current policy of dividing books into age-appropriate sections*
Age 50 and older
Women age 50 and older
Men without kids
- 69% Very certain to vote in November 2026 election
Negative job rating for Trump
Used the library a few times a year or seldom
Librarians are very capable of deciding which books and materials to have in libraries
Children and teenagers get objectional material from social media
No children in the household
Pro-choice on abortion
Age 50-64
Democrats
Independent men

To the extent possible, targeting these above that can be identified and communicated with could potentially increase the percentage of respondents supporting non-partisan boards.

Internet and Social Media The Main Source Of Objectionable Content - Q.26

All respondents were asked their opinion on where children and teenagers get materials that are deemed "objectionable" The responses were:

57%	On the Internet
25%	Social media
5%	From friends
4%	In libraries
4%	In school
0%	More than one source **[VOLUNTEERED - ASK**: "But what is the main source?" **AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**
5%	Undecided/Refused

8-In-10 Agree Different Perspectives Helps Young People Grow - Q.27

We need to protect young people from books that they might find upsetting or that reflect ideologies and lifestyles that are outside of the mainstream.
<div align="center">**AND**</div>
We need to protect the ability of young people to have access to books from which they can learn about and understand different perspectives and help them grow into adults who can think for themselves.

Which statement do you agree with the most – **[ROTATE STATEMENTS]** The one saying we must protect young people from books they might find upsetting **OR**, The one that says exposing youth to different perspectives helps them grow?

  82% **Different Perspectives Helps Them Grow**
  15% Protect from Upsetting Young People
   3% Undecided/Refused

      In the 2023 survey, 75% offered the same response, which means there was a 7-point increase in the response that different perspectives help young people grow.

Over 4-In-5 Agree A Few Parents Cannot Decide For Everyone - Q.28

Parents have a right NOT to have their children exposed to objectional books at the library and should be able to join with other parents to have those books removed from the library.
<div align="center">**AND**</div>
Individual parents can set rules for their own children, but they do not have the right to decide for other parents what books are available to their children.

Which statement do you agree with the most – **[ROTATE STATEMENTS]** The one saying we have a right to have books they find objectionable removed **OR**, the one that says that one group of parents do not have a right to say what's available to the children of other parents?

  85% **Other parents can't decide for everyone**
  13% Parents have a right to remove books they find objectionable
   2% Undecided/Refused

      In the 2023 survey, 80% offered the same response, showing a 5-point increase in the response that a few parents cannot decide for all parents what books and material their children can have access to in local public libraries.

3-In-4 Agree Libraries Can Provide Age-Appropriate Access To Content - Q.29

Books that contain sexual content or discuss issues like gender identity and sexual orientation should NOT be in local public libraries where young people can access them against their parents' wishes.

AND

Books that contain sexual content or discuss issues like gender identity and sexual orientation are tools for understanding complex issues, and young people should have access to them, but at an age-appropriate level.

Which statement do you agree with the most – **[ROTATE STATEMENTS]** The one saying books containing sexual content or discuss sexual identity should not be in local public libraries **OR**, the one that local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books containing sexual and sexual orientation content?

77%   **Local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books containing sexual content**

21%   Books containing sexual content or discussing sexual identity should not be in local public libraries

2%   Undecided/Refused

       In the 2023 survey, 74% offered the same response, showing a 3-point increase in the response that local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books containing sexual content.

7-In-10 Say Book Banning Is Un-American - Q.30

Book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.

AND

Books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries.

Which statement do you agree with the most – **[ROTATE STATEMENTS]** The one saying banning books is un-American **OR**, the one that says books that are hostile to American institutions and values should not be available in local public libraries?

73%   **Banning books is Un-American**

24%   Books critical of American ways should be removed

4%   Undecided/Refused

       In the 2023 survey, 71% offered the same response, showing a 2-point increase in the response that banning books is un-American.

6-In-10 Less Likely To Vote For Book Banning Elected Officials - Q.31

All respondents were asked, "If your elected officials supported legislation that would allow or require books to be banned from your local public library, would you be more likely to vote for that person in the next election, less likely to vote for him or her, or would you say that this one issue would not influence you one way or the other?" The responses were:

2%	Much more likely to vote for that person
3%	Somewhat more likely to vote for that person
5%	*TOTAL MORE LIKELY*
28%	No influence on way or the other
63%	*TOTAL LESS LIKELY*
17%	Somewhat less likely to vote for that person
46%	Much less likely to vote for that person
4%	Undecided/Refused
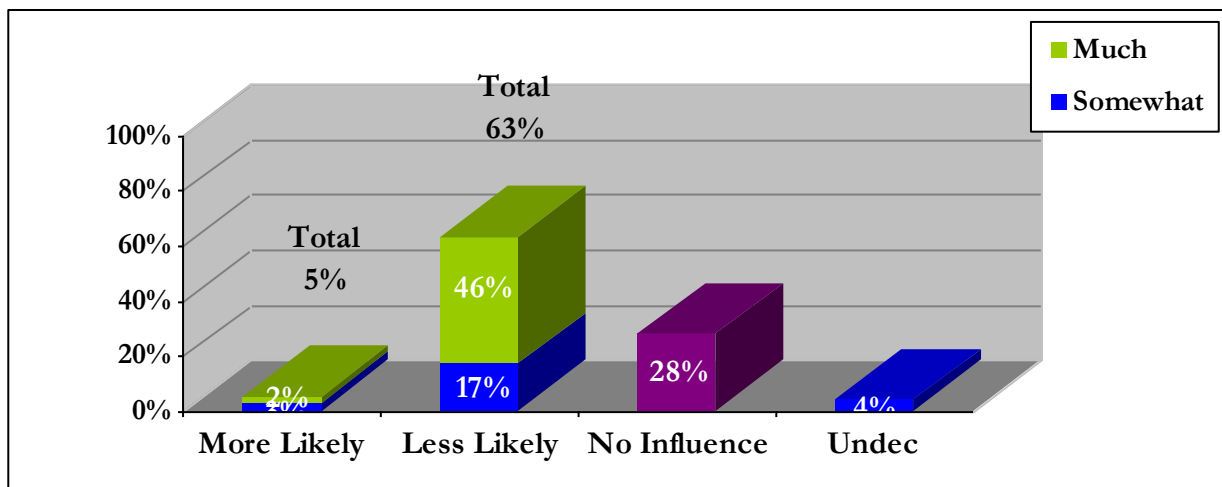
In the 2023 survey, 57% offered the same response, showing a 6-point increase in the response that voters are less likely to vote for an elected official who supports book banning.

Demographic groups indicating by the highest percentages that they are less likely to vote for their legislator if he or she supports book banning proposals, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 63%, included:

- 92% Liberals
- 87% Democratic women
- 86% Democrats
  Democrats without kids
- 85% Favorable opinion of Nessel
  Considers themselves part of the LGBTQ community
  Democrats with kids
- 84% Unfavorable opinion of Trump
  Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
  Democratic men
- 83% Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
- 80% Negative job rating for Trump
  Absolutely never a time when books should be banned
- 78% Favorable opinion of community activist groups
  Positive job rating for Whitmer
  Pro-choice on abortion
- 77% Favorable opinion of Whitmer
  Never ban books with sexual content that provide age-appropriate access
  Critically important for state government to replace federal funding for libraries if cut
- 75% Librarians are very capable to decide which books to include in library collection
  Libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books with sexual content
  Book banning is un-American
  Oakland County
- 73% Michigan headed in the right direction
  No religious preference
- 72% Different perspectives help young people grow
- 71% Uses the library a few times a month or more
  Visits library to check out books
  Independents with kids
- 70% Visits library for reasons other than to check out books
  A few parents should not be able to dictate book bans for all parents and users
  Independent men
- 69% Supports policy of dividing books/materials into age-appropriate library sections
  IMLS federal funding for libraries should remain in the federal budget
  Moderates
  Independents
  College educated men
- 68% Outer metro area
  Opposes legislation that would hold librarians criminally liable for library content
  Someone else in the household is a union member
  College educated

> Incomes of $25K-$50K
> Incomes of $75K-$100K
> Women age 18-49
> College educated age 18-49
> College educated age 50 and over
> Independent women

- 67%   Never ban books with political views you disagree with
  > Never ban books with discussions about race
  > Library boards should be non-partisan
  > Union members
  > African American/Black
  > College educated women
  > Independents without kids
- 66%   Western Michigan
  > Very certain to vote in the 2026 November election
  > Undecided about Whitmer favorability
  > Positive job rating for local public libraries
  > Never ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
  > Never ban books that are critical of people and events in U.S. history
  > Children and teenagers can get objectionable material from libraries
  > Detroit
  > Women with kids

It is worth noting that although Republicans do not register higher than the statewide results on this question, 35% said they are less likely to vote for their elected officials if they support book banning, with only 11% saying they are more likely to vote for that official. Likewise, Republican men are less likely to vote for their elected officials if they support book banning, with only 10% more likely. Even Republican women are less likely to vote for their elected official if they support book banning by 28%, with 12% saying they are more likely to vote for their elected official.

Republicans with children are less likely to vote for their elected official if he or she supports book bans by 35%, with only 7% saying they are more likely to vote for their elected official. Republicans without children are less likely to vote for their elected official by 33% with 12% saying they are more likely to vote for their elected official if he or she supports book banning.

More importantly, Independent men voters are less likely to vote for their elected official if he or she supports book banning proposals by 70%, with only 6% saying they are more likely to support that elected official. Independent women voters are less likely to vote for their elected officials by 68% if he or she supports book banning, with only 2% saying they are more likely to vote for that elected official.

This should raise a very serious concern among those legislators or members of congress who represent marginal districts where Independent voters can determine the outcome. Between Democrats who are solidly less likely to vote for their elected official, Independent voters who are less likely to vote for their elected officials if they support book banning proposals, and Republican voters who are significantly less likely to vote for their legislator if they support book banning than they are more likely to support them, legislators who represent marginal, competitive districts, especially Republicans, could be defeated in large part just because of the book banning issue.

8-In-10 Say IMLS Funding Should Remain In Federal Budget - Q.32

All respondents were asked: "Do you think that IMLS funding, which is the funding the federal government currently provides for libraries nationwide, should remain as part of the federal budget, or not?" The responses were:

78%   IMLS funding should remain part of the federal budget
15%   IMLS funding SHOULD NOT remain as part of the federal budget
 7%   Undecided/Refused

This question was not asked in the 2023 survey. With 78% saying funding should remain, demographic analysis would be of limited value.

8-In-10 Say IMLS Funding Should Be Replaced By The States - Q.33

  All respondents were asked, if federal funding for libraries is no longer part of the federal budget, how important they think it is for state government to replace the federal funding lost as part of the state budget. The responses were:

40%	Critically important for state government to replace federal funding lost for libraries
42%	Very important for state government to replace federal funding lost for libraries
82%	***TOTAL IMPORTANT***
13%	Only somewhat important for state government to replace federal funding lost
3%	Not really important at all for state government to replace federal funding lost
2%	Undecided/Refused

  This question was not asked in the 2023 survey. With 82% of respondents saying it is important to replace the lost library funding, demographic analysis would not be useful.

Do you have school aged children, 18 years old or younger, living in your household?

  33%   Yes
  67%   No
   0%   Undecided/Refused

Do you, or does any member of your household, belong to a labor union or a teachers association? **[PROBE FOR BEST RESPONSE]**

  12%   Respondent belongs
   7%   Other household member belongs
   2%   More than one household member belongs
  21%   TOTAL UNION
  78%   No members in household
   1%   Undecided/Refused

Do you think of yourself as pro-choice, meaning you support allowing women to have the right to an abortion, or do you consider yourself pro-life, meaning that you oppose abortions, except when it is necessary to save the life of the mother?

  62%   Pro-choice – women have the right to an abortion
  34%   Pro-life – against abortions except to save life of mother
   4%   Undecided/Refused

Could you please tell me in what year you were born? **[IF REFUSED, ASK:** 'Would you please tell me into which of the following categories your age would fall? Please stop me when I get to a category that applies to you.' **AND READ 1 TO 5]**

[RECORD YEAR HERE AND THEN CODE BELOW]

   5%   18 to 24 years   **(2001 to 2007)**
  17%   25 to 34   **(1991 to 2000)**
  27%   35 to 49   **(1976 to 1990)**
  24%   50 to 64   **(1961 to 1975)**
  27%   65 and over   **(1960 or before)**
   0%   Undecided/Refused

What is the last grade or level of schooling you completed? **[DO NOT READ – CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

  2%   1st to 11th Grade
19%   High School Graduate
  2%   Non-college post high school (technical training)
26%   Some college
34%   College graduate
16%   Post graduate school
  1%   Undecided/Refused

What is your religion - Protestant, Roman Catholic, Evangelical or non-Denominational Christian, Jewish, Muslim or some their religion?

22%   Protestant **(Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, or Episcopalian)**
17%   Roman Catholic or Catholic
27%   Evangelical/Non-denominational Christian
  1%   Jewish
  2%   Muslim
  3%   Other
25%   None *(volunteered)*
  3%   Undecided/Refused

Which of the following racial or ethnic groups *best* describes you - White, African American or Black, Hispanic or Latino, Asian, Native American, of two or more races, or some other group or race?

77%   White
11%   African American/Black
  2%   Hispanic or Latino (Puerto Rican, Mexican American etc.)
  2%   Asian
  1%   Native American
  4%   Two or more races/Mixed race
  1%   Other
  3%   Undecided/Refused

Would you describe yourself as **(ROTATE)** conservative, moderate, or liberal?

30%   Conservative
35%   Moderate
26%   Liberal
  9%   Undecided/Refused

Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican or a Democrat?

(IF DEM) Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?
(IF INDEP) Do you consider yourself closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?
(IF REP) Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

29%	Strong Democrat
5%	Not Strong Democrat
10%	Independent-Lean Democrat
44%	***TOTAL DEMOCRAT***
15%	Independent
38%	***TOTAL REPUBLICAN***
6%	Independent-Lean Republican
6%	Not Strong Republican
26%	Strong Republican
0%	Other
4%	Undecided/Refused

Would you please tell me in which of the following categories your total yearly household income falls; including everyone in the household? Please stop me when I get to the category that applies to you? **[READ 1 THROUGH 6]**

6%	Under $25,000
14%	$25,000 to $50,000
18%	$50,000 to $75,000
16%	$75,000 to $100,000
16%	$100,000 to $150,000
20%	Over $150,000
---	Retired **(VOLUNTEERED - ASK: "**But is there an income category I read that would apply to your household?" **AND CODE BEST RESPONSE)**
10%	Undecided/Refused

Do you consider yourself part of the LGBTQ community?

10%	Yes
87%	No
3%	Undecided/Refused

How do you describe your gender? **[DO NOT READ – CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

47%	Man/Male
53%	Woman/Female
----	Other (*less than 1% each)*
----	Undecided/Refused