

EPIC ▪ MRA

4710 West Saginaw

Highway - Suite 2C

Lansing, MI 48917

P: 517-886-0860

F: 517-886-9176

E: info@epicmra.com

W: www.epicmra.com

Michigan Library Association

Statewide Survey on

Book Banning and Other

Issues

Executive Summary and

Demographic Analysis

- Educational
- Political
- Industrial
- Consumer

- Market
- Research
- Analysis

April 2023

Report

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METHODOLOGY

EPIC ▪ MRA administered interviews with 800 respondents statewide, using a projected November 2024 general election voter stratification, with an additional oversample of 47 interviews to ensure that each of the 11 Library Regions in Michigan were represented by *at least* 40 respondents. The interviews were conducted via live operator telephone interviewers; with 70 percent of all interviews conducted via cell phone. The interviews were conducted from March 23 to March 30, 2023. Respondents were included in the sample if they confirmed that they voted in the November general elections of 2020, 2022, both elections, or were too young or not registered at those times and said that they would be very certain to vote, somewhat certain, likely to vote, or had at least a 50-50 chance that they would vote in the November 2024 election.

Respondents for the interviews were randomly selected from records of registered voter households that exhibited participation in November general elections and had 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 past November general elections, and further stratified to represent the voting populations within each of the 11 Library Regions in Michigan.

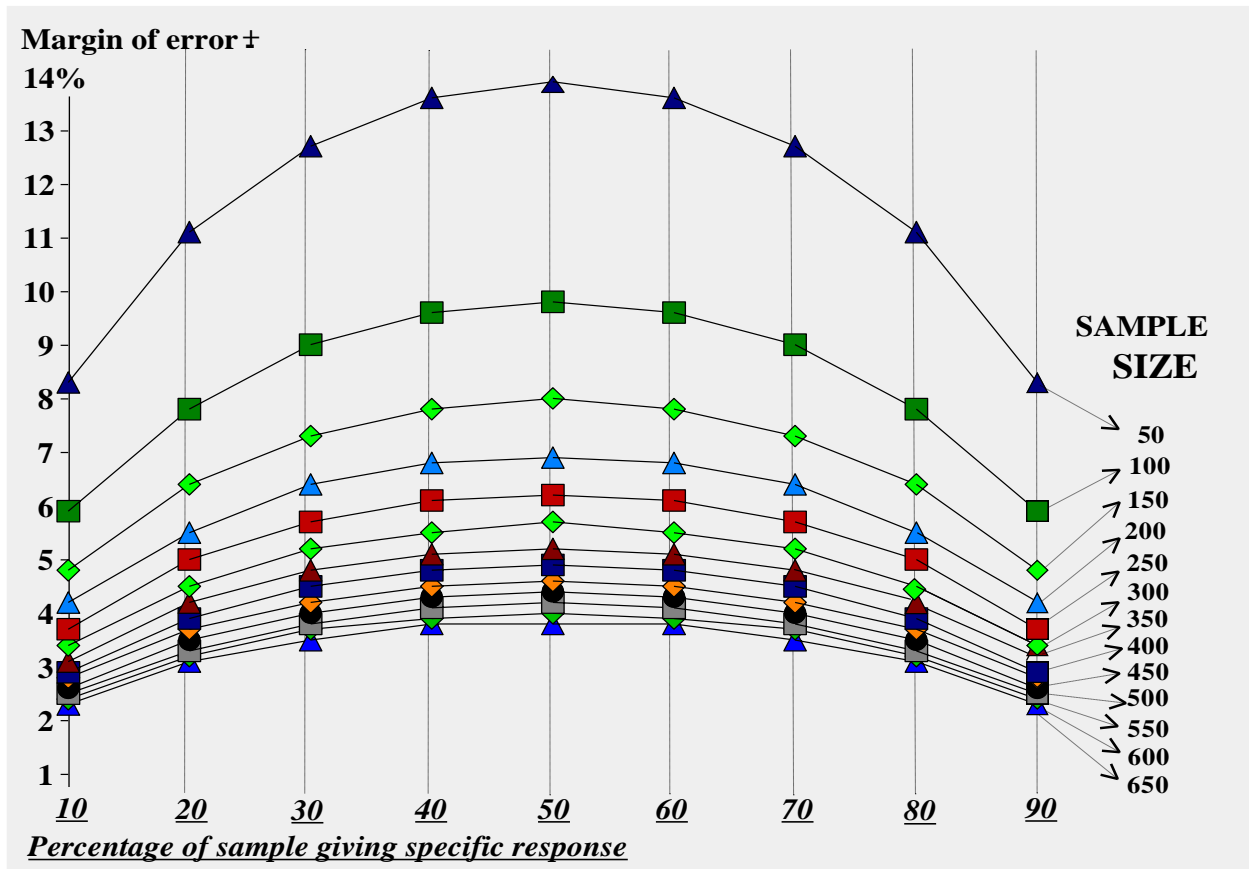
Generally, in interpreting survey results, all surveys are subject to error; that is, the results of the survey may differ from what would have been obtained if the entire population was interviewed. Sampling error depends on the total number of respondents asked a specific question. The table on the next page represents the sampling error for different percentage distributions of responses based on sample sizes. For example, when all survey respondents were asked if they had a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden (Q.4), a 51 percent majority of all respondents said they have an unfavorable opinion of the President. 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 47.5 percent and 54.5 percent, hence 51 percent \pm 3.5 points.

SURVEY QUOTAS AND STRATIFICATION

<u>Region</u>	<u>Sample Points</u>	<u>Margin of Error</u>
1	54	±13.3%
2	102	±9.7%
3	40	±15.5%
4	96	±10.0%
5	40	±15.5%
6	41	±15.5%
7	67	±12.0%
8	40	±15.5%
9	251	±6.2%
10	48	±14.2%
11	68	±12.0%
TOTAL:	847	(N=800) ±3.5%

Please note that quotas were also held by age and gender throughout the entire sampling, and within individual Library Regions, so as to accurately represent the active and likely general election voters of Michigan's electorate.

SAMPLE SIZE	<i>Percentage of sample giving specific response</i>								
	<u>10</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>90</u>
	% 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



KEY FINDINGS

- A 46% plurality of all respondents said Michigan is headed in the “right direction,” 37% said Michigan is “off on the wrong track,” and 17% were “undecided.”
- A 51% majority of all respondents had an “unfavorable” opinion of Joe Biden (40% very unfavorable), 39% had a “favorable” opinion of Biden (17% very favorable), with 10% “undecided.”
- A 54% majority of all respondents had a “favorable” opinion of Gretchen Whitmer (33% very favorable), 37% had a “unfavorable” opinion of Whitmer (27% very favorable), with 9% “undecided.”
- A 58% solid majority of all respondents had an “unfavorable” opinion of Donald Trump (49% very unfavorable), 32% had a “favorable” opinion of Trump (16% very favorable), with 10% “undecided.”
- A 42% plurality of all respondents had an “unfavorable” opinion of State legislative Republicans (25% very unfavorable), 33% had a “favorable” opinion of Republicans (11% very favorable), with 25% “undecided.”
- A 33% plurality of all respondents had a “favorable” opinion of community activist groups in general (9% very favorable), 19% had an “unfavorable” opinion of community activists (9% very unfavorable), 6% did not recognize them, with a large 42% plurality “undecided.”
- A 42% plurality of all respondents had a “favorable” opinion of State legislative Democrats (17% very favorable), 36% had an “unfavorable” opinion of Republicans (22% very unfavorable), with 22% “undecided.”
- A 63% solid majority of all respondents gave Joe Biden a “negative” rating for the job he is doing as President (43% poor), 33% gave Biden a “positive” job rating (8% excellent), with 4% “undecided.”
- A 52 percent majority of all respondents gave Gretchen Whitmer a “positive” rating for the job she is doing as Governor (24% excellent), 44% gave her a “negative” job rating (23% poor), with 4% “undecided.”

- A 71% solid majority of all respondents gave local public libraries in Michigan – including their 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 (34% excellent), with only 8% giving libraries a negative rating (3% poor), and 21% “undecided.”
 - Top reasons for the 8% offering a negative rating for the job libraries do include: “lack of advertising/outreach -- unaware of offerings – communication poor” (15%); “inappropriate books/media/materials offered” (12%); “selection of physical materials limited” (12%); “branches/locations closed/closing” (6%); “lack of events/programming” (5%); “politics – government involvement/mandates” (5%); and “selection of E-books limited” (5%).
- A 39% plurality of all respondent households use the programs and services of their local public library “every day or almost every day” (2%); “a few times a week” (11%); or a “few time a month” (26%); with 36% using the library “a few times a year” (18%) or “seldom” (17%); and 24% “never” using their local public library.”
- A 57% majority of all respondent households use the programs and services of their local public library at least, “a few times a year,” with 24% of households reporting “never” using them.
 - The frequency of library use breakdown included: “every day or almost every day” (2%); “a few times a week” (11%); “a few times a month” (26%); and “a few times a year” (18%).
 - The “seldom” response option garnered 17%, with 24% reporting “never” using a local community library.
- A 70% solid majority of all respondents said they have seen, heard, or read about efforts “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) to have books and other materials some people find offensive or inappropriate removed from local public libraries and school libraries, with another 29% hearing “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%).
- When asked which one of a list of groups should make decisions about which books and other reading material should be included in public library collections, 60% of all

respondents said, “local library boards (33%) or “librarians” (27%); 11% volunteered “members of the local community” (9%) or said activist groups (2%); 7% said “State Legislators or other elected officials,” 6% cited “other”, 6% cited “none,” with 10% “undecided.”

- A 70% majority of all respondents said that librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) and trustworthy to decide which books and reading materials should be included in your local library collections. Another 18% said librarians are only a little capable (12%) or not really capable at all (6%) in deciding what books and reading materials should comprise the collection, with 12% undecided.
- A 42% plurality of all respondents agreed that “there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” 45% said “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries,” with 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.”
- 90% of all respondents said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery” should never be banned.
- 89% of all respondents said that “discussions about race” should never be banned.
- 87% of all respondents said that “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned.
- 67% of all respondents said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should sometimes be banned and 9% saying they should always be banned.
- An overwhelming 83% majority of all respondents said they support (67% strongly) state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned.
- A narrow 51% majority of all respondents said they oppose legislation (35% strongly) that would require obscene or sexually explicit material to be placed in a restricted area only accessible to adults aged 18 years or older, with 36% saying they support the proposal (16% strongly), even though libraries say do not purchase or make available books or materials that are legally recognized as obscene.

- If there was a ban on books that included LGBTQ content in their local public library, 49% of all respondents said they would be willing to risk having their library closed in order to keep those books on the shelves, 38% said they would not be willing to risk having the library closed, with 13% undecided.
- When the narrow majority of respondents who would not be willing to risk having their library closed, or were undecided on the issue, were asked if they support or oppose a proposal to have library workers charged with a crime if they decide to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves, 76% said they oppose such a proposal (60% strongly), 14% would support it, with 7% undecided.
- A 75% solid majority of all 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 17% 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.”
- An 80% overwhelming majority of all respondents agreed 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,” with 15% 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.”
- A 74% solid majority of all respondents agreed 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. Only 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.”
- A 71% majority of all respondents agreed with the statement that “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy,” with 21% 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.”

- A 77% solid majority of all respondents agreed that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around us,” while only 15% agree that “anyone who opposes objectional material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to.”
- If a member of Congress, State Senator and State Representative supported legislation that would allow or require books to be banned from your local public library, 57% of all respondents said they would be less likely to vote for that person in the next election (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them, and only 9% said they would be more likely to vote for their legislator.”
- When all respondents were asked if they consider themselves part of the LGBTQ community, 7% of all respondents said yes, 89% said no and 4% were undecided.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Groups and organizations that favor banning books in Michigan are *clearly* going against an overwhelming majority of public opinion that opposes book banning. A 71% majority of all respondents offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons.

An 83% majority of all respondents would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. A 90% majority of all respondents said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned,” and an 89% majority of all respondents also said that “discussions about race” should never be banned, an 88% majority said that “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned, as did an 87% majority regarding “political ideas [they] disagree with.”

Opposition to banning book containing “. . . discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong as was measured on some other topics, but was still opposed by two-thirds of all respondents. A 67% majority of all respondents said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.”

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the electorate. A 77% solid majority of all respondents said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.”

An 80% majority of all respondents said they agree more with the statement that said, “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.” Only 15% 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.”

A 75% majority of all respondents agreed with a statement saying 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,” and only 17% 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 74% majority of all 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,” while 21% 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 71% majority of all respondents said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy,” while 21% said they most agreed with the statement 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.”

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives voted in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person.

A 60% solid majority of all respondents said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections, while 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing “other” groups.

A 77% solid majority of all respondents said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections.

70% of all respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or at least “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” It would not seem like the 45 percent of all respondents suggesting that there may be rare times when books should be banned would be willing to support the large number of books that the most ardent advocates of book banning have suggested being banned.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” Prior to the 2022 November election, this question received a majority “wrong track” response in other EPIC ▪ MRA statewide polls, but after the election in a December poll, voters said the state was headed in the right direction.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable.

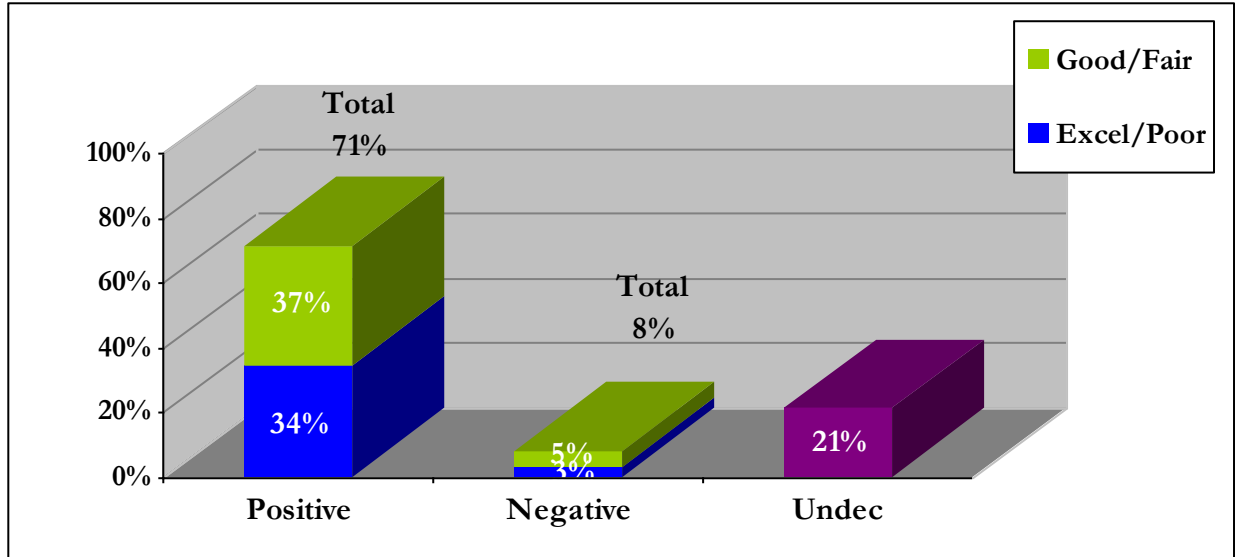
A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided.

QUESTION BY QUESTION ANALYSIS

Positive Job Ratings for Michigan Public Libraries – Q. 12

A 71% solid majority of all respondents offered a positive rating of “excellent” (34%) or “pretty good” (37%) for the job done by 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 21% “undecided.”



Key demographic groups that showed the highest positive job rating percentages for Michigan public libraries by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide 71% included:

- 92% Uses their local public library every day to a few times a month
- 89% Undecided about job rating for Joe Biden*
- 87% Democrats with children
- 85% Undecided about job rating for Gretchen Whitmer*
- 83% Women with children
- 82% Households with children
- 81% Favorable opinion of Joe Biden
Favorable opinion of community activist groups
Liberals
Democratic women
- 80% Western Michigan
Michigan headed in right direction
Library boards and librarians should decide what books to include in collections
Librarians very or mostly capable of deciding which books to include in collections
Other races

- 79% Men with children
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Positive job rating for Joe Biden
Democrats
Women aged 18-49
- 78% Favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Opposes legislation to require obscene material to be placed in restricted areas
Willing to risk closing library to have LGBTQ books and materials if banned
Less likely to vote for legislators who support book banning
Incomes of \$100K-\$150K
- 77% Outer metro area
Bay area region
Positive job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Uses their local public library a few times a year to seldom
Never a time that a book should be banned from local public libraries
Agrees more that different perspectives help young people grow/think for themselves
Agrees more that books with sexual content are tools to understand complex issues
Agrees more that libraries should have a diverse collection of books
Age 18-34
Age 35-49
Age 18-49 without college
College educated age 18-49
- 76% Do not recognize community activist groups
Sometimes ban descriptions and depictions of slavery
Sometimes ban books with criticisms of people and events in U.S. history
Never ban books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation
Agrees more that banning books is un-American
Pro-choice on abortion
Democrats without children
Outstate
Democratic men
College educated women
- 75% Northern Michigan
Somewhat certain to vote/will probably vote
Seen, heard or read a lot about book banning efforts
Other parents can't decide for all parents
Republicans with children
Men aged 18-49

* = small sample size

Key demographic groups that showed the highest percentages offering a negative job rating for Michigan public libraries (8%), or were undecided (21%) by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide total of 29% included:

- 71% Never uses local library programs or services
- 55% Undecided on protecting young people from upsetting material or helping them grow
- 53% Undecided about how capable librarians are to decide which books to include
- 50% Undecided about diversity or woke agenda*
- 47% Undecided about woke agenda or needing diversity
- 46% Librarians only a little capable or not capable at all to decide which books to include
Undecided on having right NOT to have their children exposed to objectionable books
- 45% Opposes legislation that would give the public to read whatever they want in libraries
Agrees that parents have right to protect their children from books with sexual content
Undecided on parents having right to protect children from books with sexual content
- 44% Local communities should decide what books to include in collections
Supports legislation to make it a crime if librarians include LGBTQ if banned
Undecided on legislation making it a crime if librarians include LGBTQ books
Undecided about ban being un-American or removing books critical of America
Agrees more that people against book bans are pushing woke agenda
- 43% Other groups should decide what books to include in collections
- 42% There are many inappropriate books that should be banned from public libraries
- 41% Always ban books with sexual content
Parents have a right NOT to have their children exposed to objectionable material
- 40% Must protect young people from books they might find upsetting
Conservatives
- 39% Favorable opinion of Donald Trump
Seen, heard or read noting about book banning efforts
More likely to vote for legislator that supports book bans
Republicans without children
City of Detroit
Independent men
- 38% Undecided about legislation giving the public the right to read whatever they want
Men aged 50 and older
Men without children
- 37% Michigan off on the wrong track
Unfavorable opinion of community activist groups
Undecided about legislation giving the public the right to read whatever they want
Age 50 or over without college
Macomb County
Men without college
- 36% Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties
Unfavorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Negative job rating for Whitmer
Sometimes ban books with sexual content
Undecided about risking library closing to keep LGBTQ material on shelves
Agrees more with removing books that are critical of American ways
No influence if legislators support book banning
Pro-life on abortion

- African Americans
- Wayne County
- Republican men
- 35% Unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden
- Undecided about Whitmer favorable rating
- Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
- Supports legislation to put obscene materials in restricted area of library for adults
- All Republicans
- Outer Wayne County

* = small sample size

Top Reasons for Negative Job Ratings for Michigan Public Libraries – Q. 13

Respondents offering a negative job rating were asked: “What is 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, from a total of only 64 respondents, were:

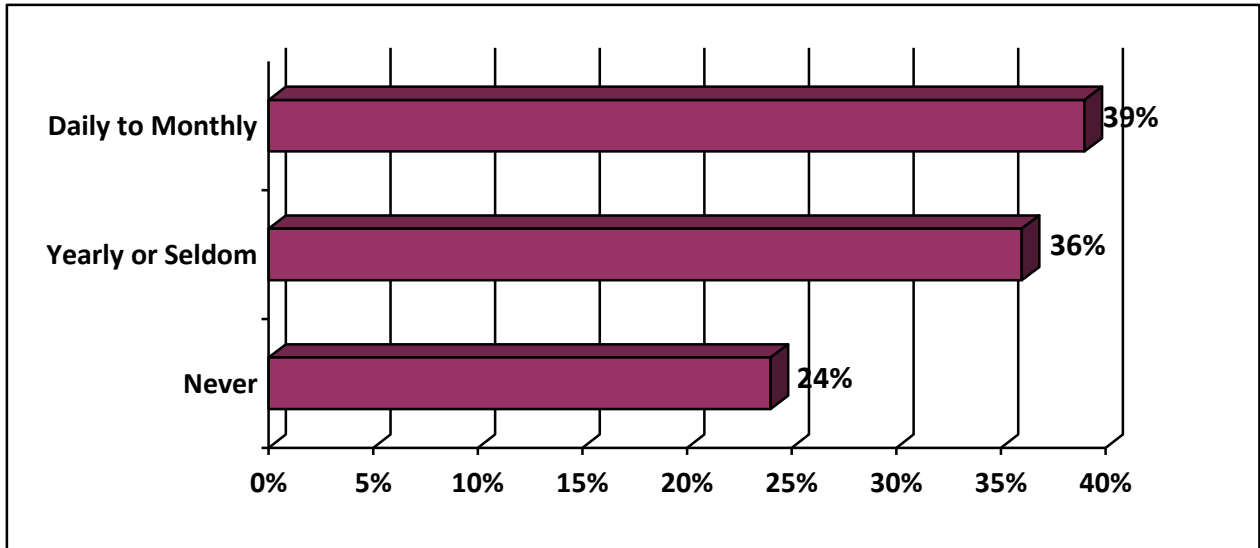
- 15% Lack of advertising/outreach – Unaware of offerings – Communication poor
- 12% Inappropriate books/media/materials offered
- 12% Selection of physical materials limited
- 6% Branches/locations closed/closing
- 5% Lack of events/programming
- 5% Politics – Government involvement/mandates
- 5% Selection of E-books limited
- 3% Facilities are old/outdated
- 3% I do not use it
- 3% Obsolete – Library is not needed – Use the internet instead
- 3% Underfunded – Funding cuts
- 2% COVID protocols - Masking requirements
- 2% Hours limited/cut
- 2% No library nearby
- 2% Proof of residency required
- 20% Undecided/Refused

Local Public Library Use – Q. 14

Respondents were asked how often they, or one or more members of their household, use the programs and services of your local public library, including checking out books and eBooks.

The responses were:

- 2% Every day or almost every day
- 11% A few times a week
- 26% A few times a month
- 39% Total daily to a few times a month**
- 19% A few times a year
- 17% Seldom
- 36% Total a few times a year or seldom**
- 24% Or never
- 1% Undecided/Refused



Key demographic groups with the highest percentages using local public libraries a few times a month or more, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide total of 39% were:

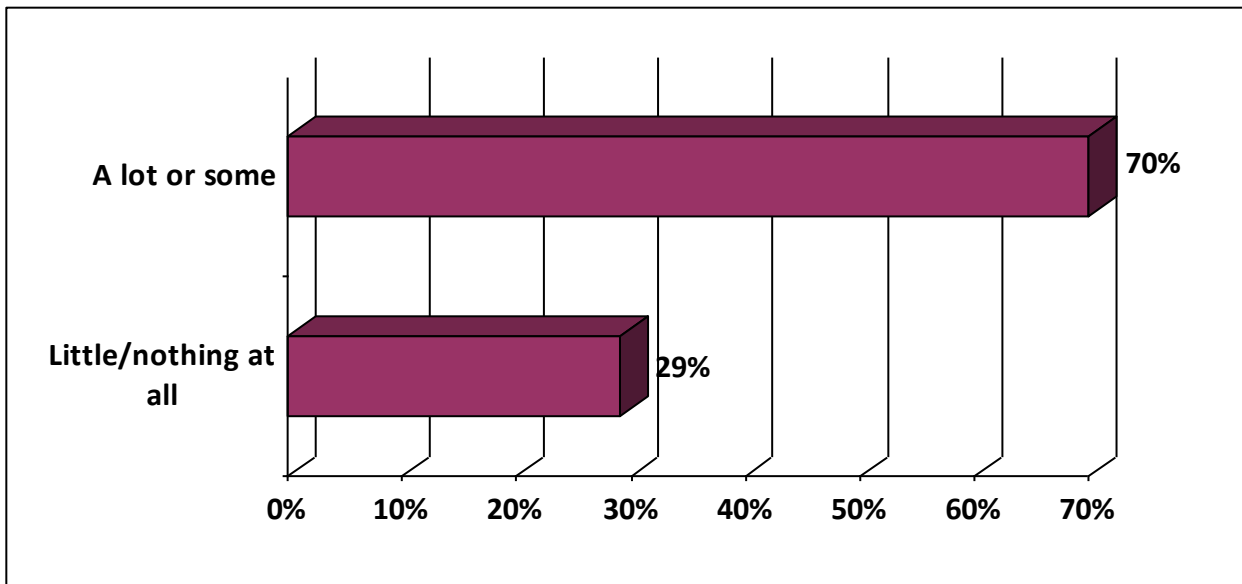
- 58% Democrats with children
- 57% Women with children
- 56% Other races
- 54% Western Michigan
Households with children
- 52% Democratic women
- 51% Undecided about Biden job rating*
Positive job rating for local public libraries
Republicans with children
Men with children
- 50% College educated age 18-49
- 49% Favorable opinion of community activist groups
Undecided about Whitmer job rating*
Women aged 18-49
- 48% Liberals
Part of the LGBTQ community
College educated women
- 47% Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Have seen, heard or read a lot about book banning efforts
Age 18-34
College educated
No religious preference
Democrats
- 46% Library boards or librarians should decide about book collections
No time when books should be banned from local public libraries
- 45% Michigan headed in right direction
Favorable opinion of Joe Biden
Unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Librarians very/mostly capable of deciding which books/reading materials to include
Should never ban books with sex or gender identity content
Willing to risk library closing to include LGBTQ material on library shelves
Less likely to vote for legislators who support book bans
Incomes of \$75K-\$100K
College educated men
- 44% Positive job rating for Joe Biden
Opposes requiring obscene materials to be placed in restricted area for adults
A few parents should not be able to make decisions for all parents
Book bans are un-American
Pro-choice on abortion
Age 35-49
Incomes of \$50K-\$75K

* = **small sample size**

Awareness of Book Banning Efforts – Q. 15

All respondents were informed that there is “a growing effort in several states and local communities, including Michigan, to have books that some people find offensive or inappropriate removed not only from school libraries but local public libraries as well” and asked how much they have seen, heard or read about these efforts to have books or other materials removed from local public libraries and school libraries. The responses were:

- 38% A lot
- 32% Some
- 70% Total a lot/some**
- 16% Only a little
- 13% Nothing at all
- 29% Little/Nothing at all**
- 1% Undecided/Refused



Demographic groups saying by the highest percentages they have seen, heard or read only a little or nothing at all about book banning by significantly higher percentages than the statewide total of 29% included:

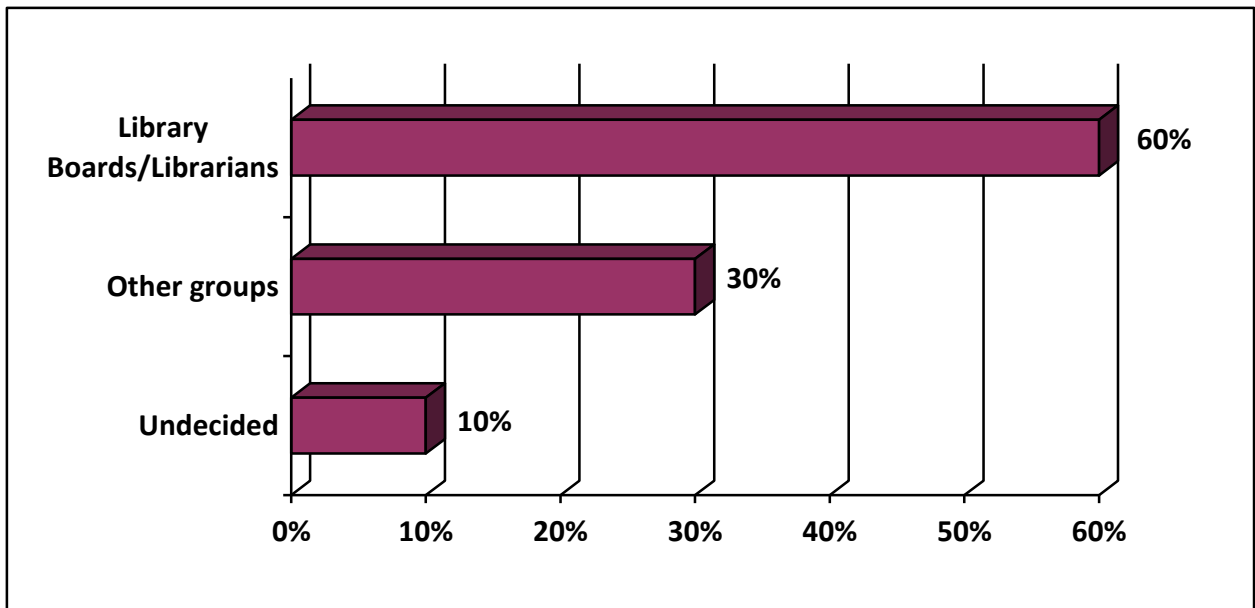
- 50% Undecided about Whitmer job rating
- 47% Undecided about Whitmer favorability
Undecided about having books with sexual content
- 46% Voted in one of past two general elections
Somewhat certain to vote/will probably vote
Age 18-34
- 42% Undecided about charging librarians with a crime if they keep LGTQ books if banned
Black/African American
- 41% Undecided about Michigan direction
Independent women
- 40% Undecided about a few parents deciding on book bans for everyone
If a legislator supported book bans, if would have no influence on their vote
Independent voters
Age 18-49 without college
- 39% Undecided about legislator who supports book bans
Incomes under \$25K
Detroit
- 38% No recognize Community Activist Groups
Undecided about banning books in general*
Undecided about books that criticize the American way of life
Undecided about a diverse collection of books or a woke agenda
Independent men
- 37% Undecided about State Legislative Democrat favorability
- 36% Undecided about State Legislative Republican favorability
Negative job rating for libraries
Never uses library programs or services
Sometimes ban books that have sexual content
HS or less education
Incomes of \$25K-\$50K
Women aged 18-49
Women without college
- 34% Central Michigan
Sometimes ban books that have descriptions and depictions of slavery
Opposes legislation to protect right of the public to read what they want in libraries
Undecided about legislation to require obscene material to be placed in restricted area
Undecided about abortion issue
Less than a college education
Moderates
Men aged 18-49
Oakland County

* = **small sample size**

Decisionmakers for Local Library Collections – Q.16

All respondents were asked, of the following groups, which one they thought should make decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Please note that responses denoted as “volunteered” below were not presented to respondents in the asking of the question.

- 33% Local library boards
- 27% Librarians
- 60% Total of Library Boards and Librarians**
- 7% State Legislators or other Elected officials
- 2% Activist Groups
- 9% Members of the local community (*volunteered – do not read*)
- 4% Other (*volunteered – do not read*)
- 2% More than one (*volunteered – do not read*)
- 6% None of them (*volunteered – do not read*)
- 10% Undecided/Refused



Demographic groups saying by the highest percentages that library boards (33%) and librarians (27%) should make decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public libraries by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide total of 60% included:

- 84% Democrats with children
- 82% Democratic men
- 76% Democrats
- 75% Positive job rating for Joe Biden
- 74% Michigan headed in right direction
Librarians are very/mostly capable of deciding which books to include in collections
- 73% Favorable opinion of Joe Biden
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Liberals
Democrats without children
- 72% Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Democratic women
- 71% Unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump
Considers themselves part of LGBTQ community
- 70% Favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Positive job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries
- 69% Uses library programs and services monthly or more often
Less likely to vote for legislators who support book bans
- 68% Opposes legislation that requires obscene material to be placed in restricted area
Pro-choice on abortion
- 67% Undecided about job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Positive job rating for local public libraries
Never ban books with sexual content, gender identity or sexual orientation
Would risk having the library closed to have LGBTQ books on the shelves
Local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books with sexual content
- 66% Bay County region
Young people should have access to books giving them different perspectives to grow
Banning books is un-American
Libraries should have a diverse collection
Incomes over \$150K
- 65% Favorable opinion of community activist groups
A few parents can't decide for everyone what books to keep and which ones to ban
College educated age 18-49
- 64% No recognize community activist groups
Seen, heard or read a lot about book banning efforts
Supports protecting right of the public to read what they want in libraries with bans

* = small sample size

Demographic groups saying that groups other than library boards and librarians should make decisions about which books and reading materials should be included in public library collections by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide total of 30% included:

- 63% There are many inappropriate books that should be removed from libraries
- 62% Supports charging librarians with a crime if they keep LGBTQ books if banned
- 60% Librarians are only a little capable of deciding which books to keep or ban
Undecided about whether a few parents can decide for everyone or not
- 54% People opposed to removing objectional material are just pushing a woke agenda
- 53% Always ban books with sexual content
More likely to vote for legislator who supports book banning
- 51% Negative job rating of local public libraries
Always ban books with political views you disagree with
Opposes legislation protecting right of the public to read what they want in libraries
Undecided about having books with sexual content in libraries
- 49% Protect young people from getting upset about books in collections
- 48% Books with sexual content should not be in local public libraries
- 47% Favorable opinion of Donald Trump
Undecided about whether librarians are capable of deciding about book collections
Republicans with children
- 46% Sometimes ban books with descriptions/depictions of slavery
Undecided about having diversity or pushing a woke agenda
Republican women
- 45% Michigan off on wrong track
- 44% A few parents have right to decide for everyone which books are kept or banned
Books critical of American way should be banned from local public libraries
Republicans
- 43% Negative job rating of Gretchen Whitmer
Republicans without children
- 42% Unfavorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Conservatives
Republican men
- 41% Sometimes ban books with discussions about race
- 40% Unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Sometimes ban books with political views you disagree with
Undecided about legislation to protect right of public to read what they want
Supports requiring obscene material to be placed in restricted library area for adults
Pro-life on abortion issue
- 39% Negative job rating for Joe Biden
Undecided about upsetting young people or helping them grow with diverse collection
Undecided about whether to voter for legislators supporting book banning
- 38% Never used programs or services of local public libraries
Undecided about banning books that are critical of America
- 37% Northern Michigan
Sometimes ban books with sexual content
Would not risk closing library to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves if they are banned

- Undecided about charging librarians with crime if they keep LGBTQ books if banned
 - Incomes of \$25K-\$50K
- 36% Unfavorable opinion of community activist groups
 - Undecided about job rating of local public libraries
 - If legislators support book bans it will not influence voters
- 35% Somewhat certain to vote/will probably vote in November of 2024
 - Seen, heard or read only a little about book banning efforts
 - Union members
 - Someone else in household is a union member
 - Age 35-49
 - Independent men
- 34% Voted in one of two last general elections
 - Undecided about State Legislative Republicans
 - Undecided about having libraries closed if LGBTQ books kept on shelves
 - Age 50-64
 - Catholics
 - Age 18-49 without college

* = **small sample size**

Key demographic groups indicating by the highest percentages that groups other than library boards and librarians should make decisions about what books and reading materials should be included in the library collection, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide total of 30%, included:

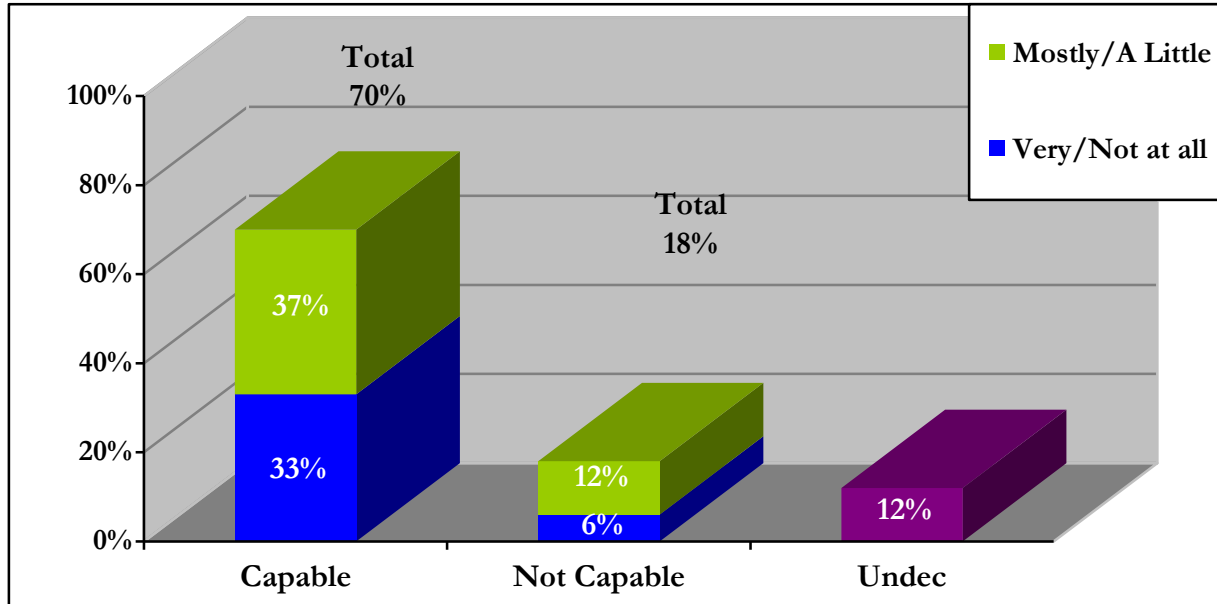
- 71% Depends on what books are placed on shelves to have librarians charged with a crime*
- 63% There are many inappropriate books that should be banned from libraries
- 62% Supports legislation to make it a crime if librarians have LGBTQ books on shelves
- 60% Librarians only a little capable/not capable at all to decide which books to include
 - Undecided if a few parents have the right to ban books for all parents
- 54% People against book bans just trying to push woke agenda
- 53% Always ban books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation
 - More likely to vote for legislators who support book bans
- 51% Negative job rating for local public libraries
 - Always ban books with political ideas you disagree with*
 - Opposes legislation protecting right to read whatever the public wants to in libraries
 - Undecided about banning books with sexual content
- 49% Agrees more with protecting young people from books that would be upsetting
- 48% Books containing sexual content/gender identity/sexual orientation should be banned
- 47% Favorable opinion of Donald Trump
 - Undecided about how capable librarians are in deciding which books to include
 - Republicans with children
- 46% Sometimes ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
 - Undecided about having diversity or pushing woke agenda
 - Republican women
- 45% Michigan off on the wrong track
- 44% Parents have the right to join with others to have books banned

- Books critical of America should be removed from libraries
- Republicans
- 43% Negative job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Republicans without children
- 42% Unfavorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Conservatives
Republican men
- 41% Sometimes ban books with discussions of race
- 40% Unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Sometimes ban books with political ideas you disagree with
Undecided on legislation protecting the right to read whatever you want in libraries*
Supports proposal requiring obscene material to be placed in restricted area of library
Pro-life on abortion
- 39% Negative job rating for Joe Biden
Undecided about whether young people should be protected from upsetting books
Undecided about voting for or against legislator who supports book bans*
- 38% Never uses library services
Undecided about book banning as un-American/criticisms of America banned
- 37% Northern Michigan
Undecided about Whitmer favorability rating
Sometimes ban books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation
If banned, against risking library closing to have LGBTQ books on shelves
Undecided about charging librarians with crime if they have LGBTQ books if banned
Incomes of \$25K-\$50K
- 36% Unfavorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Undecided about job rating for local public libraries
No influence if legislator supports book bans
- 35% Somewhat certain/will probably vote in November of 2024
Heard about book banning efforts only little
Union members
Someone else in household is a union member
Age 35-49
Independent men
- 34% Voted in one general election
Undecided about favorability rating of State Legislative Republicans
If banned, undecided about risking library closing to have LGBTQ books on shelves
Age 50-64
Catholics
Age 18-49 without college

* = small sample size

Decision Makers on Included Reading Materials – Q.17

A 70% solid majority of all respondents said that librarians are “very capable” (33%) or “mostly capable” (37%) in deciding which books and reading material should be included in their local library collection, with only 18% saying librarians are “only a little capable” (12%) or “not really capable at all” (6%) in making decisions about library collections, and 12% “undecided.”



Demographic groups indicating 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 18%, included:

- 49% There are many inappropriate books that should be banned
- 44% Supports charging librarians with a crime if they include LGBTQ books if banned
- 43% Opposes proposal to protect right to read whatever the public wants to in libraries
- 41% Always ban books with discussions of sexual content
- 40% Negative job rating for local public libraries
Local communities
- 37% Depends on what books in charging librarians with a crime
People who oppose book bans are pushing woke agenda
- 36% More likely to vote for legislator who supports book bans
- 35% Agrees more with protecting young people from content that might upset them
- 34% State legislators should decide what books/materials should be in libraries
Parents have the right to join with others to have inappropriate books banned
- 33% Community activist groups
Other groups
- 32% Sometimes ban books with discussions about race
Sometimes ban books with criticisms of people and events in U.S. history

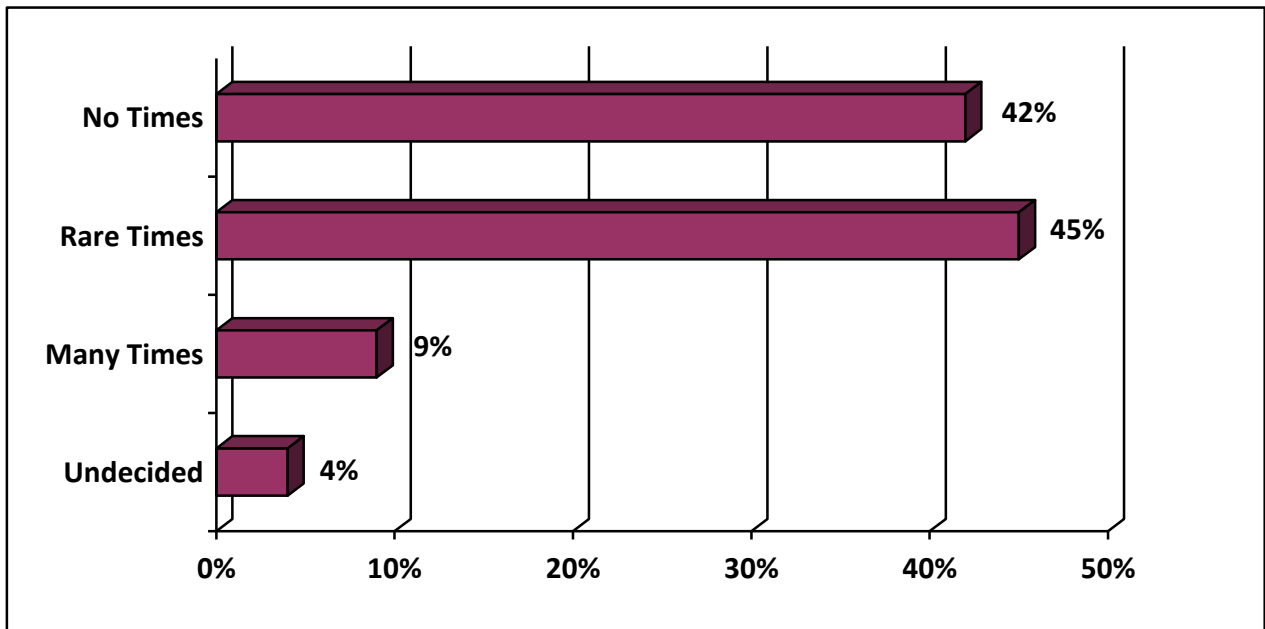
- 30% Michigan off on wrong track
Books with sexual content should not be included in the library collection
Books critical of American ways should be removed from libraries
Conservatives
Republican men
- 29% Unfavorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Sometimes ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
- 28% Books with political views you disagree with should always be banned*
Republicans
- 27% Unfavorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Favorable opinion of Donald Trump
Negative job rating of Gretchen Whitmer
Pro-life on abortion
Republicans with children
- 26% Union members
- 25% Unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden
Never uses programs or services of local public libraries
Books with political views you don't agree with should sometimes be banned
Republicans without children
Republican women
- 24% Undecided about job rating for local public libraries
Sometimes ban books with sexual content
Men aged 50 and over
- 23% Central Michigan
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Negative job rating for Joe Biden
Would no risk having library closed to have LGBTQ books in the library
Age 50 and over without college
- 22% Voted in one November general election in last 4 years
Undecided about opinion of Donald Trump
Legislators who support books bans will not influence voters
Post HS technical education

* = **small sample size**

When Should Books Be Banned – Q. 18

All respondents were asked which of the following statements would best describe their overall view about banning books and other reading material in public libraries. The responses were:

- 42% There is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries
- 45% There are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries
- 9% There are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries
- 4% Undecided/Refused



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 42%, included:

- 61% Liberals
- 59% Never ban books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation
- 58% Democrats with children
- 57% Positive job rating for Joe Biden
Willing to risk closing library to include LGBTQ books and material if banned
Less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book bans
Democrats
Democratic women
- 56% Democrats without children
Democratic men
- 55% No religious preference
- 54% Book banning is un-American
- 53% Favorable opinion of Joe Biden
- 52% Michigan headed in the right direction
Unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Positive job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Pro-choice on abortion issue
Oakland County
- 51% Incomes over \$150K
- 50% Favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Seen, heard or read a lot about book banning efforts
Opposes proposal to require obscene material to be placed in restricted area of libraries
Access to different perspectives helps young people grow into adults
Small group of parents can't decide for everyone what books should be kept
Age-appropriate books with sexual content are tools to understand complex issues
Men aged 18-49
Independent men
- 49% Undecided about Joe Biden favorable rating
Undecided about Joe Biden job rating*
Undecided about Gretchen Whitmer job rating*
Library boards/librarians should decide which books to include in library collections
Supports legislation to protect the right of the public to read what they want in libraries
Age 35-49
Age 18-49 without college
- 48% Do not recognize Community Activist Groups
Uses programs or services of local public libraries daily to monthly
Libraries should have a diverse collection
Age 18-34
Incomes of \$100K-\$150K
- 47% Undecided about favorable rating of State Legislative Republicans
Librarians are very/mostly capable of deciding which books to have in collections
Never ban books with political ideas you disagree with

- Never ban books with discussions about race
- Never ban books with criticisms of people and events in U.S. history
- Other races
- Women aged 18-49
- 46% Positive rating for local public libraries
- Never ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
- Households with children
- College educated
- Independent voters
- Incomes under \$25K
- Detroit
- Men with children
- Women with children
- College educated men
- College educated women

* = **small sample size**

Demographic groups indicating 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 9%, included:

- 47% Always ban books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation
- 44% More likely to vote for legislator who supports book bans
- 39% Opposes legislation to protect right to read what they want in libraries
- 34% Community Activist Groups should decide which books to keep or ban*
- Sometimes ban books with political ideas you sometimes disagree with
- Supports charging librarians with a crime if they keep LGBTQ books if banned
- 33% Agrees more that young people should be protected from books that might upset them
- 30% Sometimes ban books with discussions about race
- A few parents have the right to decide for everyone what books should be kept/banned
- 29% Always ban books with political ideas you disagree with*
- Books critical of American ways should be removed from local public libraries
- People who oppose book bans are just pushing a woke agenda
- 28% Books with sexual content should not be in local public libraries
- 27% Local communities should decide which books to keep or ban
- Sometimes ban books with descriptions and depictions of slavery
- 26% Sometimes ban books with criticisms of people and events in U.S. history
- 25% A little capable or not capable at all to decide book collections
- 22% State legislators should decide which books to keep or ban
- Conservatives
- 21% Undecided about whether a few parents can decide for everyone about books
- Republican women
- 19% Favorable opinion of Donald Trump
- Pro-life on abortion issue
- Republicans without children

- 18% Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Negative job rating for local public libraries
Republicans
- 17% Michigan off on the wrong track
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
- 16% Unfavorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Negative job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Sometimes ban books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation
Undecided about legislation to protect the right to read what they want in libraries
Macomb County
Republican men
- 15% Unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden
Unfavorable opinion of Community Activist groups
Would not risk having library closed to keep LGBTQ books in library if banned

* = small sample size

Ban By Subject Matter – Q.19 through Q.23

All respondents were asked to describe, for the following subjects, how often they believe each should be banned. While each question was read to each respondent, it should be noted that they were presented in a rotated fashion so as to minimize the potential of presentation bias. The responses were:

Sorted by “Never Banned”	<u>Always banned</u>	<u>Sometimes banned</u>	<u>Never banned</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Descriptions and depictions of slavery?	0%	8%	90%	2%
Discussions about race?	1%	8%	89%	2%
Criticisms of people and events in U.S. history?	1%	9%	88%	2%
Political ideas you disagree with?	2%	9%	87%	2%
Books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation?	9%	21%	67%	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. However, regarding the banning of books that include 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 indicating by the highest percentages that there are many inappropriate books that should always or sometimes banned in local public libraries, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 30%, included:

- 88% Books with discussions about race should sometimes be banned
- 87% Books with political ideas you do not agree with should always be banned*
- 85% There are many inappropriate books that should be banned
- 82% There are books with depictions of slavery that should sometimes be banned
- 81% Books with political ideas you do not agree with should sometimes be banned
- 80% Books that are critical of people/events in U.S. history should sometimes be banned
- 76% Opposes legislation to protect right of the public to read what they want in libraries
- 74% More likely to vote for legislators who support banning books
- 71% Supports charging librarians with a crime if they keep LGBTQ books after a ban
- 70% Books with sexual content should not be in local public libraries
- 69% Protect young people from getting upset because of inappropriate books in the library
A few parents have the right to decide for others what books should be banned
- 63% Books critical of American ways should be removed from libraries
- 59% People who oppose banning inappropriate books are just pushing a woke agenda
- 56% State legislators should decide which books to keep or ban
Pro-life on abortion issue
- 55% Republican women
- 54% Undecided about legislation to protect right of the public to read what they want
- 52% Republicans without children
- 51% Conservatives
- 49% Favorable opinion of Donald Trump
Undecided about banning books that are critical of American ways
Republicans
- 48% Michigan off on wrong track
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Community Activist Groups should decide which books to keep or ban
Librarians are only a little capable or not capable at all to decide books to keep or ban
If banned, not wanting to risk closing the library to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves
- 47% Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
- 46% Negative job rating for local public libraries
- 45% Unfavorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Negative job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Local communities should decide which books to keep or ban
Legislators who support book bans will have no influence on voting
Undecided about voting for or against legislator who supports book banning
- 44% Catholics
Republican men
- 43% Bay County area
Undecided about having diversity or pushing a woke agenda*
- 42% Unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden
There are rare times when some books should be banned
Supports legislation requiring obscene materials to be placed in restricted area
Undecided about having books that may upset young people
- 41% Age 50 and older without college

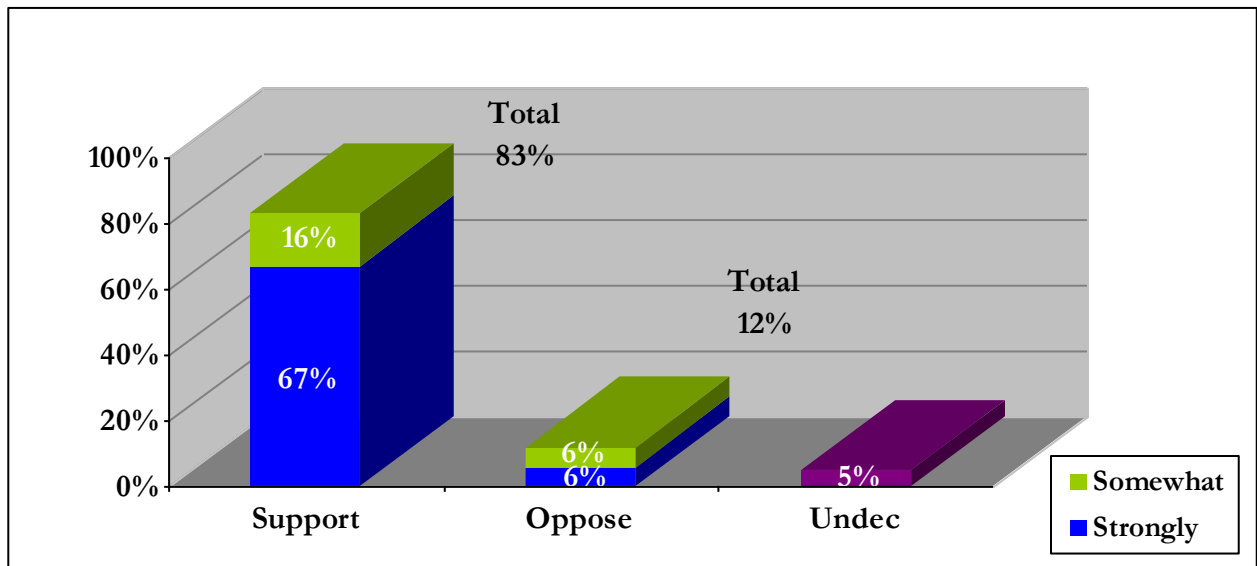
- 40% Unfavorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Never used the programs and services of their local public library
Undecided about a few parents being able to decide for all or others what books to ban
Republicans with children
- 39% Negative job rating for Joe Biden
- 38% Undecided about favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Opposes charging librarians with a crime if they keep LGBTQ books after a ban
Undecided about which statement to support about books with sexual content
Age 65 or older
- 37% Seen, heard or read only a little about book banning efforts
Undecided about legislation to require obscene material to be placed in restricted area
- 36% Undecided about job rating for local public libraries
Men aged 50 and older
- 35% Northern Michigan
Undecided about opinion of Community Activist Groups
Someone else in household is a union member
Incomes of \$75K-\$100K
Macomb County

* = **small sample size**

Opinions on Legislative Protections from Book Banning– Q. 24

All respondents were asked if they would support or oppose state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned, and if that support (or opposition) would be “strong” or “just somewhat.” The responses were:

- 67% Strongly support
- 16% Somewhat support
- 83% *TOTAL SUPPORT***
- 12% *TOTAL OPPOSE***
- 6% Somewhat oppose
- 6% Strongly oppose
- 5% Undecided/Refused



Demographic groups indicating by the highest percentages that they oppose legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish in local public libraries without book bans, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 12%, included:

- 56% Always ban books with content about sex
- 51% There are many inappropriate books that should be banned
- 44% Always ban books with political views you disagree with*
More likely to vote for legislators who support books bans
- 41% Supports charging librarians with a crime if they keep LGBTQ books if banned
- 35% Sometimes ban books with political views you disagree with
- 34% Protect young people from books that might upset them
A few parents have the right to decide for everyone what books to keep, which to ban
Books with sexual content should be banned from libraries
- 30% Local communities should decide which books to keep or ban
Sometimes ban books with discussions about race
- 29% Books that are critical of the American ways should be removed
People who oppose banning objectional books are just pushing a woke agenda
- 28% Librarians only a little capable or not capable at all to decide books to keep or ban
Sometimes ban books with criticisms of people or events in U.S. history
Undecided about protecting young people from books that upset them/help them grow
- 27% Community Activist Groups should decide which books to keep or ban*
Undecided about keeping or banning books that are critical of the American way
- 26% Pro-life on abortion issue
- 25% Sometimes ban books with discussions about slavery
- 24% Conservatives
Republicans without children
- 23% Negative job rating for local public libraries
- 22% Favorable opinion of Donald Trump
Republican men
- 21% Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Unfavorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Not risk closing the library to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves if banned
Republicans
Republican women
- 20% Michigan of on wrong track
Unfavorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Negative job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Undecided about banning books or pushing woke agenda
- 19% Undecided about how often books should be banned
Undecided about a few parents being able to decide for everyone
- 18% Northern Michigan
Unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden
Sometimes ban books with content about sex
Age 65 or older
Age 50 and over without college
- 17% Undecided about books with content about sex
Men aged 50 and over

- 16% Undecided about Whitmer favorability rating
 Negative job rating for Joe Biden
 Undecided about job rating of local public libraries
 State legislators should make decisions about books to keep or ban
 State legislators who support book bans are no influence on vote in next election
 Catholics

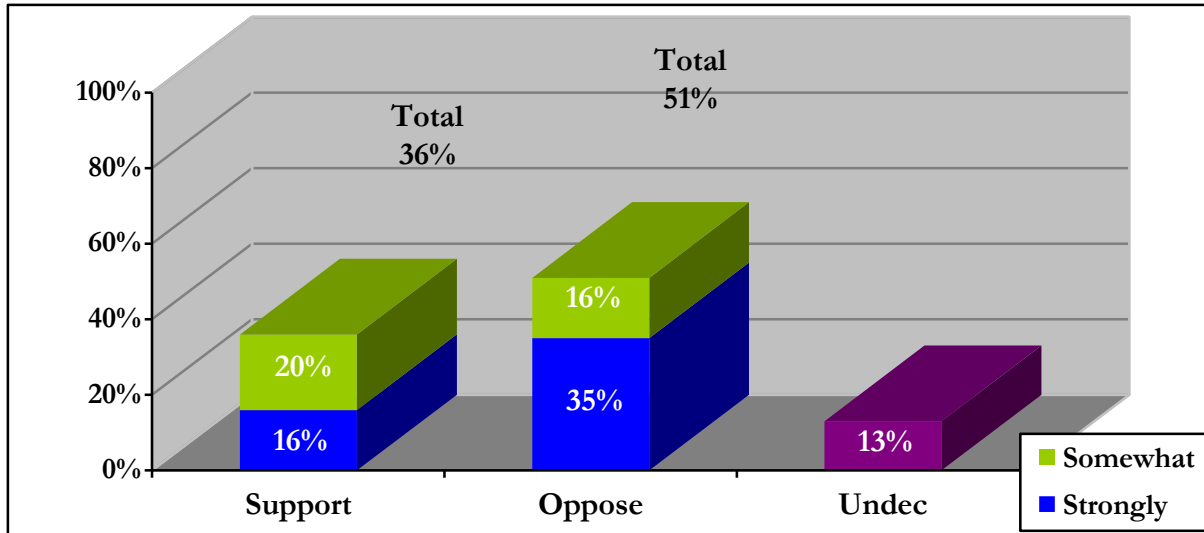
* = small sample size

Opinion on Restricted Areas and Risk of Closure – Q. 25

Respondents were asked, based on the following description, if they would support or oppose proposed legislation. and if that support (or opposition) would be “strong” or “just somewhat.” The description read as follows:

“Even though local public libraries do not purchase or make available books or materials that are legally recognized as obscene, legislation has been introduced in Michigan that would require any library that makes obscene or sexually explicit material available to the public, to keep such material in a restricted area accessible only to individuals who are 18 years of age or older, where they must remain or be checked out of the library. This legislation does not provide a different definition of what is obscene and sexually explicit than what local public libraries already follow, but it does allow any individual – based on their own interpretation of what those terms mean – to file legal action against a public library. If a court finds the library is not in compliance, the court shall order the library to be closed until it is in compliance.” The responses were:

- 16% Strongly support
- 20% Somewhat support
- 36% TOTAL SUPPORT**
- 51% TOTAL OPPOSE**
- 16% Somewhat oppose
- 35% Strongly oppose
- 13% Undecided/Refused



Demographic groups indicating by the highest percentages that they support legislation that would require obscene material to be placed in a restricted adult area of the library, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 36%, included:

- 63% Supports charging librarians if they keep LGBTQ books if banned
- 59% More likely to vote for legislator who support book banning
Republicans with children
- 57% Books with political views you disagree with should always be banned*
- 56% People opposed to banning books just pushing woke agenda
- 55% State legislators should decide which books to keep or ban in libraries
Books with discussions about race should sometime be banned
A few parents have the right to decide for everyone about books to keep or ban
- 53% Books critical of American ways should be removed from libraries
- 52% Negative Job rating for local public libraries
There are many inappropriate books that should be banned from public libraries
- 51% Books with sexual content should always be banned
Books with sexual content should sometimes be banned
Undecided about a few parents deciding for everyone what books to keep or ban
- 50% Books with sexual content should not be kept in libraries
African Americans
- 49% Not willing to risk having library closed to keep LGBTQ books if banned
Young people should be protected from books that might upset them
- 48% Favorable opinion of Donald Trump
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Books critical of people or events in U.S. history should sometimes be banned
Opposes legislation to protect right of the public to read what they want in libraries
Republican men
- 47% Community Activist Groups should make decisions about which books to keep or ban
No influence on vote if legislator supports book banning
Republicans
Men with children

- 46% Unfavorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Local communities should make decisions about which books to keep or ban
Pro-life on abortion issue
Other religious preferences
Republican women
- 45% Bay County region
Unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden
Unfavorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Never uses programs/services of local public libraries
Books with political views you disagree with should
Conservatives
Age 18-49 without college
- 44% Michigan off on wrong track
Undecided about opinion of Donald Trump
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Negative job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Other groups should decide which books to keep or ban
Books with discussions about slavery should sometimes be banned
Men aged 18-49
Men without college
- 43% Negative job rating for Joe Biden
Librarians only a little capable/not capable at all to decide which books to keep or ban
- 42% Outer metro area
Opposes charging librarians if they keep LGBTQ books if they are banned
Undecided about protecting young people from books that upset them/help them grow
Republicans without children
Incomes of \$100K-\$150K
Independent men
- 41% Undecided about direction of Michigan
Heard nothing about book banning efforts
Undecided about legislator who supports book banning
Households with children
Age 18-34
- 40% Voted in one of past two general elections
Undecided about job of local public libraries
There are rare times when books should be banned
HS or less education
Post HS technical education

* = **small sample size**

Demographic groups indicating by the highest percentages that they oppose legislation that would require obscene material to be placed in a restricted adult area of the library, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 51%, included:

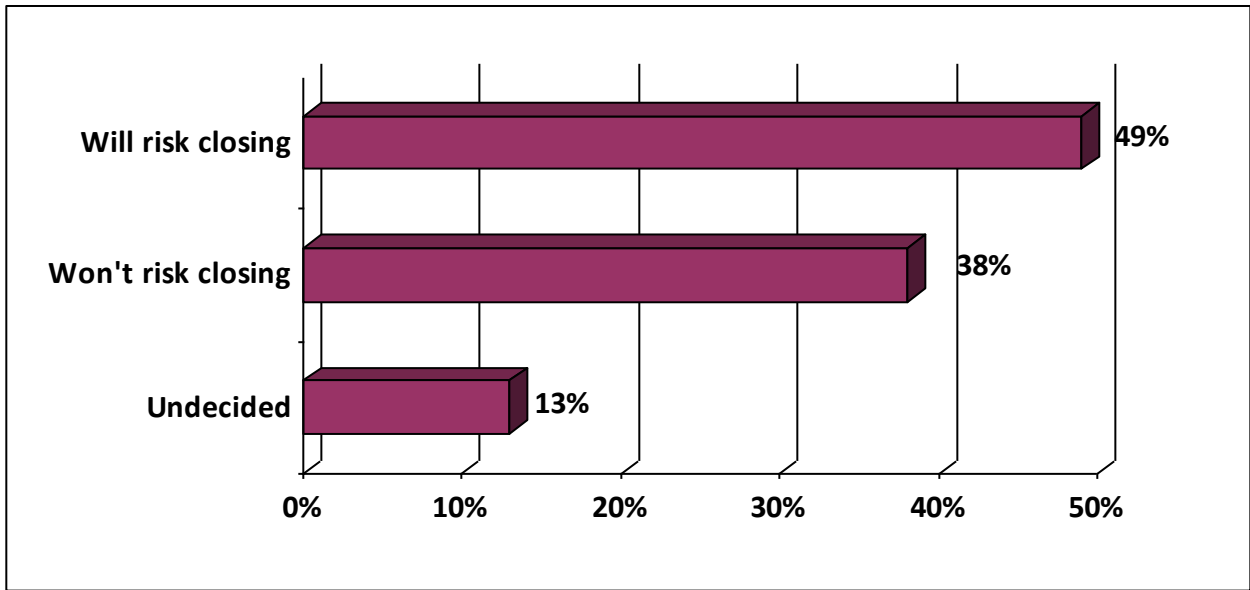
- 74% Liberals
- 66% Positive job rating for Joe Biden
- 65% Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
Less likely to vote for legislators who support book bans
No religious preference
Democrats
Democratic men
- 64% Democratic women
- 63% Michigan headed in right direction
Favorable opinion of Joe Biden
Willing to risk closing library to keep LGBTQ books if there is a ban
- 62% Unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump
Favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Pro-choice on the abortion issue
Part of LGBTQ community
- 61% Favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Books should never be banned
Books with a sexual content should never be banned
- 60% Positive job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Book bans are un-American
- 58% Seen, heard or read a lot about book banning efforts
Library boards and librarians should decide which books/material to keep or ban
Different perspectives help young people grow into adults
A few parents should not be able to decide for everyone what books to keep/ban
Libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials
Union members
Independent women
College educated women
- 57% Uses library programs and service a few times a month or more often
Local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books with sexual content
Incomes of \$25K-\$50K
Women aged 18-49
- 56% Positive job rating for local public libraries
Librarians are very or mostly capable of deciding which books/material to keep/ban
Supports legislation protecting public right to read what they want in libraries/no bans
- 55% Central Michigan
Western Michigan
College educated

* = small sample size

Opinion on LGBTQ Content and Risk of Closure – Q. 26

All respondents were asked, if there was a ban on books that included LGBTQ content in their local public library, if they would be willing to risk having their library closed to keep those books on the shelves. The responses were:

- 49% Yes, would be willing to risk the closure of the library to include LGBTQ books
- 38% No, would NOT be willing to risk having the library closed
- 13% Undecided/Refused



Demographic groups indicating by the highest percentages that they are willing to risk closing the library to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves if there is a ban, by a significantly higher percentage than the statewide results of 49%, included:

- 75% Part of the LGBTQ community
- 73% Liberals
- 69% Democrats with children
- 68% Democratic women
- 67% Democrats
Democrats without children
- 66% There is never a time when books should be banned from local public libraries
Democratic men
- 65% Positive job rating for Joe Biden
- 64% Michigan headed in the right direction
- 63% Favorable opinion of Joe Biden
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
- 62% Favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Pro-choice on abortion issue
- 61% Undecided about Biden favorability
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Positive job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
Never ban books with sexual content
Less likely to vote for legislator who supports book bans
Women aged 18-49
- 60% Unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump
Opposes requirement to place obscene material in restricted adult area of library
- 59% Age 18-34
No religious preference
Other races
- 58% College educated age 18-49
- 57% Young people should access books with different perspectives to help them grow
Local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books with sexual content
Book bans are un-American
- 56% Libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading material
Incomes over \$150K
Age 18-49 without college
Independent women
- 55% Uses library programs and services a few times a month or more often
Age 35-49
Incomes of \$50K-\$75K
Oakland County
- 54% Voted in one of past two November general elections
Heard a lot about book banning efforts
Library boards and librarians should decide which books to keep or ban
Librarians are very or mostly capable of deciding which books to keep or ban
Supports legislation to protect public right to read what they wish without bans
A few parents should not be able to decide for everyone what books to keep or ban

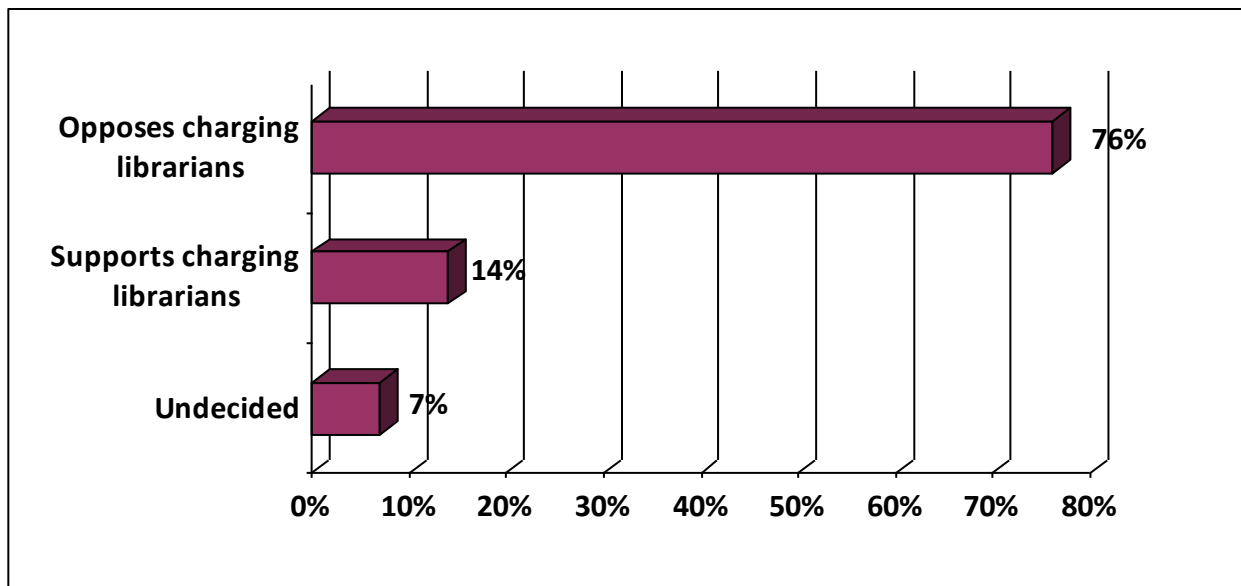
Independent voters
College educated women

* = small sample size

Opinion on Charging Library Workers with a Crime – Q. 27

Respondents who were not willing to risk having their local public library closed to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves if there was a ban, or were undecided on the issue, were further presented with more detailed information, stating that “some people say that NOT ONLY should books with LGBTQ content be banned in local public libraries, but library workers should be charged with a crime if they choose to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves of their library” and then asked if they would you support or oppose charging library workers with a crime if they choose to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves of their local public library, and whether that support, or opposition, would be “strong” or “just somewhat.” Among those 411 respondents (out of 800 total) the responses were:

- 9% Strongly support
- 5% Somewhat support
- 14% TOTAL SUPPORT**
- 76% TOTAL OPPOSE**
- 16% Somewhat oppose
- 60% Strongly oppose
- 3% Depends on the books in question (*volunteered – do not read*)
- 7% Undecided/Refused



Presentation of Opposing Statements

All respondents heard several sets of opposing statements, and for each set, asked which statement they agree with **the most**. It is noted that opposing statements were presented in a rotated fashion to respondents, both *within* each set, and across *all* question sets Q.28 through Q.32.

Different Perspectives Helps Young People Grow – Q. 28

“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.”

“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.”

75% Different Perspectives Helps Them Grow

17% Protect from Upsetting Young People

8% Undecided/Refused

Other Parents Cannot Decide for Everyone – Q. 29

“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.”

“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.”

80% Other parents can't decide for everyone

15% Parents have a right to remove books they find objectionable

5% Undecided/Refused

Libraries Can Provide Age-appropriate Access– Q. 30

“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.”

“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.”

- 74%** Local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books containing sexual content
- 21% Books containing sexual content or discuss sexual identity should not be in local public libraries
- 5% Undecided/Refused

Book Banning is Un-American – Q. 31

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

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

- 71%** Banning books is Un-American
- 21% Books critical of American ways should be removed
- 8% Undecided/Refused

A Diverse Collection is Not a “Woke” Agenda – Q. 32

“Local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.”

“Anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to.”

- 77%** Libraries should have a diverse collection
- 15% Opponents are pushing a woke agenda
- 8% Undecided/Refused

Decreased Support for Elected Officials that Support Bans – Q. 33

All respondents were asked, if their member of Congress, State Senator or State Representative supported legislation that would allow or require books to be banned from your local public library, if they would be more likely to vote for that person in the next election, less likely to vote for him or her, or if this one issue would not influence then one way or the other. If the respondent offered a response of either more, or less, likely, they were further asked if that would be “much” or “just somewhat.” The responses were:

- 5% Much more likely to vote for that person
- 4% Somewhat more likely to vote for that person
- 9% TOTAL MORE LIKELY**
- 29% No influence on way or the other
- 57% TOTAL LESS LIKELY**
- 19% Somewhat less likely to vote for that person
- 38% Much less likely to vote for that person
- 5% Undecided/Refused

Demographic groups indicating by the highest percentages that they would be 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 57%, included:

- 88% Liberals
- 84% Positive job rating for Joe Biden
- 83% Democratic men
- 82% Democrats without children
- 81% Favorable opinion of Joe Biden
Democrats
Democrats with children
- 80% Voters who consider themselves part of the LGBTQ community
Democratic women
- 78% Michigan headed in the right direction
Unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans
Favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats
At no time should any books be banned from local public libraries
- 77% No religious preference
- 76% Favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer
Positive job rating for Gretchen Whitmer
- 75% Unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump
- 74% Pro-choice on abortion issue
- 73% Favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups
Books with sexual content, gender identity, sexual orientation should never be banned
Opposes legislation to charge librarians if they keep LGBTQ books if they are banned
- 72% Would risk having library closed to keep LGBTQ books on the shelves if banned

- 71% Local public libraries can provide age-appropriate access to books with sexual content
- 70% Banning books is un-American
Union members
- 69% Different perspectives help young people grow into adults who think for themselves
- 68% Libraries should have a diverse collection of books, rejecting a woke agenda claim
- 67% Library boards and Librarians should decide which books to keep or ban
A few parents cannot be able to decide for everyone which books are kept or banned
Detroit
- 66% Heard a lot about book banning efforts
Age 18-34
Women aged 18-49
- 65% Outer Metro area
Uses library programs or services a few times a month or more often
Supports legislation to protect the public's right to read what they wish without bans
College educated age 18-49
Wayne County
- 64% Librarians are very/mostly capable of deciding which books to keep or ban
Other races
Moderates
Outer Wayne County
College educated women
- 63% Western Michigan
Positive job rating for local public libraries
Incomes of \$100K-\$150K
Independent men
- 62% Books with political views you disagree with should never be banned
College educated
African American/Black
Incomes of \$50K-\$75K
Men with children
- 61% Books that discuss slavery should never be banned
Books that discuss race should never be banned
Books that criticize people or events in U.S. history should never be banned
Households with children
Incomes under \$2K
Aged 18-49 without college
Women with children

* = **small sample size**

It is worth noting that Republicans do not register higher than the statewide results on this question. 36% said they would be less likely to vote for their legislator if they supported book banning, with only 18% saying they would be more likely to vote for that legislator. Likewise, Republicans with children would be less likely to vote for their legislator if he or she supported book bans, with only 19% saying they are more likely to vote for that legislator. Republicans without children were also less likely to vote for their legislator by 33% - with 18% saying they

are more likely to vote for their legislator if he or she supports book banning. Finally, 38% of Republican men were less likely to vote for their legislator if he or she supported book banning, compared with 19% saying they are more likely to support that legislator. Republican women were less likely to vote for their legislator if they support book banning proposals by 34%, with 16% saying they are more likely to support them.

More importantly, Independent male voters were less likely to vote for their legislator if he or she supported book banning proposals by 63%, with only 2% saying they would be more likely to support that legislator. Independent women voters were less likely to vote for their legislator by 53% if he or she supports book banning, with only 5% saying they would be more likely to vote for that legislator.

This finding should raise very serious concerns 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 legislators that support book banning, Independent voters who would also be less likely to vote for their legislator if they support book banning proposals, and even Republican voters who would be less likely to vote for their legislator if they supported book banning, legislators who represent marginal, competitive districts - especially Republicans - could be defeated in their elections just on the book banning issue alone

COMPARING REGION 1 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 1 is a heavily Democratic area of the state, with an N=54 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 1, a 61% to 22% majority of respondents offered the same response - 10 points lower than the statewide results.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 1, a 91% majority of respondents offered the same response - 8 points higher than the statewide results.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 1, a 96% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 1, 98% of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 1, 87% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 1, an identical 87% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 1, an 83% majority of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned, a much stronger view.

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (13% in Region 1).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 1, 83% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide said they agree more with the statement that said, “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.” Only 15% 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.” In Region 1, 81% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 1, 89% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with only 6% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 1, 85% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while only 8% agreed with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 1, 81% of

respondents said book banning is un-American, with only 13% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 1, a 66% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (29% much less likely), with only 6% saying they would be more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 1, 63% of respondents said, “local library boards” (28%) or “librarians” (35%) should make decisions about books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 1, an identical 70% of respondents said librarians are very capable (44%) or mostly capable (26%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 1, 57% of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (39%) or “some” (18%) about book banning efforts, with 39% saying they heard “only a little” (17%) or “nothing at all” (22%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 1, 46% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 45% said there are rare times, with 7% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 1, 41% of respondents offered a similar response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 1, 69% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with only 11% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 1, a 72% solid majority of respondents had a favorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 52% to 46% majority offered a positive job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 1, an 89% to 7% majority of respondents had a favorable opinion of her, and an 81% to 17% majority offered a positive job rating for Whitmer.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 1, an 82% to 9% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 1, a 76% to 4% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while 76% to 11% majority had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 1, a 70% majority of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, with only 4% having an unfavorable opinion of them.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 1, 81% of respondents identified as Democrats, 6% as Republicans, with 11% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 2 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 2 is located in Western Michigan, with an N=102 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 2, an 81% to 7% majority of respondents offered the same response - 10 points higher than the statewide results.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 2, a 78% majority of respondents offered the same response - 5 points lower than the statewide results.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 2, an 87% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 2, a 91% majority of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 2, an identical 88% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 2, 84% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 2, 64% of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned.

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (15% in Region 2).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 2, 73% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” Only 15% 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.” In Region 2, 77% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 2, 73% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with 20% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 2, 76% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 21% agreed with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 2, 73% of

respondents said book banning is un-American, with 19% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 2, a 59% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (39% much less likely), with 11% saying they would be more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 2, 61% of respondents said, “local library boards” (42%) or “librarians” (19%) should make decisions about books to keep or ban.

A 70% solid majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 2, an identical 70% of respondents said librarians are very capable (38%) or mostly capable (32%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 2, a 78% majority of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (47%) or “some” (31%) about book banning efforts, with 22% saying they heard “only a little” (14%) or “nothing at all” (8%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 2, 34% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 51% said there are rare times, with 9% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents statewide said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 2, 58% of respondents offered a similar response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 2, 38% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 44% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 2, a 58% solid majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 71% to 25% majority offered a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 2, 44% of respondents had a favorable opinion of her, 44% unfavorable and a 52% to 45% majority offered a negative job rating for Whitmer.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 2, a 61% to 29% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 2, a 46% to 31% plurality of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while 46% to 35% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 2, a 43% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, with 26% having an unfavorable opinion of them.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 2, 28% of respondents identified as Democrats, 48% as Republicans, with 24% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 3 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 3 is located in North-Western Michigan, with an N=40 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 3, an 80% to 13% majority of respondents offered the same response - 9 points higher than the statewide results.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 3, a 68% to 25% majority of respondents offered the same response - 15 points lower than the statewide results.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 3, a 92% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 3, an 87% of respondents majority agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 3, an identical 88% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 3, 88% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 3, a much lower 55% of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned.

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (20% in Region 3).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 3, 73% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide said they agreed 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.” Only 15% 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” (30% in Region 3). Also in Region 3, 68% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 3, 65% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with 30% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 3, 68% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 30% agreed with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 3, 73% of

respondents said book banning is un-American, with 20% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 3, a 55% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (42% much less likely), with 13% saying they were more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 3, 62% of respondents said “local library boards” (40%) or “librarians” (22%) should make decisions about books to keep or ban.

A 70% solid majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 3, 80% of respondents said librarians are very capable (45%) or mostly capable (35%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 3, a 75% majority of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (42%) or “some” (33%) about book banning efforts, with 23% saying they heard “only a little” (10%) or “nothing at all” (13%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 3, 37% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 48% said

there are rare times, with 10% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 3, 40% of respondents offered a similar response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 3, 32% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 48% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 3, a 63% to 32% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 65% to 32% majority offered a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 3, 55% to 42% of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Whitmer, and a 60% to 32% majority offered a negative job rating for her.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 3, a 53% to 42% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 3, a 45% to 33% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 41% to 37% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 3, 20% of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, 20% had an unfavorable opinion of them, and 53% were undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 3, 32% of respondents identified as Democrats, 53% as Republicans, with 15% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 4 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 4 is located in Genesee County Bay County area region of Michigan, with an N=96 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 4, a 75% to 6% majority of respondents offered a slightly stronger response - 4 points higher than the statewide results.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 4, an 82% to 13% of respondents majority offered the same response - 1 point lower than the statewide results.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 4, an 88% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 4, a 91% majority of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 4, 90% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 4, 88% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 4, a 68% majority of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned.

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (13% in Region 4).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 4, 80% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” Only 15% 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” (16% in Region 4). Also in Region 4, 81% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 4, 77% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with 17% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 4, 76% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 22% agreed with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 4, an identical 71% of

respondents said book banning is un-American, with 22% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 4, a 52% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (32% much less likely), with 7% saying they are more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 4, 64% of respondents said, “local library boards” (38%) or “librarians” (26%) should make decisions about books to keep or ban.

A 70% solid majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 4, 73% of respondents said librarians are very capable (34%) or mostly capable (39%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 4, a 72% majority of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (39%) or “some” (33%) about book banning efforts, with 28% saying they heard “only a little” (19%) or “nothing at all” (9%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 4, 38% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 49% said there are rare times, with 8% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents statewide said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 4, 37% of respondents offered a similar response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 4, 51% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 37% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 4, a 49% to 42% plurality of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 68% to 30% majority offered a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 4, 56% to 37% of respondents had a favorable opinion of Whitmer, and a 55% to 43% majority offered a negative job rating for her.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 4, a 61% to 26% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 4, a 41% to 28% plurality of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 44% to 31% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 4, 27% of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, 24% had an unfavorable opinion of them, and 48% were undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 4, 46% of respondents identified as Democrats, 38% as Republicans, with 16% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 5 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 5 is located in the Northern part of the lower peninsula as well as Luce County and a few other townships in the Upper Peninsula, with an N=40 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 5, a 70% to 5% of respondents majority offered a positive job rating for libraries - nearly the same as the statewide results.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 5, a 78% to 20% majority of respondents offered the same response - 5 points lower than the statewide results.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 5, 85% of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 5, 83% of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 5, 90% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 5, 88% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 5, a 53% majority of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned, with 40% saying they should always be banned (20%) or sometimes banned (20%).

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our

children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (23% in Region 5).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 5, 72% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” Only 15% 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” (13% in Region 5). Also in Region 5, 85% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 5, 67% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with 18% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 5, 70% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 25% agreed more with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family

values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 5, 73% of respondents said book banning is un-American, with 20% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 5, a 58% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (38% much less likely), with 10% saying they are more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 5, 67% of respondents said “local library boards” (32%) or “librarians” (35%) should make decisions about which books to keep or ban.

A 70% solid majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 5, 70% of respondents said librarians are very capable (42%) or mostly capable (28%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide also said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 5, a 78% majority of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (40%) or “some” (38%) about book banning efforts, with 20% saying they heard “only a little” (10%) or “nothing at all” (10%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 5, 35% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 53% said there are rare times, with 8% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 5, 37% of respondents offered the same response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 5, 35% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 50% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 5, a 60% to 30% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 60% to 30% majority also offered a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 5, a 55% to 37% majority had an unfavorable opinion of Whitmer, and a 55% to 40% majority of respondents offered a negative job rating for her.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 5, a 52% to 40% majority of respondents had a favorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 5, a 48% to 32% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 53% to 25% majority plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 5, 27% of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, 23% had an unfavorable opinion of them, with 40% undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 5, 27% of respondents identified as Democrats, 50% as Republicans, with 23% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 6 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 6 is located in the Southwest part of Michigan, with an N=41 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 6, an 81% to 7% majority of respondents offered a positive job rating for libraries - 10 points higher than the statewide results.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 6, a 90% to 7% majority of respondents offered the same response - 7 points higher than the statewide results.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 6, a 93% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 6, 88% of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 6, 90% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 6, 85% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 6, a 73% majority of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned, with 25% saying they should always be banned (12%) or sometimes banned (13%).

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our

children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (19% in Region 6).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 6, 76% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” Only 15% 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” (10% in Region 6). Also in Region 6, 88% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 6, 83% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, with 10% agreeing more with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 6, 83% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 17% agreed more with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family

values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 6, 76% of respondents said book banning is un-American, with 17% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 6, a 71% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (51% much less likely), with 10% saying they are more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 6, 67% of respondents said, “local library boards” (25%) or “librarians” (42%) should make decisions about which books to keep or ban.

A 70% solid majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 6, 73% of respondents said librarians are very capable (39%) or mostly capable (34%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide also said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 6, a 76% majority of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (29%) or “some” (47%) about book banning efforts, with 24% saying they heard “only a little” (22%) or “nothing at all” (2%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 6, 59% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 29% said

there are rare times, with 12% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 6, 51% of respondents offered the same response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 6, 49% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 34% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 6, a 46% to 46% plurality of respondents were tied in their opinion of Joe Biden, with a 49% to 46% plurality also offering a positive job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 6, a 56% to 42% majority of respondents had a favorable opinion of Whitmer, and a 59% to 41% majority offered a positive job rating for her.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 6, a 66% to 29% solid majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 6, a 53% to 37% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 49% to 37% plurality had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 6, 29% of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, 17% had an unfavorable opinion of them, with 42% undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 6, 46% of respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 15% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 7 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 7 is largely Macomb County, a small part of Oakland County, and a small part of Wayne County, with an N=67 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 7, a 63% to 10% majority of respondents offered a positive job rating for libraries, 8 points lower than the statewide results.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 7, an 87% to 9% majority of respondents offered the same response - 4 points higher than the statewide results.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 7, an identical 90% of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 7, 87% of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 7, 82% of respondents agreed - 6 points lower than the statewide results.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 7, 85% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 7, a 60% majority of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned, with 36% saying they should always be banned (10%) or sometimes banned (21%).

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our

children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (22% in Region 7).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 7, 69% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” Only 15% 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” (18% in Region 7). Also in Region 7, 75% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 7, 67% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, with 21% agreeing more with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 7, 63% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 33% agreed more with the second - 11 points lower than statewide results.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family

values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 7, 61% of respondents said book banning is un-American, with 29% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 7, 45% of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (25% much less likely), with 9% saying they are more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 7, only 49% of respondents said, “local library boards” (22%) or “librarians” (27%) should make decisions about which books to keep or ban.

A 70% solid majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 7, 67% of respondents said librarians are very capable (25%) or mostly capable (42%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide also said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 7, a 72% majority of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (40%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 28% saying they heard “only a little” (15%) or “nothing at all” (13%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 7, 36% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 46% said

there are rare times, with 16% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 7, only 27% of respondents offered the same response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 7, 37% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 42% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 7, a 60% to 33% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, with a 69% to 28% majority offering a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 7, a 46% to 42% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of Whitmer, and a narrow 49% to 48% plurality offered a negative job rating for her.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 7, a narrow 48% to 45% plurality of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 7, a 45% to 28% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 40% to 30% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 7, 21% of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, 20% had an unfavorable opinion of them, with 49% undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 7, 37% identified as Democrats, 42% as Republicans, with 21% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 8 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 8 is a largely Republican area covering almost all of the Upper Peninsula and part of Emmett County, and Alpena and Crawford Counties, with an N=40 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 8, a 77% to 8% majority of respondents offered the same response - 6 points higher than the statewide results.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 8, a 70% to 18% majority of respondents offered the same response - 13 points lower than the statewide results.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 8, an identical 90% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 8, 85% of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 8, 85% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 8, 83% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 8, a 65% majority of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned.

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (17% in Region 8).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 8, 73% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide said they agree more with the statement that said, “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.” Only 15% 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.” In Region 8, 78% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 8, 73% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with 20% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 8, 65% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 30% agreed with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 8, 60% of

respondents said book banning is un-American, with only 25% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 8, a 48% plurality of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (40% much less likely), with only 15% saying they would be more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 8, 53% of respondents said, “local library boards” (30%) or “librarians” (23%) should make decisions about books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 8, an identical 70% of respondents said librarians are very capable (40%) or mostly capable (30%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 8, 62% of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (40%) or “some” (22%) about book banning efforts, with 38% saying they heard “only a little” (23%) or “nothing at all” (19%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 8, 47% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 23% said

there are rare times, with 13% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 8, 40% of respondents offered a similar response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 8, 38% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 42% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 8, a 65% to 27% solid majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 75% to 25% majority offered a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 8, a 48% to 35% plurality had a favorable opinion of her, and a 50% to 47% bare majority offered a negative rating for Whitmer.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 8, a 48% to 35% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 8, a 48% to 25% plurality had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 48% to 27% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 8, a 28% to 23% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, with 47% undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 8, 53% of respondents identified as Democrats, 25% as Republicans, with 22% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 9 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 9 is an area in Southeast Michigan covering Wayne County (minus Detroit), and Oakland, Livingston, Washtenaw and St. Clair Counties, with an N=251 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 9, a 70% to 5% majority of respondents offered the same response.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 9, an 86% to 9% majority of respondents offered the same response.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 9, a 92% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 9, 90% of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 9, 90% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 9, 88% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 9, a 70% majority of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned.

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (12% in Region 9).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 9, 78% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide said they agree more with the statement that said, “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.” Only 15% 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.” In Region 9, 83% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 9, 76% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with 17% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 9, 76% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 18% agreed with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 9, 73% of

respondents said book banning is un-American, with only 20% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 9, a 62% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (43% much less likely), with only 7% saying they would be more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 9, 61% of respondents said, “local library boards” (30%) or “librarians” (31%) should make decisions about books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 9, an identical 70% of respondents said librarians are very capable (31%) or mostly capable (39%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 9, 71% of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (33%) about book banning efforts, with 28% saying they heard “only a little” (14%) or “nothing at all” (14%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 9, 45% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 46% said there are rare times, with 5% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 9, an identical 39% of respondents offered a similar response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 9, 50% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 34% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 9, a 47% to 41% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 62% to 34% majority offered a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 9, a 59% to 33% solid majority had a favorable opinion of her, and a 54% to 41% majority offered a positive rating for Whitmer.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 9, a 60% to 30% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 9, a 41% to 32% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 45% to 33% plurality had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 9, a 33% to 17% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, with 43% undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 9, 42% of respondents identified as Democrats, 35% as Republicans, with 23% Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 10 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 10 is an area in Eastern Michigan covering the Thumb area to Clinton County, and several counties north of Bay and Midland Counties, with an N=48 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 10, an identical 71% to 8% majority of respondents offered the same response.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 10, an identical 83% to 13% majority offered the same response.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 10, an 87% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 10, 79% of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 10, 85% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 10, 81% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 10, 54% of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned.

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (23% in Region 10).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 10, 73% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide said they agree more with the statement that said, “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.” Only 15% 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.” In Region 10, 65% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else, while 31% agreed that a few parents should be able to join with other parents to have books removed.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 10, 65% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with 31% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 10, 63% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 35% agreed more with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 10, a bare 50%

majority of respondents said book banning is un-American, with 38% saying that books critical of American ways should be removed.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 10, a 42% plurality of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (25% much less likely), with 12% saying they would be more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 10, 52% of respondents said, “local library boards” (31%) or “librarians” (15%) should make decisions about books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 10, a 63% majority of respondents said librarians are very capable (19%) or mostly capable (44%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 10, 71% of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (31%) or “some” (40%) about book banning efforts, with 27% saying they heard “only a little” (8%) or “nothing at all” (19%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 10, 37% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 46% said

there are rare times, with 15% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 10, 31% of respondents offered a similar response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 10, 35% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 50% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 10, a 63% to 25% majority had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 73% to 23% majority offered a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 10, a 52% to 35% solid majority had an unfavorable opinion of her, and a 56% to 40% majority offered a negative rating for Whitmer.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 10, a 52% to 42% majority of respondents had a favorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 10, a 52% to 27% majority had a favorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 52% to 29% majority had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 10, a 31% to 15% plurality of respondents had a favorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, with 46% undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 10, 21% of respondents identified as Democrats, 63% as Republicans, with 16% as Independents or other parties.

COMPARING REGION 11 TO STATEWIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Region 11 is an area in Southern Michigan covering Monroe to St. Joseph Counties and north to Eaton County, with an N=68 sample points represented in the statewide survey.

A 71% majority of all respondents in the statewide poll offered a positive rating for the job being done by local public libraries providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials for their library patrons. In Region 11, a 65% to 7% majority of respondents offered the same response.

An 83% majority of all respondents statewide would support state legislation that would protect the right of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned. In Region 11, an 81% to 15% majority offered the same response.

A 90% majority of all respondents statewide said that “descriptions and depictions of slavery should never be banned.” In Region 11, an identical 90% majority of respondents agreed.

An 89% majority of all respondents statewide said that “discussions about race” should never be banned. In Region 11, 91% of respondents agreed.

An 88% majority of all respondents statewide said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned. In Region 11, 87% of respondents agreed.

An 87% majority of all respondents statewide said “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned. In Region 11, 91% of respondents agreed.

Opposition to book banning about “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” was not as strong, but it was still opposed by two-thirds of Michigan voters. A 67% majority of all respondents statewide said that “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation” should never be banned, with 21% saying they should “sometimes be banned” and only 9% saying they should “always be banned.” In Region 11, a 71% majority of respondents agreed that such books should never be banned.

Groups and elected leaders and candidates who claim that “anyone who opposes removing objectionable material is just pushing a woke ideology that is trying to indoctrinate our children with ideas about LGBTQ, transgender youth and promoting lifestyles that they should not be exposed to,” were only supported by 15% of the statewide electorate (9% in Region 11).

A 77% solid majority of all respondents statewide said that they instead support a statement saying that “local public libraries should have a diverse collection of books and

reading materials that represents the community and the world around them.” In Region 11, 84% of respondents agreed.

An 80% majority of all respondents statewide said they agree more with the statement that said, “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.” Only 15% 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.” In Region 11, 85% of respondents agreed that a few parents should not be able to decide for all parents and everyone else.

A 75% majority of all respondents statewide agreed with a statement saying 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.” Only 17% 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.” In Region 11, an identical 75% of respondents agreed with the first statement, with 12% agreeing with the second.

A 74% majority of all respondents statewide 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.” 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.” In Region 11, 75% of respondents agreed more with the first statement, while 16% agreed more with the second.

A 71% majority of all respondents statewide said, “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy.” Another 21% said they most agree with the statement that says “books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries. In Region 11, an 81% majority of respondents said book banning is un-American.

If members of Congress, State Senators or State Representatives vote in favor of book banning legislation, a 57% majority of all respondents statewide said they would be less likely to

vote for that person (38% much less likely), 29% said it would not influence them one way or the other, with only 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for that person. In Region 11, a 60% majority of respondents said they would be less likely to vote for a legislator who supports book banning (51% much less likely), with 10% saying they would be more likely to vote for that legislator.

A 60% majority of all respondents statewide said that “local library boards” (33%) or “librarians” (27%) should be making the decisions about which books and other reading materials should be included in public library collections. Another 9% said members of the local community should make the decisions, 7% said state legislators and other elected officials should decide, with 10% undecided and 14% citing other groups. In Region 11, 57% of respondents said, “local library boards” (35%) or “librarians” (22%) should make decisions about books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said librarians are very capable (33%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books and reading materials should be included in library collections. In Region 11, a 63% majority of respondents said librarians are very capable (26%) or mostly capable (37%) of deciding which books to keep or ban.

A 70% majority of all respondents statewide said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (38%) or “some” (32%) about book banning efforts, with 29% saying they heard “only a little” (16%) or “nothing at all” (13%). In Region 11, 58% of respondents said they had seen, heard or read “a lot” (32%) or “some” (26%) about book banning efforts, with 39% saying they heard “only a little” (21%) or “nothing at all” (18%).

A 42% plurality of all respondents statewide said that there is “absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries,” with another 45% plurality saying, “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from public libraries,” and only 9% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In Region 11, 47% of respondents said there is no time when books should be banned, 43% said there are rare times, with 10% saying there are many inappropriate books that should be removed.

Statewide, 39% of all respondents said they use programs or services a few times a month or more often, while in Region 11, 31% of respondents offered a similar response.

In other survey results, a 46% plurality of all respondents statewide said Michigan is “headed in the right direction,” 37% said things have “pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track,” with 17% “undecided.” In Region 11, 47% of respondents said Michigan is headed in the right direction with 41% saying it was off on the wrong track.

A 51% to 39% narrow majority of all respondents statewide said they had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, while a 63% to 33% solid majority gave Biden a negative job rating as President. In Region 11, a 51% to 36% majority had an unfavorable opinion of Joe Biden, and a 52% to 35% majority offered a negative job rating for Biden.

A 54% to 37% majority of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of Gretchen Whitmer, with a 52% to 44% majority offering a positive job rating for her. In Region 11, a 52% to 33% majority had a favorable opinion of her, and a 50% to 44% bare majority offered a positive job rating for Whitmer.

A 58% to 32% solid majority of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump, including 49% very unfavorable. In Region 11, a 56% to 32% majority of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Trump.

A 42% to 33% plurality of all respondents statewide had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 42% to 36% plurality had a favorable opinion of State legislative Democrats. In Region 11, a 43% to 28% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Republicans, while a 38% to 34% plurality had an unfavorable opinion of State Legislative Democrats.

Finally, a 33% to 19% plurality of all respondents statewide had a favorable opinion of community activist groups in general, with 42% undecided. In Region 11, a 23% to 19% plurality of respondents had an unfavorable opinion of Community Activist Groups, with 52% undecided.

Statewide, 41% of all respondents identified as Democrats, 39% as Republicans, with 20% Independents or other parties. In Region 11, 41% of respondents identified as Democrats, 37% as Republicans, with 22% as Independents or other parties.

COMPARING MICHIGAN POLLING RESULTS TO NATIONAL POLL FINDINGS

For the most part, the results of this Michigan survey largely mirror the results of national polls, including an EveryLibrary survey conducted in September of 2022, a Hart survey conducted in March of 2022, and a CBS survey conducted in February of 2022.

A 71% solid majority of Michigan voters offered a positive rating for the job done by their local public library providing programs, services and a diverse, quality collection of books and other materials to their library patrons. A 69% majority of the EveryLibrary Poll offered a favorable opinion of the job local public libraries were doing providing a diverse library collection, while 75% of all voters in the Hart Survey indicated that voters had confidence in the job libraries were doing, with 79% of voters saying libraries had done a good job.

The Michigan poll showed 70% of all respondents had seen, heard, or read a lot (38%) or at least some (32%) about book banning efforts - 8 points higher than the 62% found in the Hart survey.

An 83% majority of all respondents in the Michigan poll said they support legislation that would protect the rights of the public to read what they wish to read in local public libraries and not have books banned - 12 points higher than the 71% found in the Hart national survey saying respondents opposed efforts to have books removed from their local public library. Despite not the precise wording, it is still a good comparison.

In the Michigan poll, 42% of all respondents said, “there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries, with 45% saying “there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries,” and only 9% said “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.” In the EveryLibrary survey, 50% of respondents said, “there is absolutely no time when a book should be banned from local public libraries, with 41% of respondents saying there are rare times when it may be appropriate to ban books from local public libraries,” and only 8% saying “there are many inappropriate books that should be banned from local public libraries.”

In the Michigan survey, a 90% majority of all respondents said books with “descriptions and depictions of slavery” should never be banned, which is 3 points higher than the 87% majority of respondents that offered the same response in a CBS survey conducted in February of 2022.

An 89% majority of all respondents in the Michigan survey said “discussions about race” should never be banned - 2 points higher than 87% found in the CBS survey.

An 88% majority of all respondents in the Michigan survey said “criticisms of people and events in U.S. history” should never be banned - 5 points higher than the 83% found in the CBS survey.

An 87% majority of all respondents in the Michigan survey said books with “political ideas you disagree with” should never be banned - 2 points higher than the 85% found in the CBS survey.

In the Michigan survey, 67% of all respondents said “books with discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation should never be banned, with 30% saying they should always be banned (9%), or sometimes banned (21%). In the EveryLibrary survey, 33% of respondents said such books should always or sometimes be banned, with an identical 67% of respondents saying they should never be banned.

Respondents in the Michigan survey and the Hart survey heard several competing statements and asked which one they agree with the most. A 75% majority of all respondents in the Michigan survey agreed more with the statement that “different perspectives help young people grow into adults who can think for themselves,” with 17% agreeing more 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. In the Hart survey, 82% of respondents agreed more that “different perspectives help them grow, with 18% agreeing more that young people “should be protected from books that might upset them.”

An 80% majority of all respondents in the Michigan survey agreed more that “individual parents can set the 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 15% agreeing more 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.” In the Hart survey, 76% of respondents agreed that a few parents cannot decide for everyone, with 24% agreeing more that parents have a right to remove books they find objectionable.

In the Michigan survey, 74% of all respondents agreed more with the statement that “books that contain sexual content or discuss issues like gender identity or sexual orientation are tools for understanding complex issues, and young people should have access to them, but at an

age-appropriate level,” with 21% agreeing more that books containing sexual content or discuss sexual identity should not be in local public libraries. A somewhat lower 66% to 34% majority in the Hart survey offered the same opinion.

In the Michigan survey, 71% of all respondents agreed more with the statement that “book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy,” with 21% agreeing more 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.” In the Hart survey, a 68% to 32% majority offered the same opinion.

The national surveys indicated that a large majority of voters would take the issue of banning books into consideration when they decided how to vote in the 2022 election. The Michigan survey more specifically asked if their member of congress or state legislator supported book banning, if they would be more likely or less likely to vote for that legislator in the next election. A 57% majority of all respondents said they would be less likely to vote for that legislator, with 9% saying they would be more likely to vote for him or her.

There were no other results that warranted comparison between the Michigan survey and national surveys about book banning.

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