

1 in 3 Men Didn't Read a Single Book Last Year

Several months ago, Pew Research came out with its annual report on the number of book readers in the U.S. The results? More than a [quarter of Americans](#) didn't even read one book in the last year.

Unfortunately, those numbers get even worse when broken down by demographic group. According to Pew's [latest report](#) on American reading levels, men, Blacks, Hispanics, and rural-dwelling individuals are just a few of the demographic groups with large portions of non-readers.



It's true. We live in a digital society where we are fed a continuous stream of information through radio, television, and other audible sources. When such is the case, it's easy to question whether it's really necessary for Americans to pick up a book and read.

But as Professor Allan Bloom once [pointed out](#), "[T]he failure to read good books both enfeebls the vision and strengthens our most fatal tendency – the belief that the here and now is all there is."

If the trend of having fewer Americans read books continues, will we condemn ourselves to a future of stagnant and narrow thought?