

How Do U.S. Reading Habits Compare to the Rest of the World?

1. Scandinavia is made up of the top 5 most literate countries in the world. (Finland, Norway, Iceland, Denmark, and Sweden, respectively.)
2. All 7 Harry Potter books are on the Top 21 Best Selling Books Worldwide. (By millions of copies sold.)
3. When it comes to the most hours read per week, India, Thailand, China, the Philippines, and Egypt top the list. The United States limps in at number 24, with the UK lagging at number 27.
4. *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* was the best seller in the United States in 2016. It sold 2 million copies in 2 days.
5. Seattle, Portland, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, and Austin read the most books in the United States.
6. A shocking 27 percent of American adults didn't read a single book in 2015. However, the average adult read about 12 books over the span of a year.
7. The Brits do a bit better than Americans when it comes to completing books. Eighty percent of Britons said they read at least one book in the past year. By comparison, only 56 percent of Italians did the same.
8. Over the past 2 years, a literary translation of the Bible has been the best-selling book in Norway.
9. A coloring book for adults, *Secret Garden*, was the best-selling book in China in 2015.
10. In 2018, it is projected that eBook sales will make up 25.8 percent of all book sales worldwide.
11. The fact that eBooks make up a quarter of all book sales is easier to understand when one realizes the wide selection that exists. There are currently 4.9 million

eBook options on Amazon.

12. Think you have to wait a long time to receive your pre-ordered copy of a book? That wait won't seem so long when you realize there are books available for pre-order that won't be released until 2912, 3007, and 3013.
13. The first book ever printed in British North America in 1640 sold at an auction in 2013 for a whopping \$14.2 million.
14. Think that book publishing is a dying industry? Think again. At \$151 billion, book publishing beats music, videogames, magazines, and films for total revenue.
15. The United States is the highest producing publisher of books worldwide. She produces 30 percent of overall yearly sales, while other countries only produce 10 percent or less.

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Fact credit from [Digital Book World](#).

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