Leveraging Twitter to Predict COVID Caseload



By Will Carnevale

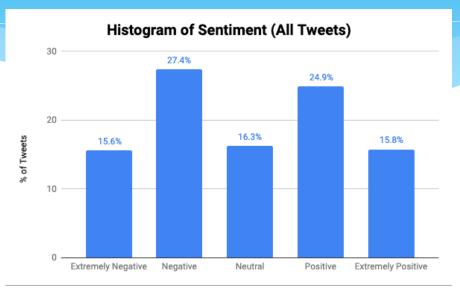
Opportunity

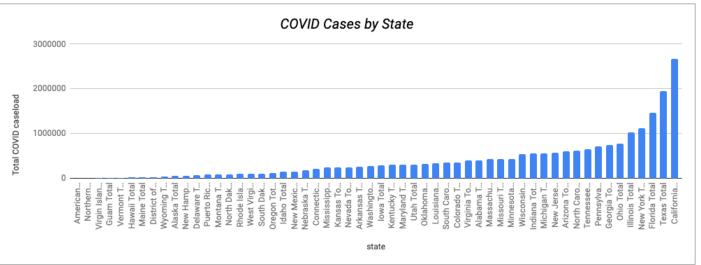


- * Twitter Sentiment: Tweets classified into (extremely) positive, (extremely) negative, and Neutral
- * Impact Hypothesis: We can use twitter sentiment as a predictive engine to decrease the time taken to assess proper allocation of COVID aid
 - decreases the likelihood of large-scale outbreaks occurring

Methodology

- * Twitter Data: Kaggle
 - Tweet, Location, date, sentiment
- * COVID Data: Kaggle
- * Cleaning/EDA: Google Sheets
- * Data Visualization: Tableau





Proposed Solution Path

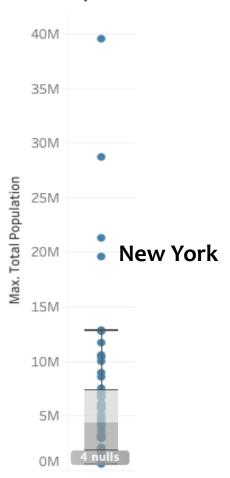
- * Build an Natural Language Processing (NLP) model for topic analysis of COVID tweets
- * Combine NLP model with Time series analysis of COVID caseload data



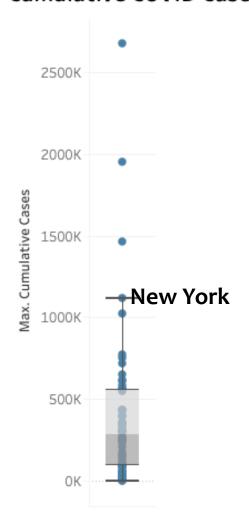


Case Study: New York

Total Population

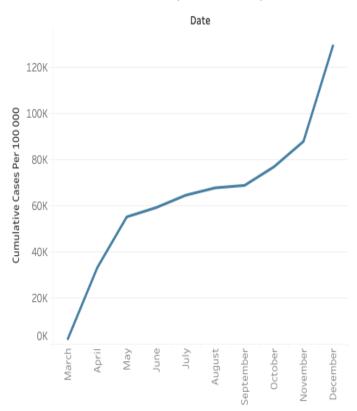


Cumulative COVID Cases

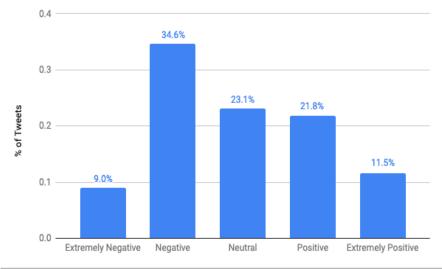


Case Study: New York (2)

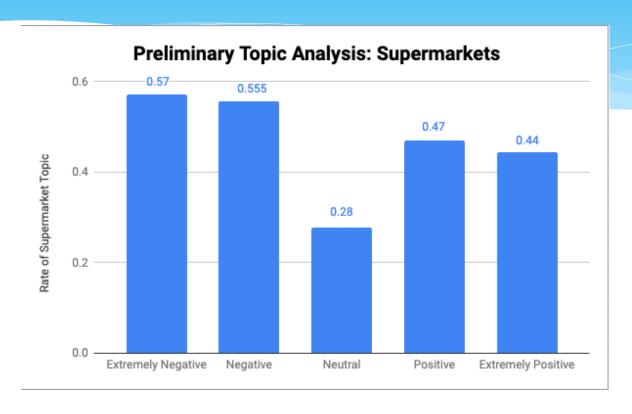
Cumulative COVID Cases per 100000 per Month in 2020 (New York)



Histogram of Sentiment (filters: New York + March/April)



Case Study: New York (3)



* Preliminary topic analysis: Grocery store and supermarket hoarding/scramble for goods

Summary

* Case Study conclusions:

- 1. New York outperformed in reducing COVID cases relative to population
- 2. New Yorks twitter sentiment tracks more negative during sharp increase in COVID cases
- 3. Tweets with Negative sentiment have a higher rate of mentioning supermarkets

* Future Work:

- Collection of more comprehensive twitter data (with accurate location data)
- ii. Control for outside biases such as mainstream media coverage and bot accounts