Project Proposal: Twitter Political Trends

Brett Bivens

September 28, 2021

My project idea is to track political #'s on Twitter. Since the election of 2016. Donald Trump has shown that social media is now the mainstream way for political representatives to get their message to a wider audience and the world. I would like to track 3 main points. First, does a person's political party they are a part of determining the popularity or the number of interactions with a #. Second, do major trends only get traction when major political representatives use a # like Kamilia Harris, Joe Biden, Donald Trump, Nancy Pelosi, Mitch McConnell, etc, or is it simply the # itself that brings out the popularity. An example of this could be #covid since it has affected every person in the US I doubt (unless future data says otherwise) a single person or a political party affected the popularity of the #. Lastly, do more people in government try to use Twitter as a way to spread their message than in the previous years. We know that Twitter was invented and popular before Donald Trump used it as his message platform or did he simply make people more aware that our representatives and others in government have been trying to use Twitter as a way to spread their message and he simply showed the best results. It would also be interesting to see if after 2016 did more congressmen and senators either make their Twitter account or became more active after 2016.