Textual & temporal trends in Roblox reviews based on sentiment, common language, and ratings

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O1. About the Data

A brief introduction to the dataset used in the analysis

Question

What are users' perceptions of the Roblox mobile app, and how do they change over time?

About the Data

- 1. Why did I choose this dataset?
 - a. I recently started enjoying video games, and am curious about the influence of a game as popular as Roblox.
- 2. The data is in the public domain.
 - a. Found on Kaggle
 - b. Google mobile app reviews
 - c. Contains 425,279 reviews
 - d. Spans from May 31, 2023, to November 18, 2023
 - e. Contains censored author info, review text, rating, timestamp
- **3.** Assumptions:
 - a. The sample is representative of Roblox users in 2023.
 - b. Users are leaving honest reviews.
 - c. Users rate consistently (5 stars means similar sentiment)

O2. Cleaning

Overview of how the data was cleaned prior to analysis

Cleaning

- Filling in missing values
 - Some reviews had no text. I replaced "NaN" with an empty string.
- Format & extract info from the timestamp
 - Convert timestamp to pandas datetime
 - Make new column for hour of day
- Clean the review text
 - Change to lowercase
 - Remove punctuation
 - Lemmatize
 - Remove NLTK stopwords & custom stopwords

O3. Analysis

Questions explored and their results

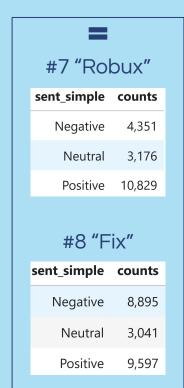
Most common words in the reviews

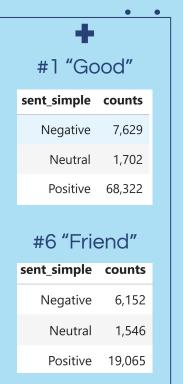
- Top 10 positive, with the exception of "fix" and "robux"
- Top 30 several negative words
 - #14 "update"
 - o #17 "problem"
 - o #22 "bug"
 - o #23 "bad"
 - #26 "banned"
 - o #27 "lag"



	Word	Count
0	good	82,978
1	love	77,203
2	fun	63,122
3	like	56,989
4	best	47,679
5	friend	25,827
6	robux	22,811
7	fix	22,061
8	nice	21,333
9	amazing	20,286







Most common words in the top 100 most-liked reviews

- Very similar to the top 10 most common words in all reviews
- Many of these most-liked reviews are related to issues with the game.
 - Users are saying they like the game, but also describing problems they're having.



simpler_review	count
screen	63
like	57
problem	55
fix	48
sometimes	46
move	35
bug	33
it	32
ha	29
fun	28

Relationship between length of review and rating

- Running a one-way ANOVA test concludes that there is a relationship between the length of a review and its rating.
- Users that give the game a high rating tend to write shorter reviews.
- Users that give the game a mediocre rating tend to write longer reviews
 - Taking the time to describe what they like about the game, and listing grievances?

review_rat	ing	avg_rvw_len
	1	92.491482
	2	124.873450
	3	127.269277
	4	115.187960
	5	57.084618

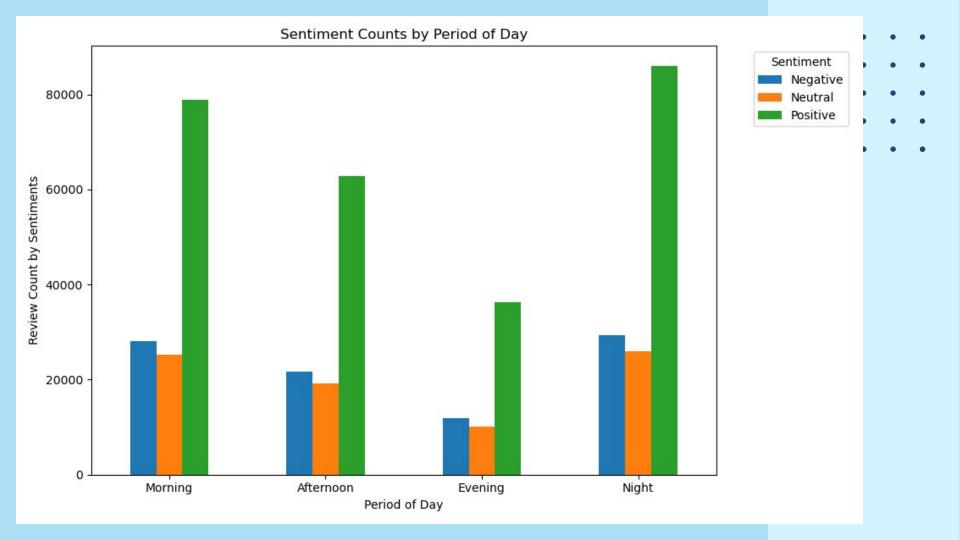
Relationship between time of day and sentiment

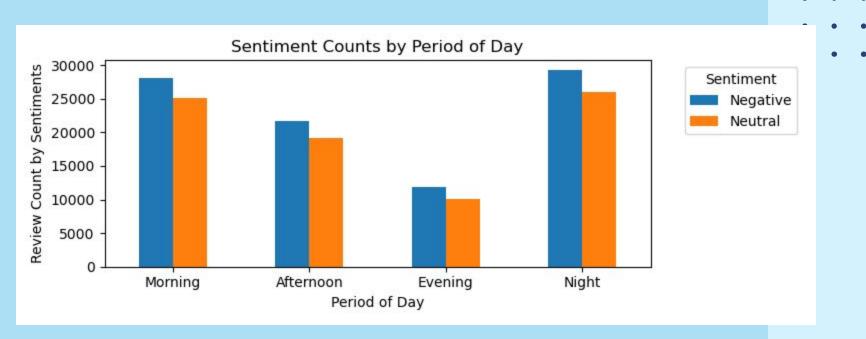
- 5:00am 11:59am = morning
- 12:00pm 4:59pm = afternoon
- 17:00pm 8:59pm = evening
- 21:00pm 4:59am = night



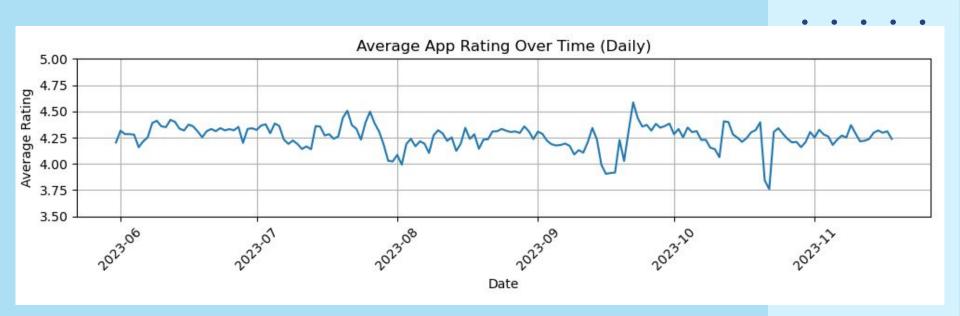
- Even when excluding positive reviews to account for washing out data, there is not much difference.
- The time of day does seem to influence how many reviews are posted.







Ratings over time



Potential reasons for drops in rating

- July 2023
 - Data breach leaks 4,000 users' information
 - Major outage that resulted in 0 users online
- September 2023
 - Roblox had several hours of outages
- October 2023
 - Users that had been banned & unbanned were banned again
 - Sporadic and persistent outages
 - Ban wave targeted exploiters
- November 2023
 - Increase of prices on character customizations



Potential reasons for spikes in rating

- July 2023
 - New default avatars released
- August 2023
 - Roblox Studio adds Aerodynamics
- October 2023
 - Roblox is available on PlayStation



Sources

- Aerodynamics Studio Update Roblox Devforum
- Timeline of Roblox History 2023 Fandom.com
- Roblox Mobile App Reviews Kaggle

Thank you!

