

Details of LIWC Analysis

The process of analyzing the tweets for affect involves uploading a comma-separated values file featuring each tweet in a separate row to the LIWC program. For each tweet (row), LIWC provides the percentage of words that fit each category. To calculate the total number of words that fall under each category for each tweet, we multiplied each percentage by the total number of words in each tweet (LIWC provides this) and then divided by 100, and rounded to the nearest whole number, as necessary. For example, if the percentage of angry words in a 26-word tweet was 3.85%, we would get a score of 100.1. Divided by 100, we get a score 1.001, which would then be rounded to 1. We then collapsed the dataset by legislator, providing a total amount of angry, anxious, and sad words used by each legislator during the collection period.

Examples of “Sad” Tweets

Below is a random selection of tweets which included “sad” words. “Sad” words are highlighted in the text.

- We **failed** in Iraq and we are **failing** the Yemeni people <https://t.co/CDB1myqfKH>"
- Devin Nunes-backed tariffs are **hurting** our growers and in conjunction our local economy. I've been meeting with them <https://t.co/E0JYfuLRhS>
- "**Sadly**, @Morse4America doubles down on her support of the universally **failed** #Obama care policies that have left millions <https://t.co/8sxnWrQo9I>"
- "It's so **disappointing** that they would bring this thing to a vote! What a travesty of justice, to have women's voices suppressed. This Senate Judicial Committee is out of touch!"
- Some humor cast on a very **sad** chapter in American history. #NY19 <https://t.co/OTciYADDDR4>
- Cruel. Inhumane. Traumatizing. Children do not belong in **isolated** detention camps. They belong with their families. <https://t.co/gapbHPd2wp>
- ".@nytimes writes how the HOUSE #FarmBill would be **devastating** to American families & seniors who rely on SNAP. Our @SenateAg Farm Bill is bipartisan, helps farmers, and protects our most vulnerable citizens. I'm working hard in conference to pass it. RE AD: <https://t.co/Qb6XMvNJws>"
- How does this improve our **failing** schools?
- #OH13 under @TimRyan has **lost** 19,200 manufacturing jobs a 42% decrease since 2002. ..and has **lost** over 2,100 since January 2017!
- "The toxic algal blooms destroy our environment, keep tourists away and **depress** our local economy. That's why I have <https://t.co/Il8KF7NYXR>"
- "@realDonaldTrump has not learned from our **failed** history in Iraq and Libya.
- "Read my @IrontonTribune op-ed about Kavanaugh: ""Despite Ohioans **overwhelmingly** electing President Trump in 2016, Sherrod Brown continues to block President Trump's appointees, stall his judicial nominees, and blindly obstruct his economic agenda."" #OHSen <https://t.co/zMbDwJ1dKb>"
- "Colorado, in case you **missed** it: I'm the ONLY Congressional D5 Candidate that supports LGBTQ rights, Separation of <https://t.co/cIQ1aaoNPH>"

- ?? Ensure that your friends **reject** anti-#LGBTQ pro-equality politicians this Election Day by sending them to <https://t.co/Co8CApKugs> <https://t.co/yJ5MPbAxPn>"
- Communities damaged and lives **lost** <https://t.co/H6HH4oWud0>"
- The current representative for our district continues to **fail** to protect our healthcare. Dismantling the ACA would endanger coverage for 1 in 5 people in our district. Our health isn't partisan. Let's put #peoplebeforeparty and work to stabilize the #ACA. <https://t.co/Gixkc9sVHI>
- "Unemployment benefits fell last week to the **LOWEST** in almost five decades!"
- CT taxpayers stand to **lose** \$10 billion under the GOP tax law. Join me in standing up for Connecticut and protecting <https://t.co/S7wvqQLdAj>
- "The sky is darkening outside from impending rain. I'm **alone** in my office, it's somber. I'm recalling the day before <https://t.co/ie2qLtw94m>"