

# Who Is Using Twitter in the US?

The #SocialSeries | Infographic

#### ARTICLE

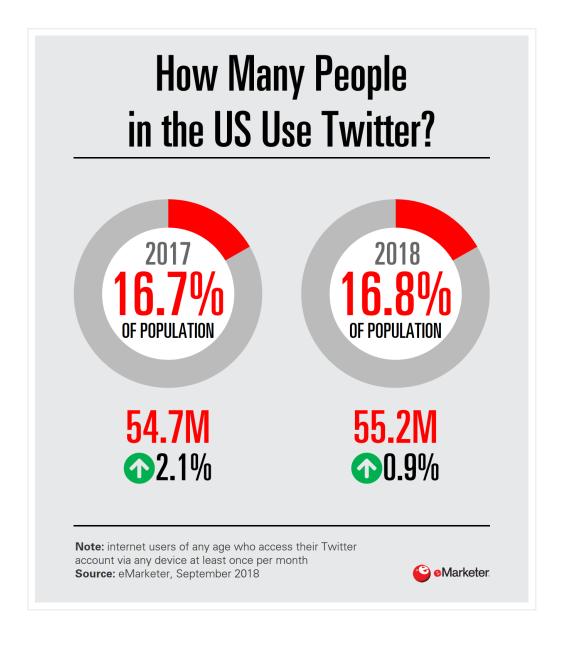
#### **Rimma Kats**

## **How Many People Are Using Twitter?**

This year, 55.2 million people in the US will use Twitter. That's 16.8% of the population and a 0.9% increase from 2017, according to eMarketer estimates.

We expect user growth will remain under 1% throughout the rest of the forecast period and estimate that Twitter will only add an additional half million users—nearly all of whom will be adults ages 25 or older.





This week, we're looking at the audiences of social media platforms, including Snapchat, Instagram and Pinterest. Each day, we'll feature a different platform. Yesterday, we took a look at Facebook. Next up: Twitter.

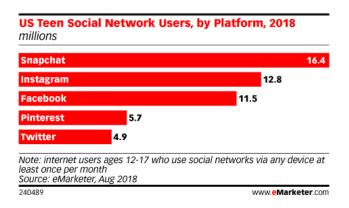
#### **How Old Are Twitter Users?**

Millennials are more avid users of Twitter than their younger and older cohorts. This year, we expect 21.0 million millennials will use the social platform.

Teens, on the other hand, remain less likely to do so. Indeed, just 4.9 million teens in the US will use Twitter this year, compared with the



16.4 million expected to use Snapchat and 12.8 million expected to use Instagram.



# Is Twitter Growing Further?

"Twitter's usage challenges are coming even as it has worked to improve the health of the platform," wrote eMarketer principal analyst Debra Aho Williamson in a recent report, Snapchat and Twitter 2018: Many Challenges, but a Few Things Advertisers Still Like. "This spring, it shut down 70 million accounts, the vast majority of which were idle, so they did not count toward Twitter's published MAU figures. However, Twitter (like Facebook) has been in a negative spotlight this year as investigations into election meddling, the dissemination of fake news, censorship and more have stirred up tensions."

"Competition from other platforms has taken a toll, too," added eMarketer senior forecasting analyst Chris Bendtsen. "Twitter will add the fewest number of new users this year out of any social network."

To put that into perspective, Twitter's audience is roughly a third the size of Facebook's, roughly half of Instagram's and about two-thirds of Snapchat's.

So what's keeping user growth afloat?

Video is a major driver. "The core function of [Twitter] is to help people find out what's happening with the things they're most passionate about," said Ryan Moore, director of global video solutions at Twitter, who was interviewed for eMarketer's Video Ads in Social Media 2018



report. "It makes sense to have content on the platform that can be watched collaboratively and helps people catch up on what's happening."

#### More on Twitter from eMarketer

#### Podcasts:

- What Are Snapchat and Twitter Doing to Stand Out?
- Social Ad Spending: A Look at the 'Other Guys'
- How Social Media Giants Are Dealing With a New Set of Challenges

### Reports:

- Snapchat and Twitter 2018: Many Challenges, but a Few Things Advertisers Still Like
- Q3 2018 Digital Video Trends: New Social Video Ad Revenue Forecasts for Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat
- Video Ads in Social Media 2018: Shows Are Everywhere on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and Twitter—But Are People Watching?

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