

# Parler

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## About the Platform:



Parler proclaims itself to be a platform dedicated to free speech and expression. Established in 2018, it shares similarities to Twitter and Facebook in its setup, and the platform has promoted members which they recommend that you follow when you sign up. Parler ran into some controversy in January 2021 when they were shut down over concerns about the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection. Reaching approximately 1 million downloads, Parler became one of the most downloaded social media applications from the Apple store during this time (Lerman, 2020).

## **1) What data is available from this platform?**

Data available include posts, usernames, info from user's profiles, hashtags, time of posts, links within posts, and total posts by hashtags. The API can search posts by hashtags.

## **2) What are the restrictions/limitations of the data?**

The API was built for integration with WordPress and other websites for collecting comments from Parler. As such, there were some limitations on the type of meta-data that could be collected.

## **3) What variables are available? What meta-data (i.e., the data of the data) is included? For example, what information is available about user profiles (e.g., username, demographic data, number of followers/friends)? What information is linked to the content/post/blog/tweet (e.g., timestamps, re-tweets, location, device/platform that content was shared from, number of likes)?**

Currently the main metadata that is available for posts is the timestamp and the number of upvotes per posts. From user profiles, usernames and number of friends is also available. Posts can be searched by hashtags.

## **4) Is there an Application Programming Interface (API) available for this platform? If yes, please provide the link for the platform.**

While there is not an official API for Parler, Parler data can be retrieved through an unofficial Python API created by GitHub user @KonradIT. The documentation for the API is here: <https://github.com/KonradIT/parler-py-api>.

## **5) Does your assigned API provide a way to limit the search based on geolocation?**

Parler does not have a way to limit the search based on geolocation.

## **6) Does the platform use any kind of filters to remove the content on their sites?**

Parler does not use filters to remove content from their site, as they claim to be a platform based on free speech. However, they do state within their guidelines that they will remove illegal material.

## References

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