

State Attorneys General under some voter pressure to join Justice-Microsoft Settlement; more Americans would vote against those State Attorneys General that try to block the settlement, but most Americans don't care

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November 5, 2001 Contact: Thomas Riehle, President Ipsos-Reid U.S. Public Affairs Telephone 202.463.7300 mailto:thomas.riehle@ipsos-reid.com

Between November 2-4, 2001, Ipsos-Reid Express interviewed a representative sample of 1,000 U.S. adults nationwide by telephone. The margin of error is \pm 3.1%. The margin of error for questions asked of half the sample is \pm 4.5%.

State Attorneys General are under some voter pressure to join Justice-Microsoft Settlement; more Americans would vote against those State Attorneys General that try to block the settlement, but most Americans don't care.

For those State Attorneys General who are deciding how to respond to the recent settlement between Microsoft and the Federal government, the political situation is that they are twice as likely to generate negative voter reaction than positive voter reaction if they try to overturn the agreement. Most Americans (63%), however, say it would make no difference to them whether or not their Attorney General helps to overturn the settlement or even send it back to court.

There is still some chance that some State Attorneys General might seek to overturn the agreement or force it to go back to court. Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for your Attorney General if he or she helps overturn the settlement or send the case back to court or would that make no difference to you?

		Party ID		
	All %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
More likely	11	10	12	9
Less likely	21	27	17	19
Would make no difference	63	58	66	66
Not sure	5	4	6	6



Less than 1 in 10 say Microsoft settlement is bad news for consumers.

By more than a 4 to 1 margin, Americans say that the settlement between Microsoft and the Federal government is good news for consumers (38% say it is good news and 8% say it is bad news). Half of all Americans (49%), however, say that the settlement does not make a difference to consumers.

		Party ID			
	All %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	
Good news	38	39	38	36	
Bad news	8	8	7	11	
Does not make a difference	49	48	50	49	
Not sure	5	5	5	5	

Nearly half of all Americans say that Justice Department accomplished "very little" or "nothing at all" by bringing anti-trust suit in the first place.

Almost half of all Americans (47%) say that the Justice Department accomplished "very little" (27%) or "nothing at all" (21%) by bringing the anti-trust suit against Microsoft. Less than 1 in 5 Americans (16%) say that the Justice Department accomplished "a great deal" (7%) or "quite a bit" (9%) with the anti-trust suit against Microsoft. "At the end of the longest and most expensive anti-trust lawsuit in history, most Americans feel they have very little to show for the effort," says Thomas Riehle, President of Ipsos-Reid U.S. Public Affairs.

How much do you personally think the Justice Department accomplished by bringing this anti-trust case against Microsoft? Would you say . . .

		Party ID		
	All %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
A great deal	7	6	10	1
Quite a bit	9	10	10	4
Only some	21	18	23	23
Very little	27	31	25	19
Nothing at all	21	21	17	30
Not sure	16	14	16	23
Great deal/quite a bit	16	16	20	5
Very little/nothing at all	47	52	42	49