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[AG PAXTON SUES GOOGLE FOR ILLEGALLY MAINTAINING MONOPOLIES IN INTERNET SEARCH AND SEARCH ADVERTISING SERVICES](#)

October 20, 2020 | Press Release | [Antitrust \(/news/categories/antitrust\)](#)

AG Paxton Sues Google for Illegally Maintaining Monopolies in Internet Search and Search Advertising Services

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Attorney General Ken Paxton announced today that Texas is suing Google for engaging in anticompetitive and exclusionary practices that eliminate competition for internet searches and search advertising. Texas is joining the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ) and the States of Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, and South Carolina in filing an antitrust suit challenging Google’s exclusionary business practices. Google’s illegal conduct has allowed it to dominate the search industry by requiring exclusivity from business partners and avoiding competition on the merits while shielding itself from competitors who might threaten its market share.

“Google’s anticompetitive business strategies have disrupted the competitive process, reduced consumer choice, and stifled innovation,” said Attorney General Paxton. “The violations set forth in the complaint show that Google no longer resembles the innovative startup it was 20 years ago. Our action today is intended to restore competition and allow rivals and next generation search engines to challenge Google so that the marketplace, not a monopolist, will decide how search services and search ads are offered.”

The complaint explains that Google’s practices have harmed competition for search services and search advertising not only on mobile devices and personal computers but also on emerging search access points, such as voice assistants, smart speakers, automobiles, and Internet of Things devices. Google’s practices have harmed consumers by reducing choices in areas like privacy, data protection, and use of consumer data, ultimately diminishing the quality of search services. Google’s anticompetitive conduct has also given it the ability to increase advertisers’ costs and reduce the quality of its advertising services.

Read a [copy of the filing here](#)

[https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/admin/2020/Press/Google%20complaint%20\(fi](https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/admin/2020/Press/Google%20complaint%20(fi)

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Related News

AG Paxton: Statement on UK's Assessment of Google in Competition and Markets Authority Report (/news/releases/ag-paxton-statement-uks-assessment-google-competition-and-markets-authority-report)

Today, the United Kingdom's Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) released their Online Platforms and Digital Advertising Market Study Interim Report, which assesses the market power of Google and other online platforms.

December 18, 2019 | Noteworthy

Attorney General Paxton Leads 50 Attorneys General in Google Multistate Bipartisan Antitrust Investigation (/news/releases/attorney-general-paxton-leads-50-attorneys-general-google-multistate-bipartisan-antitrust)

Attorney General Ken Paxton today announced that Texas is leading 50 attorneys general in a multistate, bipartisan investigation of tech giant Google's business practices in accordance with state and federal antitrust laws.

September 09, 2019 | Press Release

AG Paxton Urges FTC to Consider the Role of Consumer Privacy and Data in Antitrust Enforcement (/news/releases/ag-paxton-urges-ftc-consider-role-consumer-privacy-and-data-antitrust-enforcement)

Attorney General Ken Paxton, along with Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller and 41 other state attorneys general, filed a bi-partisan comment with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) urging a renewed focus on consumer privacy and data in antitrust enforcement actions against dominant technology platforms that collect and leverage consumer data.

June 11, 2019 | Press Release

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