

rebate checks sent out

"Roughly 81 percent of this month's local sales tax rebate to Texas cities and counties was sent through an electronic funds transfer program," State Comptroller John Sharp said last Friday, announcing total rebates of approximately \$100 million for the month. "Electronic funds transfer provides local governments instant access to their money and the state saves on the cost of paper, envelopes and postage," Sharp added.

Of the 1,067 cities and counties receiving checks this month, 304 were sent payments of almost \$1 million through the electronic program. The Texas Legislature recently passed legislation stating that all local sales tax rebates must soon be made electronically.

Office dispersed \$89.1 million to 96 Texas cities that collect local sales taxes. This year's total is just over \$1 billion as compared to almost \$700 million at this time last year, an increase of 10.15% over 1990.

This month's payments to 10 counties reached \$10.5 million for the year-to-date total of almost \$113 million, an increase of 17.25% over 1990.

The city of Eagle Lake received checks in the amount of \$6,481,317, an increase of 10.15% over \$5,825,944, down 2.58% from last year.

Amounts received by other cities in the area were:

City	Amount
Columbus	\$27,383,266, year-to-date of \$289,230,020, 10.09% over 1990
(See Sales Tax, Page 12)	