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Comptroller Susan Combs Distributes \$491 Million in September Sales Tax Payments to Local Governments

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said today the state collected \$2 billion in sales tax in August, up 7.7 percent compared to a year ago.

“When the state’s 2008 fiscal year ended Aug. 31, sales tax collections totaled \$21.5 billion, 6.6 percent higher than in fiscal 2007,” Combs said. “Although this was not the double-digit increases seen in 2006 and 2007, growth in state sales tax collections during fiscal 2008 continued at a steady pace.”

Combs distributed \$491.9 million in September sales tax payments to local governments, a 10 percent increase compared to September 2007. So far this calendar year, local sales tax allocations are up 6.7 percent compared to the same period in 2007.

Combs sent September sales tax allocations of \$330.4 million to Texas cities, up 9.1 percent compared to September 2007. Calendar year-to-date, city sales tax revenues are running 5.8 percent higher than last year. Texas counties received September sales tax allocations of \$30.9 million, up 13.3 percent compared to a year ago. Calendar year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 8 percent higher than last year.

The 138 special purpose taxing districts around the state received \$18.5 million in sales tax revenue, an increase of 23 percent compared to a year ago. So far this calendar year, sales tax allocations to special purpose districts are up 18.2 percent compared to 2007. Ten Texas transit systems received \$112 million in September sales tax payments, up 9.9 percent compared to a year ago. Year-to-date, transit sales tax revenues are up 7.4 percent.

September’s sales tax allocations include local sales taxes collected in July and reported to the Comptroller in August. For details of September sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the *Monthly Sales and Use Tax Allocation Comparison*

Summary Reports on the Comptroller's Web site
www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html.

The Comptroller's next local sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, Oct. 10.

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Find details on all the services of the Comptroller's office at www.window.state.tx.us, including a transparent look at state spending at www.window.state.tx.us/wherethemoneygoes.