

**FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF DALLAS**

Dallas, Texas, August 27, 1962

**To All Banks in the
Eleventh Federal Reserve District:**

The Magnetic Ink Character Recognition Program of the American Bankers Association continues to progress. The latest survey made by the Federal Reserve banks indicates that 68 percent of the checks cleared through the Reserve System are preprinted in magnetic ink, while 56 percent of those cleared through the Reserve bank offices of this District are preprinted.

The analysis of magnetic ink printing by states indicates that New Mexico, with a ratio of 62 percent, is ranked 24th; Texas, with 56 percent, 30th; Oklahoma, with 53 percent, 34th; Arizona, with 50 percent, 37th; and Louisiana, with 45 percent, 42nd. Of the states in this District, New Mexico showed the greatest improvement, 18 percent, in the volume of preprinted checks.

As an additional step in promoting the program, special letters have been sent to school officials and municipal and county finance officers in the State of Texas soliciting their cooperation in the MICR Program. As soon as it is practicable, similar letters will be addressed to corresponding officials in those sections of the other states located in the Eleventh District. Banks are requested to assist their local officials in any way possible.

Although the increase in the District's preprinting ratio, which rose from 42 percent in February to 56 percent in August, is encouraging, much more work remains to be done. Therefore, I again urge all banks to continue their best efforts to move forward in the program.

Survey figures for the Eleventh District are furnished on the other side of this letter.

Yours very truly,

**Watrous H. Irons
President**

BREAKDOWN BY RESERVE OFFICES OF THE ELEVENTH DISTRICT

<u>Office</u>	<u>Number of Checks Surveyed</u>	<u>Number of Checks Conforming</u>	<u>Percentage of Conformity</u>
Dallas			
City	41,573	26,569	64
Country	224,365	125,181	56
El Paso			
City	10,751	7,178	67
Country	30,553	18,886	62
Houston			
City	23,223	12,501	54
Country	133,638	76,389	57
San Antonio			
City	31,181	13,579	44
Country	96,404	49,639	51

BREAKDOWN FOR CERTAIN LARGER POINTS

<u>City</u>	<u>Number of Checks Surveyed</u>	<u>Number of Checks Conforming</u>	<u>Percentage of Conformity</u>
Abilene, Texas	2,813	1,398	50
Amarillo, Texas	4,470	1,934	43
Austin, Texas	6,543	3,770	58
Beaumont, Texas	7,117	5,971	84
Corpus Christi, Texas	8,149	3,952	48
Fort Worth, Texas	6,926	5,325	77
Lubbock, Texas	4,520	2,156	48
Waco, Texas	3,084	1,213	39
Wichita Falls, Texas	3,801	2,120	56
Shreveport, Louisiana	7,743	2,434	31
Tucson, Arizona	3,398	2,163	64