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### Stirring the melting pot in DFW and Texas

Thursday's Census data shows how diversified Texas and the Metroplex are becoming, the Dallas demographer Edward Rincon, of Rincon & Associates, says.

Combine Dallas' half million Hispanics with its nearly 300,000 blacks, he says, "and that's a huge multicultural high for the city. It's a dramatic transformation."

Fort Worth has more than 250,000 Hispanics and 140,000 blacks, plus nearly as many Asians (27,000) compared to Dallas' 34,000, Rincon notes. "Those are pretty substantial numbers," he said.

The numbers suggest there's no flight among the groups from Texas, he said.

He also noted there's a strong link between the minority population growth and growth in businesses.

"They're coming here, not just to live, but also to establish businesses and establish their economic footing here," he said. "That means there's more ethnic themed stores, products and services, demand for different language service personnel at the stores, communications media...There's probably going to be more supermarkets and other retailers are going to begin catering to the African American, Hispanic, and Asian communities."

- Scott Nishimura

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