

Ventura County's News

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\$.50 designated areas

EXTRA

The County of Ventura 2009 Homeless Count Completed!

By KJ Smith
April 12, 2009

More than 200 community volunteers helped count over 200 homeless individuals in Ventura County on Tuesday, April 14, 2009. The count was conducted in a clearing surrounded by brush deep in the rugged terrain near the Arroyo Viejo, a state water reservoir.

over 200 community volunteers helped count

The homeless count, which is mandatory for any community with a population of 10,000 or more, is a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirement. The count is a key component of the county's homeless plan, which requires that a count be conducted every two years. The county's homeless plan is a three-year plan that addresses the county's homeless population. The plan calls for more affordable housing and improved programs to prevent homelessness, among other things. The numbers will also be used to make decisions about funding for homeless services.

individuals and families were counted

"You're up!"
"OK."
"And were you born in the U.S.?"
"Yeah."
Down had broken out long before, but the scene in this valley had already played out again and again Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. as volunteers counted the homeless population. The count was conducted in a clearing surrounded by brush deep in the rugged terrain near the Arroyo Viejo, a state water reservoir.

other volunteers sat in a conference room that served as count headquarters in the United Way of Ventura County offices in Camarillo. The day had been quiet so far. "It's what we expected it to be because we spent so much time and energy organizing in the communities," she said. "We hoped we had prepared people well and we have."

As roughly the same time volunteers Marie Pardo and three hundred walked Cooper Road in Oxnard, an estimated stretch of road lined with good homes. "These people don't want to talk to us," Pardo said. Outside Wynn's Hardware on A Street, the self-proclaimed pair approached three people sitting at a picnic table. A homeless man chased them off. "You don't care about us, leave us alone," he barked at the

graphics. Oxnard receives its own money from HUD, said Ted Gonzalez, the city's housing director. Two years ago, when HUD mandated the count, Oxnard officials called HUD homeless plan. "We had to do a count that year. After a number of discussions with HUD, it was decided that Oxnard would use the method that was most accurate. Using the same count method will help ensure the integrity of both counts."

each city and unincorporated area was included

"help us," he said, adding that a man gave "a better basic overall understanding of people, some of whom choose to live outside and others who have no choice but to live outside." Griffin said that after arriving by circumstance, he is staying in the area by choice.

Copies can be obtained at www.vchhc.org and www.urban-initiatives.org

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For a copy of this report visit the web site of the Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition www.vchhc.org

or

**Urban Initiatives at
www.urban-initiatives.org**

The Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition is made up of more than 100 representatives from public and private agencies that work together to actively plan, develop, and implement programs as part of a community-wide strategy designed to address the service and housing needs of the county's homeless population.

Urban Initiatives consists of several community-based and faith-based institutes that respond to the economic, housing, and social needs of neighborhoods, cities, and counties from local community, regional, national, international, and faith-based perspectives and has completed over 40 assessments for local government and private organizations throughout Southern California that have focused on affordable housing, business development and education for micro-businesses, fair housing, homelessness, migrant farming, and street vending.

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Local Facts About Homelessness in Ventura County

1. There are 2,193 homeless¹ adults and children on a given day;
2. There were 1,842 (84%) adults and 351 (16%) children;
3. 1,596 (73%) of adults and children were counted on the streets and 597 (27%) were counted in facilities for a total of 2,193 persons;
4. Of the 1,842 adults counted, 63 (3%) were seniors age 62 or older; 41 (2%) were seniors age 65 or older; and 12 (1%) were seniors age 75 or older;
5. Of the 1,842 adults counted, approximately 9% (157) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;
6. Of the 1,842 adults counted, 1,232 (67%) or approximately two-thirds were men and 610 (33%) or approximately one-third were women;
7. Of the 1,842 adults counted, 1,077 (58%) were White; 531 (29%) were Hispanic or Latino; 101 (5%) were African American or Black; 29 (2%) stated other; 22 (1%) stated American Indian or Alaskan Native; and 16 (1%) stated Asian or Pacific Islander;
8. There were 161 families consisting of 41 (25%) two-parent and 120 (75%) single-parent families.

The local facts above do not include persons who are at risk of becoming homeless. As noted in footnote 1, persons at risk of becoming homeless were not included in the count. It is important to note that according to the U. S. Census Bureau, in 2000, there were approximately 42,000 households consisting of about 130,000 persons (nearly one of every five residents) in Ventura County who were members of a household whose annual income was less than \$25,000. These households are at risk of becoming homeless.

¹A person was considered homeless, and thus counted, only when he/she fell within the following HUD-based definition by residing in one of the following places: a) in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings; b) in an emergency shelter; and c) in transitional housing for homeless persons.

I. Executive Summary

This report is meant to answer the primary question “**How Many Homeless People¹ Are There In The County of Ventura On A Given Day.**” The answer is 2,193 adults and children on a given day.² Please note that the number of persons who are homeless over the course of a year is higher. Local, regional, and national data suggests that it is three to four times higher than the number of persons homeless on a given day.³

While the primary purpose of the count was to find out how many people were homeless on a given day, some demographic questions can be answered as well. The homeless count gathered limited information about adults only (see Appendix A

Count Instrument). Such information included location (whether a person was counted on the streets or in a residential facility that serves homeless persons), age, gender, ethnicity, and state born. Adults were also asked if their “spouse or partner were homeless and living with them” and “how many of their children under 18 years of age were homeless and living with them.” Two other questions were also asked—“In what city did you sleep last night?” and “What city do you consider your home?”

There are 2,193 homeless adults and children in the County of Ventura on a given day.

A homeless survey was completed in 2007 which provides a wide-range of information from approximately 20% of the number of homeless adults who were counted in 2007. Such information includes responses to questions concerning domestic violence, education, foster care, health care, income, mental health care, residency, substance abuse, and veteran status. A copy of the survey can be obtained on www.vchhc.org. An updated survey will be completed in 2010.

¹A person was considered homeless, and thus counted, only when he/she fell within the following HUD-based definition by residing in one of the following places: a) in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings; b) in an emergency shelter; and c) in transitional housing for homeless persons.

²This report recognizes that there was an undercount of homeless persons. There were a few reports by counters who stated that some homeless people did not want to be counted. There were also a few reports by homeless service providers who felt that they may have missed some people who came for services.

³Estimating the number of persons who become homeless annually within the county was derived by examining and comparing local, regional, and national data. National research, according to the Urban Institute, has shown that approximately .75% to 1% of a jurisdiction’s general population experiences homelessness during the course of a year (see “How Many Homeless People Are There?” in Helping America’s Homeless). According to the California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, there were approximately 800,000 residents in Ventura County in January of 2009. Three fourths of one percent (.75%) equals 6,000 residents and one percent (1%) equals 8,000 residents.

A. LOCATION (STREETS OR FACILITIES)

- 1,596 (73%) of adults and children were counted on the streets and 597 (27%) were counted in facilities for a total of 2,193 persons.

Counters recorded the actual location where a HUD defined homeless person was counted. If the person (and their children) was counted on the streets—in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings—the person was included in the street category. If a person was counted in a shelter (including domestic violence shelters), the person was included in the facility category. A shelter was defined as an overnight facility that allows residents to stay up to 90 days. Please note that persons counted in winter shelters were included in the street category. A winter shelter is a seasonal residential program in which persons stay on a night-by-night basis. Also, persons who received hotel/motel vouchers for five (5) days or less were also included in the street category.

If a person was counted in a transitional housing program, the person was included in the facility category. A transitional housing program was defined as an overnight facility that allows residents to stay up to two (2) years. This definition is consistent with the HUD definition for transitional housing.

As noted in the methodology section (Section III), an identifier was created for each homeless adult. Counters recorded the initials, gender, ethnicity, year of birth, and state born of each individual homeless person. An example of an identifier is WTMW1957CA. If the same person was encountered again counters would establish the same code. However, this person (and their children) was only counted once in the final tally. If a person was counted twice—once in a facility and once on the streets—the person was counted once and included in the facility category. If a person was counted more than twice and at least once in a facility, the person was included in the facility category.

B. AGE

Seniors (Age 62 or Older)

- 63 (3%) of the 1,842 adults counted were seniors age 62 or older;
- 41 (2%) of the 1,842 adults counted were seniors age 65 or older;
- 12 (1%) of the 1,842 adults counted were seniors age 75 or older.

Of the 1,842 adults counted, 3% were seniors age 62 or older, 2% were age 65 or older, and 1% were age 75 or older.

Youth (Ages 18 – 24)

- 157 (9%) of the 1,842 adults counted were youth between the ages of 18 – 24.

Of the 1,842 adults counted, 157 (9%) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24.

Unaccompanied Children (Ages 13 – 17)

- 11 (1%) of the 1,842 adults⁴ counted were actually unaccompanied children (without parents) between the ages of 13 – 17.

Of the 1,842 adults counted, 11 or 1% were actually unaccompanied teenagers (without parents) between the ages of 13 - 17.

Other Adults (ages 25 - 61)

- Of the 1,842 adults counted, 1,611 or 87% were between the ages of 25 - 61.

Of the 1,611 (87%) adults counted, about half (47%) or 758 adults were “baby-boomers”—those persons born between the years 1946 and 1964.

C. GENDER

- Of the 1,842 adults counted, 1,232 (67%) were men and 610 (33%) were women.

Gender and other identifier information were only collected for adults. This information revealed that approximately two-thirds (67%) of homeless adults were men and about one-third (33%) were women.

D. ETHNICITY⁵

- Of the 1,842 adults counted, 1,077 (58%) were White; 531 (29%) were Hispanic or Latino; 101 (5%) were African American or Black; 29 (2%) stated other; 22 (1%) stated American Indian or Alaskan Native; and 16 (1%) stated Asian or Pacific Islander.

⁴The 1,842 adults counted includes 11 unaccompanied (without parents) children. These children are distinct from the 351 children under the age of 18 who were accompanied (with parents).

⁵Ethnic categories consisted with 2000 U. S. Census data were used.

Whites made up the majority (58%) which is more than half of all homeless adults. Hispanics or Latinos made up nearly one-third (29%) and all other ethnic groups (including those who stated other) (13%).

E. STATE BORN

- Of the 1,842 adults counted, 876 (48%) were born in California.

Nearly half (48%) of the 1,842 adults were born in California. There were 47 (3%) adults who were born in Texas, 18 (1%) in Washington, 16 (1%) in New York and Illinois. All other states had a percentage of less than 1%.

Other persons counted were foreign-born. Approximately 13% or 243 persons were born in a state in Mexico and 28 persons (2%) were born in countries other than the United States and Mexico.

F. CHILDREN

- Of the 2,193 persons who were counted, 351 or 16% were children under the age of 18 living with a homeless parent(s) who was included in the count.⁶

There were 351 children under the age of 18 representing 16% of the 2,193 persons who were counted.

G. FAMILY COMPOSITION

There were 161 families consisting of 41 (25%) two-parent and 120 (75%) single-parent families.

Couples

Although a family was defined as a one- or two-parent household with child(ren), it is worth noting that there were 65 homeless adults that stated that their spouse or partner was living with them. They stated “no” when asked if they had any children living with them.

⁶The 351 children do not include the 11 unaccompanied children (without a parent or parents) between the ages of 13 – 17 that were included with the 1,842 adults.

H. IN WHAT CITY DID YOU SLEEP LAST NIGHT?

Homeless adult respondents provided a range of answers to the question—“In what city did you sleep last night?” Counters were instructed to record “county” if a respondent provided an answer other than a city in Ventura County. The range of answers is based upon 1,715 individuals who answered the question by identifying a city or unincorporated area in Ventura County. There were 127 individuals or 7% of respondents who did not answer the question or stated a city or area outside the County of Ventura.

City or Area	# of Persons	% of Persons
Ventura	585	34
Oxnard	497	29
Simi Valley	344	20
Thousand Oaks	97	6
Ojai	67	4
Santa Paula	67	4
Camarillo	31	2
Moorpark	10	1
County Unincorporated	8	0
Port Hueneme	5	0
Fillmore	4	0
Totals:	1,715	100

There were a total of 182 persons that slept in a city or area outside of Ventura County the night before they were counted which represents 11% of the 1,715 persons who answered this question.

I. WHAT CITY DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR HOME?

Homeless adult respondents provided a range of answers to the question—“What city did you consider your home?” Counters were instructed to record “county” if a respondent provided an answer other than a city in Ventura County. The range of answers was as follows:

COUNTY OF VENTURA 2009 HOMELESS COUNT

City or Area	# of Persons	% of Persons
Oxnard	519	32
Ventura	505	31
Simi Valley	351	21
Thousand Oaks	101	6
Santa Paula	62	4
Ojai	57	3
Camarillo	21	1
Port Hueneme	10	1
Moorpark	8	1
County Unincorporated	7	0
Fillmore	4	0
Totals:	1,645	100

There were 197 (11%) persons that considered their “home city” to be a place outside of Ventura County.

II. Background Information

The Department of Housing and Urban Development, as part of its requirements for local jurisdictions to continue to receive Continuum of Care funding for homeless persons, asked local jurisdictional applicants to conduct a point-in-time (on a given day) homeless count during the last week of January of 2009.

A. WHEN WAS THE 2009 COUNT CONDUCTED?

The homeless count was conducted throughout the day on January 27, 2009. The count was carried out on the streets in the morning and through the evening. Counting continued for the next couple of days on the streets at places that were not included on the 27th because such places were not accessible or, in a few instances, counters were not available. Persons were only included in the overall count if they responded “yes” to the following question—Were you homeless on January 27th? Identifier information was also collected to prevent duplication.

The count was also conducted in facilities during the day and throughout the evening on January 27th. Counting continued for the next couple of days in facilities and residents were only included in the overall count if they responded “yes” to the following question—“Were you homeless on January 27th?” Identifier information was also collected to prevent duplication.

B. WHO WAS COUNTED?

A person was considered homeless, and thus counted, only when he/she fell within the HUD-based definition by residing in one of the places described below:

- a. in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings;
- b. in an emergency shelter; and
- c. in transitional housing for homeless persons.

HUD does not consider the following persons to be homeless—persons who are “doubled up,” or persons who are “near homelessness”—but considers them to be at risk of becoming homeless. Such persons were not included in the homeless count.

The County of Ventura, like many other counties, has a substantial number of households that are at risk of becoming homeless. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2000, there were approximately 42,000 households consisting of about 130,000 persons (nearly one of every five residents) in Ventura County who were members of a household whose annual income was less than \$25,000. There were approximately 21,000 households consisting of about 66,000 persons whose annual income was less than \$15,000 a year.

Many of these persons can become homeless because of social structural issues such as increases in rent, loss of job, and rising health care costs. In addition, personal experiences such as domestic violence, physical disabilities, mental illness, and substance abuse can cause members of a low income household or an entire household to become homeless. Often, one or more of these experiences factor into a household's homeless experience.

C. WHO CARRIED OUT THE COUNT?

The Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition (www.vchhc.org) consulted with Urban Initiatives, a community-based research and development agency (www.urban-initiatives.org) to plan and coordinate the count.

The Coalition has been coordinating the county's continuum of care system for homeless persons since 1996. Coordination has focused on applying for funding each year to HUD for "continuum of care homeless assistance." Coordination has also focused on implementing the annual goals and objectives that HUD requires in order to be competitive nationally for Continuum of Care homeless assistance funding. HUD required goals and objectives have included implementing homeless counts, increasing access to public assistance, and coordinating a homeless management information system among other required goals and objectives. To date, the coalition has representation from many public and private organizations including businesses, city departments, corporations, county departments, faith-based agencies, for-profit organizations, neighborhood groups, non-profit organizations, and private foundations.

Urban Initiatives is a community-based research and development agency that has completed many housing and homeless assessments including several homeless counts for cities and counties throughout Southern California. It consists of several community and faith-based agencies that respond to the economic, housing, and social needs of neighborhoods, cities, and counties from local community, regional, national, international, and faith-based perspectives.

The Coalition and Urban Initiatives organized over 200 volunteers to help with the count. Each city had volunteer teams that were coordinated by a team leader(s). In addition, volunteer teams were coordinated by a team leader(s) to count in the unincorporated areas of the county. Teams counted on the streets, at non-residential program sites that served homeless persons such as food programs, health care centers, and public assistance sites, and at shelters and transitional housing programs.

III. Methodology

The count instrument that was used collected the following information concerning every homeless person counted: first initial of first name, first initial of last name, gender, ethnicity, year born, and state born as noted below.

	First Initial	Last Initial	Gender	Ethnicity	Year Born	State Born
Example:	J	H	F	W	1960	CA

The methodology used during the enumeration process helped create an identifier that prevented a person from being included in the final tally of the count more than once. During the enumeration, counters recorded the initials, gender, ethnicity, year of birth, and state born of each individual homeless person. If the same person was encountered again, counters would establish the same code. However, this person would only be counted once in the final tally.

The information for every person every time was loaded into a data base. The information was then used to code each person. For example, a homeless person may have the following code of “WTMW1957CA. This meant that this person’s first name began with “W”, his last name began with “T”, he was male “M”, he was White “W”, born in 1957, and born in California.

Number of Persons	First Initial	Last Initial	Gender	Ethnicity	Year Born	State Born
1	J	H	F	W	1960	CA
2	H	T	M	L	1953	CA
3	R	K	F	L	1972	TX
4	K	N	M	AA	1969	CA
5	F	A	M	A	1980	CA
6	J	F	M	W	1971	CA
7	J	F	M	W	1971	CA
8	S	G	F	L	1968	NY
9	D	T	M	W	1962	CA
10	O	R	M	W	1959	CA

An example to illustrate how the process worked can be found within the table above. Numbers 6 and 7 (shaded in gray) would be considered the same person. Therefore, the person would only be counted once in the final tally that answered the question “how many homeless persons are there in the County of Ventura during a given day?” If for some reason there was doubt that numbers 6 and 7 were the same person, other collected data was used to address the doubt.

IV. Findings By Jurisdiction

This section provides findings by jurisdiction. Findings include the total number of persons counted and a breakdown of the limited data collected from adults such as location, age, gender, ethnicity, state born, children, and family composition.

The following table provides a breakdown of the total number of persons counted within each jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction	Total # of Persons Counted
Camarillo	13
Fillmore	4
Moorpark	7
Ojai	60
Oxnard	679
Port Hueneme	1
Santa Paula	91
Simi Valley	303
Thousand Oaks	147
Unincorporated County	265
Ventura	623
Total:	2,193

A break down of data for each jurisdiction for the following categories is provided on the following pages: 1) location; 2) age; 3) gender; 4) ethnicity; 5) state born; 6) children; and 7) family composition.

■ CAMARILLO

The total number of persons counted in Camarillo was 13. There were 13 adults and 0 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 100% of persons (13) were counted on the streets;

2. Age

- 8% of adults (1) were seniors (age 62+) and 8% (1) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;

3. Gender

- 85% of adults (11) were men and 15% (2) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 69% of adults (9) were White; and 31% (4) were Hispanic or Latino;

5. State Born

- 100% of adults (13) were born in California;

6. Children

- 0% of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 0% of the total number of persons counted were members of families.

■ FILLMORE

The total number of persons counted in Fillmore was 4. There were 4 adults and 0 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 100% of persons (4) were counted on the streets;

2. Age

- 0% of adults (0) were seniors (age 62+) and 50% (2) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;

3. Gender

- 75% of adults (3) were men and 25% (1) was a woman;

4. Ethnicity

- 50% of adults (2) were White; and 50% (2) were Hispanic or Latino;

5. State Born

- 100% of adults (4) were born in California;

6. Children

- 0% of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 0% of the total number of persons counted were members of families.

■ MOORPARK

The total number of persons counted in Moorpark was 7. There were 7 adults and 0 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 100% of persons (7) were counted on the streets;

2. Age

- 0% of adults (0) were seniors (age 62+) and 43% (3) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;

3. Gender

- 71% of adults (5) were men and 29% (2) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 71% of adults (5) were Hispanic or Latino and 29% (2) were White;

5. State Born

- 57% of adults (4) were born in California;

6. Children

- 0% of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 0% of the total number of persons counted were members of families.

■ OJAI

The total number of persons counted in Ojai was 60. There were 54 adults and 6 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 100% of persons (60) were counted in the streets;

2. Age

- 7% of adults (4) were seniors (age 62+) and 9% (5) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;

3. Gender

- 94% of adults (51) were men and 6% (3) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 76% (41) were Hispanic or Latino; 20% (11) were White; and 4% (2) were African American or Black;

5. State Born

- 13% of adults (7) were born in California;

6. Children

- 10% (6) of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 2 families were counted—both were two-parent families.

■ OXNARD

The total number of persons counted in Oxnard was 679. There were 549 adults and 130 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 62% of persons (423) were counted on the streets and 38% (256) were counted in facilities;

2. Age

- 2% of adults (12) were seniors (age 62+) and 3% (16) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24; and 1% (5) were unaccompanied youth (without parents) between the ages of 13 – 17;

3. Gender

- 61% of adults (337) were men and 39% (212) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 49% (270) were Hispanic or Latino; 39% of adults (211) were White; 9% (49) were African American or Black, 0% (1) were American Indian or Alaskan Native, 1% (4) were Asian/Pacific Islander, and 2% (8) stated Other;

5. State Born

- 42% of adults (230) were born in California;

6. Children

- 19% (130) of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 56 families were counted—8 two-parent families with children and 48 one-parent families with children.

■ PORT HUENEME

The total number of persons counted in Port Hueneme was 1. There was 1 adult and 0 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 100% of persons (1) were counted on the streets;

2. Age

- 0% of adults (0) were seniors (age 62+) and 0% (0) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;

3. Gender

- 100% of adults (1) were men;

4. Ethnicity

- 100% of adults (1) were White;

5. State Born

- 100% of adults (1) were born in California;

6. Children

- 0% of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 0% of the total number of persons counted were members of families.

■ SANTA PAULA

The total number of persons counted in Santa Paula was 91. There were 73 adults and 18 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 100% of persons (91) were counted on the streets;

2. Age

- 1% of adults (1) were seniors (age 62+) and 8% (6) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;

3. Gender

- 64% of adults (47) were men and 36% (26) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 67% of adults (49) were Hispanic or Latino; 32% (23) were White; and 1% (1) stated Other;

5. State Born

- 64% of adults (47) were born in California;

6. Children

- 20% (18) of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 7 families were counted—all seven (7) were one-parent families with children.

■ SIMI VALLEY

The total number of persons counted in Simi Valley was 303. There were 266 adults and 37 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 98% of persons (298) were counted on the streets and 2% (5) in facilities;

2. Age

- 5% of adults (12) were seniors (age 62+); 18% (48) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24; and 4 (1%) were unaccompanied youth (without parents) between the ages of 13-17.

3. Gender

- 69% of adults (183) were men and 31% (83) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 69% of adults (183) were White; 23% (62) were Hispanic or Latino; 1% (2) were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 3% (8) were African American or Black; 1% (3) were Asian/Pacific Islander; and 3% (8) stated Other;

5. State Born

- 67% of adults (178) were born in California;

6. Children

- 12% (37) of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 18 families were counted—10 two-parent family with children and 8 one-parent families with children.

■ THOUSAND OAKS

The total number of persons counted in Thousand Oaks was 147. There were 106 adults and 41 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 81% of persons (119) were counted on the streets and 19% (28) in facilities;

2. Age

- 3% of adults (3) were seniors (age 62+) and 9% (10) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;

3. Gender

- 65% of adults (69) were men and 35% (37) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 83% of adults (88) were White; 9% (10) were Hispanic or Latino; 2% (2) were African American or Black; 3% (3) were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 2% (2) were Asian/Pacific Islander; and 1% (1) stated Other;

5. State Born

- 58% of adults (61) were born in California;

6. Children

- 28% (41) of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 27 families were counted—1 two-parent families with children and 26 one-parent families with children.

■ UNINCORPORATED AREAS

The total number of persons counted in Unincorporated Areas was 265. There were 186 adults and 79 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 32% of persons (84) were counted on the streets and 68% (181) in facilities;

2. Age

- 3% of adults (6) were seniors (age 62+) and 10% (18) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24;

3. Gender

- 52% of adults (97) were men and 48% (89) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 68% of adults (126) were White; 23% (44) were Hispanic or Latino; 8% (15) were African American or Black; 0% (0) were Asian/Pacific Islander; 1% (1) were American Indian or Alaskan Native; and 0% (0) stated Other;

5. State Born

- 42% of adults (78) were born in California;

6. Children

- 30% (79) of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition

- 28 families were counted—14 two-parent families with children and 14 one-parent families with children.

■ VENTURA

The total number of persons counted in Ventura was 623. There were 583 adults and 40 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location

- 80% of persons (496) were counted on the streets and 20% (127) were counted in facilities;

2. Age

- 4% of adults (24) were seniors (age 62+) and 8% (48) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24; and 0% (2) were unaccompanied youth (without parents) between the ages of 13 – 17;

3. Gender

- 73% of adults (428) were men and 27% (155) were women;

4. Ethnicity

- 73% of adults (426) were White; 18% (101) were Hispanic or Latino; 4% (23) were African American or Black; 2% (15) were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 1% (7) were Asian/Pacific Islander; and 2% (11) stated Other;

5. State Born

- 56% of adults (324) were born in California;

6. Children

- 6% (40) of the total number of persons counted were children

7. Family Composition

- 27 families were counted—6 two-parent families with children and 21 one-parent families with children.

V. Conclusion

This report concludes with a comparison of the 2007 and 2009 homeless counts for Ventura County. The comparison is outlined in Appendix B which breaks down each count by jurisdiction noting whether there was an increase or decrease within each jurisdiction. In addition, some demographic information was also compared.

The 2007 homeless count was the first extensive effort conducted in the County of Ventura. The 2009 homeless count was just as extensive. An annual count is being considered by the Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition and strongly encouraged by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Future counts will also be conducted during the last 10 days of January.

Appendix A

Your Name: _____ Date: _____
 Location: _____ City/Community: _____

County of Ventura 2009 Homeless Count

Are You Homeless Today?	First Initial of First Name Only	First Initial of Last Name Only	Ethnicity (Please Check One)						Year Born	State Born	If not born in U.S. note country born	Female	Male	Af American or Black	Asian/Pac Islander	Am Indian or Alaskan	Hispanic or Latino	White	Other	Year Born	State Born	If not born in U.S. note country born
			A	B	C	D	E	F														
Y	N	A							1970	CA										1971	AZ	
Y	N																					
Y	N																					
Y	N																					
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*A Partner is a person you live with and share a common family life but are not joined in a traditional marriage.

Appendix B

Appendix B: Comparison of 2007 and 2009 County of Ventura Homeless Counts: Partial Numbers

City/Community	2007 Total	2009 Total	Variance	% of Increase/Decrease	Women		Men		Children		Families	
					2007	2009	2007	2009	2007	2009	2007	2009
Camarillo	10	13	3	30.0%	2	2	8	11	0	0	0	0
Unincorporated	242	265	23	9.0%	80	89	84	97	63	79	29	28
Fillmore	5	4	-1	-20.0%	0	1	5	3	0	0	0	0
Moorpark	13	7	-6	-46.2%	1	2	12	5	0	0	0	0
Ojai	82	60	-22	-27.0	16	3	63	51	3	6	2	2
Oxnard	671	679	8	1.2%	165	212	393	337	113	130	53	56
Port Hueneme	9	1	-8	-88.8%	2	0	7	1	0	0	0	0
Santa Paula	97	91	-6	-6.2%	25	26	49	47	23	18	12	7
Simi Valley	163	303	140	85.9%	48	83	98	183	17	37	13	18
Thousand Oaks	81	147	66	81.5%	25	37	40	69	16	41	10	23
Ventura	588	623	35	6.0%	153	155	388	428	47	40	23	27
Totals:	1961	2193	232	11.9% increase	517	610	1147	1232	282	351	142	161