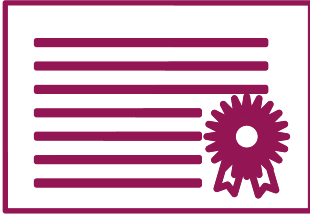


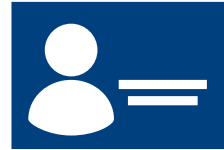
Obtaining Vital Documents in Michigan

Birth certificates are necessary for school enrollment, many MDHHS services, & obtaining a state ID

EXITING HOMELESSNESS REQUIRES VITAL DOCUMENTS



In a 2017 survey of homeless service providers, birth certificates were identified as the most difficult document to obtain for people experiencing homelessness.¹



Individuals experiencing homelessness need a birth certificate to get a state ID, which is required to access services, medical care, shelter, employment, and more.²

OBSTACLES TO ACCESSING BIRTH CERTIFICATES

Birth certificates held by DHHS can cost up to 3x as much as those at the county level and take longer to process.³

\$
13.38

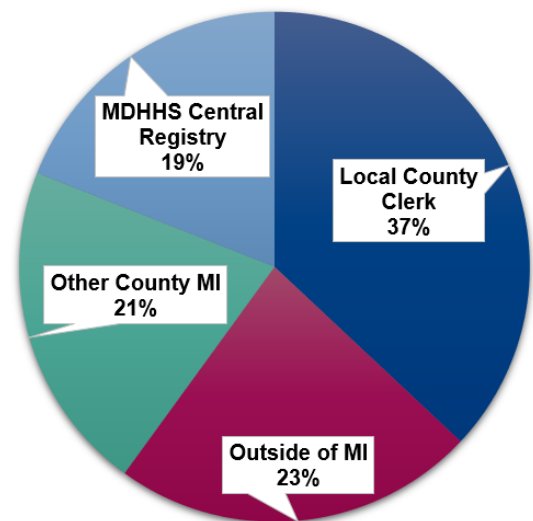
Average cost of birth certificate at county clerk office

\$\$\$\$
34.00

plus processing fees

Cost of birth certificate at MDHHS Central Registry (unwed mothers before 1978 and adoptions)

Origin of Birth Certificate Asks¹



HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Support HBs 4152 & 4153 which allow County Clerks to charge the same fee for birth records whether they are obtained locally or from the MDHHS Central Registry.



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SOURCES

1. Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness, *State ID Needs Survey* (2017).
2. Michigan County Clerks, *Vital Record Fees* (2017), http://michigancountyclerks.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/2017-Vital-Record-Fees.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2c8oZfO_tDCjnzz_WDKl5QDYmCx_6rFeX1MhZGQOMk7-HUOsGRbi8Xskc
3. PEW Charitable Trusts, *Without ID, Homeless Trapped in Vicious Cycle* (2017), <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2017/05/15/without-id-homeless-trapped-in-vicious-cycle>.