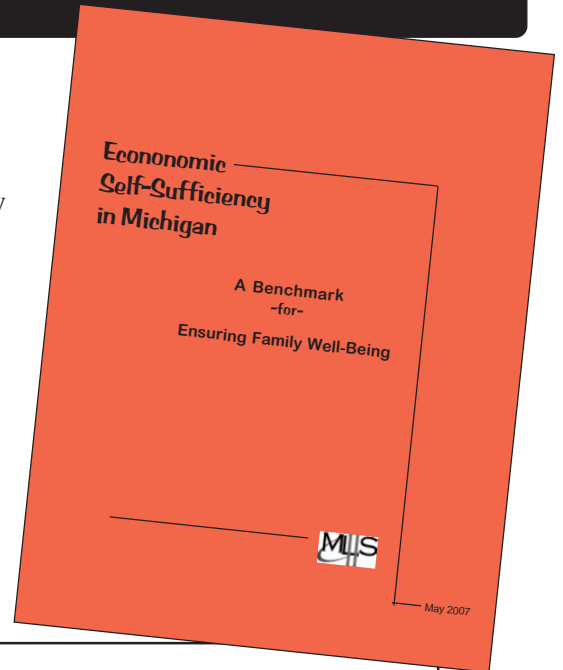


# Economic Self-Sufficiency in Michigan — May 2007

Across Michigan tens of thousands of families and individuals struggle to provide for the basic necessities of life. There is a life of constantly “robbing Peter to pay Paul” because the financial resources are not available to meet all of the household’s needs or pay all of the bills.

Some of Michigan’s most destitute households subsist on a very meager cash assistance grant provided through a combination of federal and state funds. The vast majority of low-income households, however, are employed but struggle to make ends meet. This report addresses the question, “What income does a family need to earn in order to meet all of its basic expenses without relying on government or nonprofit assistance?” It also underscores the importance of current supports such as cash assistance, Food Stamps, day care and tax relief when families do not earn enough to make ends meet.



### Michigan self-sufficiency wage levels are identified as:

- Single individual—\$9.08 per hour;
- Single-parent family with two children under six—\$19.35 per hour;
- Two-parent family with two children under six in which both parents work—\$10.74 per hour each;
- Two-parent family with two children under six in which one parent works—\$12.58 per hour

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