

Vital Records: Births

Warren County Genealogical Society, 406 Justice Drive, Lebanon, Ohio 45036
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It is extremely important to obtain copies of vital records for your ancestors. These can show family relationships if parents are correctly listed as well as important details such as birth, marriage, and death dates. Vital records in Warren County can be found at a few locations depending on the period you are searching and the type of record. Most of these records for Warren County, Ohio, are currently either housed at the Warren County Records Center & Archives, the Probate Court, or the Health Department. The Warren County Genealogical Society has indexed vital records in the county for the indicated dates in the WCGS Publication list. These are available for purchase in book format.

Birth Records

Governmental birth records for Warren County, Ohio, begin in 1867 and were filed in the Probate Court. The Warren County Probate Court continued to maintain births from 1867 to December 19, 1908. The registers are currently located in the Warren County Records Center & Archives. These early birth records were recorded in oversized hardbound books such that each entry spanned two pages. The information recorded varied over the course of time, but usually included: the child's name, birth date and place, parents' names and residence and the name of the person reporting the event.

Starting December 20, 1908, official state level birth certificates were required. These were issued by the Warren County Health Department with a copy sent to the Division of Vital Statistics of the Ohio Department of Health.

Corrected Birth Records: These records are created when a parent, sibling or the person themselves come to the judge and corrects some part of the original record that was incorrect. Corrections may include details for the name, sex, date, etc. This corrected record also contains additional information not always in the original record such as place of birth, parents' names (including the mother's maiden name), the parents' residence, and individual's residence. Copies of the original records are stored in the Warren County Records Center & Archives.

Late Birth Records: These records are created when an individual came to register his / her birth that was originally unrecorded or was incomplete. Some of these individuals needed proof of birth to obtain a social security number. They were required to bring witnesses such as a sibling or neighbor as proof, and other evidence to prove the event. These late birth records contain details such as place of birth, parents' names (including the mother's maiden name), the parents' residence, and individual's residence. Some copies of the original records are stored in the Warren County Records Center & Archives. A few delayed birth records are on file at the Warren County Combined Health Department and can be searched by the birth year, or alphabetically if they are not in the known birth year. Most were sent to the State of Ohio Vital Statistics office.

Assessor Birth Records: These records were recorded by each specific township from 1886-1907 and contained the same information that was recorded in the probate book. This information was reported to the Warren County Probate Court. For births, if the baby was born elsewhere (like township or county such as mother's family home) the birth was still recorded. Sometimes records may be found in the Assessors' records that are not in the probate records books.

Bible Records: Bible records are excellent sources for family information especially for events that occurred before vital statistics were recorded. For more information, including a list of families and surnames associated with bible records held at WCGS, please see the Bible Records PDF.

Cemeteries: Grave marker photos and burial or interment records can be extremely helpful in finding a birth date or year. If other records do not exist, these can be used as a substitute, or can help narrow down the search for an actual record.

Church Records: For births prior to 1867 and to narrow down the year of birth for after 1867, locating a Baptism record can be helpful. Keep in mind that not all babies were baptized right away and not all baptism records have been preserved. Please see Churches and Church Records for more information on Baptisms.

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Adoptions and Name Changes: Formal adoptions prior to 1900 were not common, although they did occur. Many times, the children were placed with relatives instead of being adopted. Because of this, there was no court involvement and therefore, no associated records. If the child was placed with a family as an indenture, you may be able to find some sort of record, depending upon the year and whether those records survived. By the latter half of the 19th century, adoptions were increasingly granted by the county Probate Court Judge and records were kept by the court. By adopting the child in the Probate Court, the parents were making the child a direct heir to the estate. Otherwise, the child had no legal claim to the parents' estate, especially if the parents died intestate.

Adoptions have been indexed* for Warren County up to 1970. Be sure to look for name changes along with the adoption. Adoption records generally include the child's original birth name, birth parents' names, date of adoption, age of child, perhaps the situation, adoptive parents' names, and any name change for the child. These can be found either on one of the pages of the adoption record itself or in the probate record books.

The first step in acquiring an adoption record is knowing a record exists. The Warren County Probate Court General Index to Estates, Volumes 1-3 (arranged alphabetically), provide the full name, year, Book, Volume, Page, and Adoption Box Number (in Volumes 2 and 3) for adoptions and change-of-name petitions. These records can be accessed at FamilySearch and are searchable with FamilySearch Full-Text Search.

General Index to Estates, Volume 1-2, from the Warren County Probate Court

[FSL Image Group Number 005876551](#) (filmed September 2, 1974, at the Warren County Probate Court)

Vol. 1: 1803-September 1, 1936 images 1-289
Vol. 2: September 1, 1936-Jan 1958 images 290-635

General Index to Estates, Volume 3, from the Warren County Probate Court

[FSL Image Group Number 005876552](#) (filmed September 4, 1974, at the Warren County Probate Court)

Vol. 3: January 1, 1958-1970 images 1-387

In Warren County, formal adoption records may be accessed if permitted by the sitting Probate Court Judge. Please visit: https://warrencountyohio.gov/probate_juvenile

On the top menu bar, select **Juvenile Court** to see the drop-down menu. From there, select **Public Records** to see that drop-down menu. From there, you can access the Public Records Policy PDF and Public Records Request Form PDF.

The Ohio Department of Health also has information on Adoption Records. Please visit their website for more information.

Ohio Department of Health: Adoption File Information

<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/vital-statistics/adoption-file-information>

*WCGS compiled and published a book in 2026 of these Adoption Indexes. It includes expanded information from the 1998 book compiled by Ellen Van Houten and Florence Cole with addendum compiled by Chester Dunn for records from 1855-1939. As available, for 1855-1939, it lists name of child and parents, age, and date or year of adoption, adopting parent's or parents' names, and name change, along with some research on these individuals and families. For 1940-1970, it lists name, year, and original record location, with the ability to cross-reference many entries between 1940-1959. This book is available for purchase in the WCGS Resource Library and online:

<https://www.wcgsohio.org/product-page/warren-county-ohio-adoption-records-1855-1970>

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Newspaper Announcements: While not an actual birth record, announcements of a birth or congratulating new parents can help narrow down the date. The *Western Star* ran a series of Birth Announcements and can be searched online by clicking on **Advanced Search** and using the term "births" or "births and deaths".
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll84>

The examples below show where they named both baby and parents; other times just the parents were named.

Thursday, September 24, 1942.

Boys Outnumber Girls Last Month As Births Total 46; List 28 Deaths

Births led deaths last month with 18 boys and 14 girls listed besides 14 delayed certificates reported, Mrs. Ernestine Cook, health board secretary announced today. This is a slight decrease in births over the precious month when 46 were listed. Deaths last month totaled 28.

Proud parents and babies follow:

Albert Alvin, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Davis, Lebanon, R. R. 3; Miriam Amelia, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd E. McKnight, Franklin; Ronald Ray, Mr. and Mrs. Mat Boyd Smith, Franklin, R. R. 1; Pearl Mae, Mr. and Mrs. Porter Townsend, Franklin; Robert Reason, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Davis, Carlisle; Unnamed, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard L. Rothwell, Franklin.

Charlotte Marie, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Plowman, Franklin; Diana Della, Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Jordan, Franklin; Betty Lou, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Searce, Franklin; Cecile Marie, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Clyde Jenkins, Franklin; Terry Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Holly Kennard, Waynesville, R. R. 2.

William Douglass, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Adijah Bottles, Franklin; Barton and Brenda, twins, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence D. Moore, Franklin; Mikel, Mr. and Mrs. John Gross, S. Lebanon; Ralph Eugene, Mr. and Mrs. Court Edward Saltgaver, Lebanon; Sylvester Henry Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Fueston, Lebanon.

Larry Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bobbitt, Franklin, R. R. 2; Darrel Richard, Mr. and Mrs. Foyster Robinson, Kings Mills; Gerald Al-

ton, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Alton Marshall, Lockland; Fred Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wm. Hathaway, Lebanon; Charles Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Henry Schemel Jr., Oregonia, R. R.; Jerry Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Earl Shaffer, Waynesville, R. R. 1.

Leona Sue, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Frost, Lebanon; Dennis Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert C. McClanahan, Springboro; Carlisle Dale, Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson Burton, Lebanon, R. R. 2; Joan Edith, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Hall, Waynesville; Sandra Louise, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hedger, Lebanon, R. R. 3; Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. H. Leach, Morrow.

Katie Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Conner, Morrow; Joyce Ann, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ursa Scott, Morrow; John Jr., Mr. and Mrs. John H. Ross, Waynesville.

The Western Star (Lebanon, Ohio), Thursday,
September 24, 1942, Page 6, Columns 7-8
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll84/id/46558/>

Nineteen Boys, Ten Girls Arrive— STORK BUSY MONTH OF AUGUST

Births in Warren county last month totaled 29 with the boys leading the show by a large majority, it was revealed this week by Health Director, Dr. Edward Blair. Only 24 births were recorded last month.

The grim reaper accounted for 14 deaths in August as compared to 20 in July. This is one of the lowest number of deaths for several months.

Infants and parents are as follows:

Larry Lee Crosley, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Lee Crosley, Blanchester, route 2; Unnamed Snider, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie E. Snider, Mason; Corwin Lester Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. James Bryant, Oregonia; Carl James Mullen, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mullen, Lebanon route 2.

Bertha Jane Doughman, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley M. Doughman, Lebanon; Paul Edward Barton, Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Alfred Barton, Waynesville route 1; Richard Hunt, Mrs. Margaret Hunt, Sharonville; Willard Eugene Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur H. Montgomery, Lebanon.

Ronald Carter Sibcy, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Sibcy, Lebanon
(Continued on Page Six—A)

The Western Star (Lebanon, Ohio), Thursday,
September 21, 1939, Page 1, Columns 7-8
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll84/id/43190/>

BIRTHS—

(Continued from Page One-A)

route 4; Charles Warren Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond L. Bishop, Lebanon; Evelyn Carol Gaylor, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Gaylor, Lebanon route 3; Margaret Kathleen Mullen, Mr. and Mrs. Roy A. Mullen, Lebanon.

Carolyn Mae Johns, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Johns, Lebanon; Carolyn Joan Gillen, Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Gillen, Franklin; Susan Jane Tewell, Mr. and Mrs. John Hansford Tewell, Franklin; Donald Alfred Kindred, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kindred, Franklin route 2; Delbert Lee Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Jones, Carlisle.

Betty Idalene Clements, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Clements, Franklin route 1; Patrick McCarthy, Mr. and Mrs. William A. McCarthy, Franklin; Ronald Wayne Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Earl E. Rose, Franklin; Charles Daniel Burroughs, Mr. and Mrs. Roy S. Burroughs, Franklin.

David Allison Hillard, Mr. and Mrs. Edw. A. Hillard, Franklin; Paul Leroy Ordning, Mr. and Mrs. Urban G. Ordning, Waynesville; Carolyn Ann Conner, Mr. and Mrs. Leo S. Conner, Waynesville; Doris Eileen Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Ervin W. Smith, Waynesville route 1.

Melvin Douglas Kendrick, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kendrick, Waynesville rural route; Joseph Nelson Ross, Mr. and Mrs. James R. Ross, Harveysburg; Rodger Donald Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. James E. Johnson, South Lebanon; Rose Eileen Rich, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Earl Rich, Oregonia route 1.

The Western Star
(Lebanon, Ohio),
Thursday, September 21,
1939, Page 6, Column 5
<https://ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll84/id/43195/>

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Obtaining Copies of Birth Records

Warren County Records Center & Archives

<https://www.warrencountyohio.gov/RecordsCenter/>

Available Records and Searchable County Indexes

<https://www.warrencountyohio.gov/RecordsCenter/Records/AvailableRecords/Index>

Departmental Collections: Probate Court

Birth Record; 3 volumes, 1867-1908 (online at WCRC&A and FamilySearch)

Birth / Death Township Logs; 1887-1908 (online at FamilySearch or contact WCRC&A)

Birth Records Index Books (1-3) can be searched and viewed using the Searchable Indexes and Records online.

<https://www.warrencountyohio.gov/RecordsCenter/Records/Indexes/Index>

To access the Birth Records index, select

Department: Probate Court

Index: Birth Records Index Book 1 (or 2 or 3)

Or you can submit a Records Request online:

<https://www.warrencountyohio.gov/RecordsCenter/Records/RecordsRequest/Index>

FamilySearch.org (online)

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/>

**Please see the [Searching FamilySearch](#) PDF. It will help you use the proper method to view the records.*

Ohio County, Births, 1841-2003 (includes Warren County)

Searchable birth records database with the digital image from the original birth entries. The site index includes the names of the child, parents, birth date, and location, etc.

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/collection/1932106>

Birth Records, 1867-1908, Volumes 1-3, from the Warren County Probate Court

[FSL Image Group Number 004016600](#) (filmed August 14, 1964, at the Warren County Courthouse)

Vol. 1: 1867-1880:	images 1-200
Vol. 2: 1880-1892:	images 201-378
Vol. 3: 1892-1908:	images 202-602

Birth Records, 1867-1908, Volumes 1-3, from the Warren County Probate Court (another filming)

[FSL Image Group Number 005253710](#) (filmed September 4, 1974, at the Warren County Probate Court)

Vol. 1: 1867-1879:	images 1-232
Vol. 2: 1880-1892:	images 233-435
Vol. 3: 1892-1908:	images 436-602

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Obtaining Copies of Birth Records: FamilySearch (cont'd.)

Births: Massie, Salem, Turtlecreek, Turtlecreek West, Union, Washington, and Wayne Townships, 1887-1907, from the Warren County Probate Court

[FSL Image Group Number 000417498](#) (filmed by Wright State University)

Massie Township:	images 1-112
Salem Township:	images 113-179
Turtlecreek Township East Precinct:	images 180-275
Turtlecreek Township West Precinct:	images 276-422
Union Township:	images 423-499
Washington Township:	images 500-590
Wayne Township:	images 591-689

Births: Clearcreek, Deerfield, Franklin, Hamilton, and Harlan Townships, 1887-1908, from the Warren County Probate Court

[FSL Image Group Number 000417499](#) (filmed by Wright State University)

Clearcreek Township:	images 1-334
Deerfield Township:	images 335-463
Franklin Township:	images 464-582
Hamilton Township:	images 583-659
Harlan Township:	images 660-742

Ohio History Connection

Although the Ohio History Connection has birth records for many counties, it does not have any indexed birth records for Warren County, Ohio.

<https://ohiohistory.libguides.com/vital/birthrecords>

Ohio Department of Health

The Ohio Department of Health no longer provides uncertified copies of birth certificates. Certified copies of birth certificates from December 20, 1908, to the current date can be obtained. Please refer to their website for directions.

<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/vital-statistics/How-to-Order-Certificates>.

Warren County Health Department

Certified copies of birth records from all Ohio counties from December 20, 1908, to the current date can also be obtained from the Warren County Health Department.

<https://warrencohealthoh.gov/home/birth-and-death-records>.

Birth records from all Ohio counties from December 20, 1908, to the current date can be viewed at the Warren County Health Department or any Ohio County Health Department. While you cannot get a copy of an uncertified birth record, you can view and photograph a stamped Government Use Only copy, which will then be shredded.

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WCGS Publications

The following publications are available for purchase from the Warren County Genealogical Society. Please visit <https://www.wcssohio.org/shop-and-support> and select Birth Records under Category.

- Births, 1867-1871
- Births, 1872-1879
- Births, 1879-1880
- Births, 1880-1883
- Births, 1884-1887
- Births, 1888-1892
- Births, 1892-1896
- Births, 1897-1902
- Births, 1903-1908
- Births, 1909-1919 [from Assessors Records]
- Births, 1920-1925
- Delayed and Corrected Birth Registration
- Births, 1886-1907 – Book 2 [from Assessors Records]
- Births, 1886-1907 – Book 3 [from Assessors Records]
- Dr. Layman, Birth Records, Franklin, Ohio, 1933-1942
- Adoption Records, 1856-1970

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Other Repositories

The Warren County Records Center & Archives maintains a list of microfilm held by other organizations.

Record Series	Record Number(s) / Dates	Record Name(s)	Media Type	Roll Identifiers	Notes
Probate Court	1941	Birth Records Index	35mm	1637542	Birth Records 4-5-6 1941-1942 also on roll - Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	1867-1908	Birth Records	35mm	964252	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	1887-1907	Birth Records	35mm		Original roll made / held by Wright State University
Probate Court	1887-1907	Birth Records	35mm		Original roll made / held by Wright State University
Probate Court	1942-1943	Birth Records	35mm	1637543	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	9-10-11	Birth Records	35mm	1637544	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	11 (p.368) - 12-13	Birth Records	35mm	1637545	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	14-15-16	Birth Records	35mm	1637546	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	16 (p. 388)	Birth Records	35mm	1637547	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	17-18	Birth Records	35mm	1637548	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	19	Birth Records	35mm	1637549	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	12 & 13 - Dates Vary	Birth Records	35mm	VDS 827-28	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	14 & 15 - Dates Vary	Birth Records	35mm	VDS 828-29	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Probate Court	16 - Dates Vary	Birth Records	35mm	VDS 829-30	Original roll made / held by the Genealogical Society of Utah

Warren County Research documents, including this one, have been compiled from numerous sources. We thank those whose hard work and invaluable information has been referenced and updated for use here. – *Jo Roth*

Dana Palmer, *Researching in Warren County, Ohio: A Guide to Genealogical Resources* (2013)

Dana Palmer, Webmaster of our original website (2001-2015)

Arne Trelvik, Webmaster of our original website (2007-2018)

Debbie Large, Webmaster of our original website (2016)

Tori Otten, Warren County Records Center & Archives

Jacob Stickel, Warren County Records Center & Archives

Jim Brokaw, Warren County Genealogical Society President