

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Jackson County

Alabama · Scottsboro · FIPS 01071 · Population 52,618 ·
Crosodo Index #1978*

STATE BASELINE

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

How to start — 60-second path

Jackson County, Alabama — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Not explicitly restricted by state law, but standard sanitation applies. Alabama state law does not have an explicit pet ban unlike NC.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Alabama cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Alabama home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Alabama label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

ALABAMA: JACKSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1978* · FIPS 01071 · Scottsboro

Jackson County

Population 52,618 · State baseline: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must use primary residence kitchen with residential appliances. No commercial equipment permitted. Must complete state-approved food safety course. Products sold only directly to consumers in-state (in person, phone, online, mail).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not explicitly restricted by state law, but standard sanitation applies. Alabama state law does not have an explicit pet ban unlike NC.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Jackson County requires a home occupation application approved by the Public Development Director. Max floor area 1,000 sq ft or 25% of dwelling. No exterior signs indicating business activity. Only one additional full-time employee or two part-time employees allowed on site. An occupational tax license must also be obtained from the county.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. County health department reviews food safety course certificate and product labels only. ADPH may act on foodborne illness complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must use primary residence kitchen with residential appliances. No commercial equipment permitted. Must complete state-approved food safety course. Products sold only directly to consumers in-state (in person, phone, online, mail).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not explicitly restricted by state law, but standard sanitation applies. Alabama state law does not have an explicit pet ban unlike NC.
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply; no special testing required by state law.
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; no explicit handwashing station requirement beyond residential kitchen standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Standard residential kitchen storage; products must remain non-potentially hazardous (no refrigeration required).

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection. County health department reviews food safety course certificate and product labels only. ADPH may act on foodborne illness complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Jackson County requires a home occupation application approved by the Public Development Director. Max floor area 1,000 sq ft or 25% of dwelling. No exterior signs indicating business activity. Only one additional full-time employee or two part-time employees allowed on site. An occupational tax license must also be obtained from the county.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Customer pickup allowed but no stock-in-trade may be displayed or stored on premises per home occupation rules. Goods transported by U.S. mail or commercial parcel service; no more than 10 deliveries/shipments per month by commercial carrier.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	One additional full-time or two part-time employees (beyond occupants) per home occupation rules.

Relevant county code

Jackson County Zoning Ordinance, Article 3, Section 3-068 (Home Occupation)

RESEARCH NOTES

Alabama state law (§22-20-5.1) allows cottage food production from primary residence without kitchen inspection; county health department only reviews food safety course certificate and labels. Jackson County's zoning ordinance (Section 3-068) requires a home occupation permit application and an occupational tax license. No display or on-premises sale of stock in trade; goods must ship by USPS/parcel service. Restaurant use is expressly prohibited as a home occupation. County health department review required before obtaining business license. No county-specific cottage food rules found beyond state baseline and zoning restrictions.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.jacksoncounty.gov>

<https://www.jacksoncountygov.com/DocumentCenter/View/2986/Home-Occupation-Rules-and-Regulations-PDF?bidId=>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/alabama/title-22/title-1/chapter-20/section-22-20-5-1/>

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/assets/cottagefoodlawfaqs.pdf>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/alabama/jackson-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Jackson County	DeKalb County	Marshall County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not explicitly restricted by state law, but standard sanitation applies. Alabama state law does not have an explicit pet ban unlike NC.	Not specified in state law	No specific state restriction, but county health approval process may review kitchen conditions.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Customer pickup allowed but no stock-in-trade may be displayed or stored on premises per home occupation rules. Goods transported by U.S. m...	In-state delivery and shipping permitted; online sales allowed	Direct sales only. In-state online sales and shipping allowed per 2021 amendment. Home pickup, farmers markets, and events permitted.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must use primary residence kitchen with residential appliances. No commercial equipment permitted. Must complete state-approved food safety...	No sales cap. Specific food handler course required. No kitchen inspection required. Direct sales only; no wholesale. Prohibited: meat, pou...	Alabama cottage food law (§22-20-5.1, 2021 amendment): no sales cap, direct sales only (no wholesale). Must complete state-approved food sa...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard residential kitchen storage; products must remain non-potentially hazardous (no refrigeration required).	Appropriate storage for shelf-stable products	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable foods only; must prevent contamination.
POPULATION	52,618	71,680	97,923

State context — Alabama cottage food law

Jackson County's rules sit on top of Alabama's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Indirect sales to grocery stores, restaurants, or wholesale are not permitted; producers may use an agent for delivery but cannot sell through retailers.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Alabama cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/alabama.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/code-of-alabama>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/alabama/>

Questions about Jackson County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/alabama/jackson-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Jackson County, Alabama. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/alabama/jackson-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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