

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Duval County

Florida · Jacksonville · FIPS 12031 · Population 995,708 ·
Crosodo Index #1362*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Fla. Stat. \$500.80	Great	250000	HIGH	2026-05-06

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

Duval County, Florida — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

250000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Florida state law does not address pets in cottage food kitchens. FDACS guidance does not prohibit pets but standard food safety practices apply.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Florida 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
- ☐ Florida home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Open the live county page →

Florida label one-pager →

Local notes & questions →

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

FLORIDA: DUVAL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1362* · FIPS 12031 · Jacksonville

Duval County

Population 995,708 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Florida's cottage food law (§500.80) requires production in the kitchen of the operator's residence only. Motor home kitchens and rented kitchens are not permitted. Production must occur at the cottage food operator's primary residence. Duval County and the City of Jacksonville are a consolidated city-county government since 1968; all unincorporated Duval County is governed by the City of Jacksonville. Florida preempts local regulation of cottage food operations (§500.80(6)).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Florida state law does not address pets in cottage food kitchens. FDACS guidance does not prohibit pets but standard food safety practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Florida §559.955 (Home-based businesses; local government restrictions) substantially limits local regulation of home-based businesses. Local governments cannot license or regulate home-based businesses beyond business tax receipts (chapter 205) and cannot impose requirements more stringent than those for residences without businesses. Jacksonville/Duval zoning code (Chapter 656) allows home occupations in residential districts as a permitted use meeting performance standards in §656.401(n). Jacksonville requires: resident operators only, business incidental and subordinate to residential use, no change to residential character, no exterior business evidence. Jacksonville's consolidated city-county government applies a single code across all of what was formerly unincorporated Duval County. A home occupation permit review may be required for Jacksonville addresses; contact the City of Jacksonville Planning and Development Department.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Per §500.80(7), FDACS may inspect only upon receipt of a complaint alleging a violation. No routine inspections. Refusal to permit inspection is grounds for disciplinary action. State-level only — county/local health inspections not applicable.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Florida's cottage food law (§500.80) requires production in the kitchen of the operator's residence only. Motor home kitchens and rented kitchens are not permitted. Production must occur at the cottage food operator's primary residence. Duval County and the City of Jacksonville are a consolidated city-county government since 1968; all unincorporated Duval County is governed by the City of Jacksonville. Florida preempts local regulation of cottage food operations (§500.80(6)).

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Florida state law does not address pets in cottage food kitchens. FDACS guidance does not prohibit pets but standard food safety practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water from a properly constructed on-site well or municipal water system required per FDACS guidance.

HANDWASHING

Adequate handwashing facilities required per state food safety guidance; no additional county requirement.

FOOD STORAGE

Products must be stored on the premises of the cottage food operation per §500.80(4). Septic system adequacy for additional wastewater should be verified with the local health department if relevant.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Per §500.80(7), FDACS may inspect only upon receipt of a complaint alleging a violation. No routine inspections. Refusal to permit inspection is grounds for disciplinary action. State-level only — county/local health inspections not applicable.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Florida §559.955 (Home-based businesses; local government restrictions) substantially limits local regulation of home-based businesses. Local governments cannot license or regulate home-based businesses beyond business tax receipts (chapter 205) and cannot impose requirements more stringent than those for residences without businesses. Jacksonville/Duval zoning code (Chapter 656) allows home occupations in residential districts as a permitted use meeting performance standards in §656.401(n). Jacksonville requires: resident operators only, business incidental and subordinate to residential use, no change to residential character, no exterior business evidence. Jacksonville's consolidated city-county government applies a single code across all of what was formerly unincorporated Duval County. A home occupation permit review may be required for Jacksonville addresses; contact the City of Jacksonville Planning and Development Department.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under Florida §500.80(2), products may be delivered in person to consumer, to specific event venue, or by USPS/commercial carrier. Online orders and mail-order accepted. No wholesale sales permitted. Retail transactions at a structure other than the residential dwelling are not permitted per §559.955(3). On-site customer pickup allowed if consistent with residential character and not generating excessive traffic. County and municipal laws on traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours of retail operation still apply per §500.80(6).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Up to 2 non-resident employees or independent contractors may work at the residence per Florida §559.955(3)(a); additional remote employees permitted.

Relevant county code

Jacksonville Code of Ordinances, Chapter 656 (Zoning Code), §656.401(n) Home Occupations; Fla. Stat. §500.80; Fla. Stat. §559.955

RESEARCH NOTES

Duval County and the City of Jacksonville have been a consolidated city-county government since 1968 (Consolidated City of Jacksonville). Florida's state preemption (§500.80(6)) is strong and explicit: 'A local law, ordinance, or regulation may not prohibit a cottage food operation or regulate the preparation, processing, storage, or sale of cottage food products.' However, cottage food operations must comply with §559.955 home-based business conditions. The FDACS guidance document explicitly confirms no FDACS license or permit is required and no state entity inspects cottage food operations except upon complaint. Jacksonville's Chapter 656 zoning code allows home occupations as a permitted use in residential districts subject to performance standards (§656.401(n)). UF/IFAS Extension Duval County actively supports cottage food entrepreneurs through the Homemade Entrepreneurship program. The \$250,000 annual gross sales cap applies statewide. Florida §559.955 (2025) significantly limits local regulatory authority over home-based businesses including cottage food operations, permitting only business tax receipts and parking/signage rules consistent with residential standards.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://duval.floridahealth.gov>

<https://www.duvalcounty.gov>

[https://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?](https://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599%2F0500%2FSections%2F0500.80.html)

[App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599%2F0500%2FSections%2F0500.80.html](https://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599%2F0559%2FSections%2F0559.955.html)

[https://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?](https://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599%2F0559%2FSections%2F0559.955.html)

[App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599%2F0559%2FSections%2F0559.955.html](https://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599%2F0559%2FSections%2F0559.955.html)

<https://ccmedia.fdacs.gov/content/download/70108/file/CottageFoodOperations.pdf>

https://www.zoneomics.com/code/jacksonville-FL/chapter_4

<https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/duvalco/2021/07/01/did-you-know-cottage-food-exemption/>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Duval County	St. Johns County	Clay County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Florida state law does not address pets in cottage food kitchens. FDACS guidance does not prohibit pets but standard food safety practices ...	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	No explicit pet restriction in Florida cottage food statute. Standard sanitation practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Under Florida §500.80(2), products may be delivered in person to consumer, to specific event venue, or by USPS/ commercial carrier. Online o...	Direct and limited indirect sales; online, farmers markets, and events permitted	Florida cottage food law expressly permits online sales and mail-order delivery within the state. Home pickup, delivery, farmers markets, a...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Florida's cottage food law (§500.80) requires production in the kitchen of the operator's residence only. Motor home kitchens and rented ki...	Non-TCS foods only; labeling with disclaimer required; \$250,000 annual cap; no state license or inspection	Florida cottage food law (§500.80) permits home kitchen production of non-TCS foods with no registration, permit, or inspection required be...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored on the premises of the cottage food operation per §500.80(4). Septic system adequacy for additional wastewater shou...	Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods	Non-TCS (non-time/temperature-control-for-safety) foods only. Standard safe storage practices.
POPULATION	995,708	278,722	219,650

State context — Florida cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
Fla. Stat. §500.80	250000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Limited (see notes) — Florida prohibits wholesale sales but allows online, mail-order, and in-person sales including delivery to consumers; state law preempts local restrictions on cottage food operations.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Florida cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/florida.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599/0500/Sections/0500.80.html

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

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

Questions about Duval 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/florida/duval-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 Duval County, Florida. 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/florida/duval-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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