

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Howard County

Indiana · Kokomo · FIPS 18067 · Population 83,452 · Crosodo
Index #2115*

STATE BASELINE

Ind. Code §16-42-5.2

STATE TIER

Great

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

Howard County, Indiana — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Indiana label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

INDIANA: HOWARD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2115* · FIPS 18067 · Kokomo

Howard County

Population 83,452 · State baseline: Ind. Code §16-42-5.2 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Indiana home-based vendor law: no license required; food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) must be provided to local health department. Only non-potentially hazardous non-TCS foods allowed. No acidified foods (pickles, salsas, sauces, ketchup, juices), no perishable baked goods, no low-acid canned foods. Direct sales only within Indiana. Whole eggs, traditional pickles not in oxygen-sealed containers, nut butters, syrups, and dried goods are allowed.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Howard County and the City of Kokomo may have home occupation ordinances. Indiana law preempts local licensing/inspection requirements specifically for home-based vendor operations, but local zoning rules may still apply. Producers should check with Howard County Planning or City of Kokomo zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (No routine inspection. Local health departments may investigate upon complaint. Indiana law preempts local governments from adding licensing or inspection requirements.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Indiana home-based vendor law: no license required; food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) must be provided to local health department. Only non-potentially hazardous non-TCS foods allowed. No acidified foods (pickles, salsas, sauces, ketchup, juices), no perishable baked goods, no low-acid canned foods. Direct sales only within Indiana. Whole eggs, traditional pickles not in oxygen-sealed containers, nut butters, syrups, and dried goods are allowed.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific statutory requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific statutory requirement for home kitchen infrastructure.
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory storage requirement.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — No routine inspection. Local health departments may investigate upon complaint. Indiana law preempts local governments from adding licensing or inspection requirements.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Howard County and the City of Kokomo may have home occupation ordinances. Indiana law preempts local licensing/inspection requirements specifically for home-based vendor operations, but local zoning rules may still apply. Producers should check with Howard County Planning or City of Kokomo zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales from home, online within Indiana, at events, farmers markets, and other venues are permitted. No wholesale to distributors or restaurants.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.

Relevant county code

No Howard County-specific cottage food code identified. Ind. Code §16-42-5.2 governs (HEA 1149, 2022 amendments).

RESEARCH NOTES

Howard County (Kokomo) follows Indiana's home-based vendor law. Indiana's 2022 HEA 1149 preempts local licensing and inspection requirements for home-based vendors. Food handler certificate required (ANSI-accredited, must be provided to local health department). No acidified foods allowed. No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium: state law confirmed from official ISDH source; county-level rules not verified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.howardcounty.gov>

[https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-\(cottage-foods\)/](https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-(cottage-foods)/)

<http://iga.in.gov/laws/2022/ic/titles/016/articles/042/chapters/005.2>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Howard County	Grant County	Carroll County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	—
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	—
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.	Not specified in state law	—
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	—
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	—
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	—
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales from home, online within Indiana, at events, farmers markets, and other venues are permitted. No wholesale to distributors or ...	Direct delivery to consumer permitted in-state	—
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	—
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	—
RESTRICTIONS	Indiana home-based vendor law: no license required; food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) must be provided to local health department....	No sales cap. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct sales to consumers; no wholesal...	—
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory storage requirement.	Appropriate storage for non-PHF products	—
POPULATION	83,452	66,560	20,397

State context — Indiana cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Ind. Code §16-42-5.2

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Sales to restaurants, retail stores, and wholesale are prohibited; producers may sell at events, farmers markets, home, online, and roadside stands only.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <http://iga.in.gov/laws/2022/ic/titles/016/articles/042/chapters/005.2>

State dept cottage food page: [https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-\(cottage-foods\)/](https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-(cottage-foods)/)

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

Questions about Howard 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/indiana/howard-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 Howard County, Indiana. 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/indiana/howard-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.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: crosodo.com/advertise