

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Johnson County

Indiana · Franklin · FIPS 18081 · Population 161,952 · Crosodo
Index #1994*

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

Johnson 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

**No specific state restriction on pets;
good manufacturing practices apply.**

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: JOHNSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1994* · FIPS 18081 · Franklin

Johnson County

Population 161,952 · State baseline: Ind. Code §16-42-5.2 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Indiana HEA 1149 (2022) allows home-based vendors to sell most nonperishable foods from home, online, at events, and other venues. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) required and must be provided to local health department. No registration or inspection required. State law preempts local licensing/inspection requirements. Direct sales only — no wholesale/catering.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Indiana state law preempts local licensing and inspection requirements for home-based vendors (IC 16-42-5.3). Johnson County may have home occupation permit requirements under local zoning for other aspects of operating a business from home, but cannot add licensing or inspection requirements for cottage food.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Local health department may inspect upon complaint. State preempts local licensing requirements but not all inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Indiana HEA 1149 (2022) allows home-based vendors to sell most nonperishable foods from home, online, at events, and other venues. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) required and must be provided to local health department. No registration or inspection required. State law preempts local licensing/inspection requirements. Direct sales only — no wholesale/catering.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific requirement under Indiana cottage food law.

HANDWASHING

Adequate handwashing facility required per food handler training standards.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-PHF foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — Local health department may inspect upon complaint. State preempts local licensing requirements but not all inspections.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — Indiana state law preempts local licensing and inspection requirements for home-based vendors (IC 16-42-5.3). Johnson County may have home occupation permit requirements under local zoning for other aspects of operating a business from home, but cannot add licensing or inspection requirements for cottage food.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales from home, online, at farmers markets, roadside stands, events, and other direct-to-consumer venues. No wholesale or interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

Johnson County Zoning Ordinance; Ind. Code §16-42-5.3

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. Indiana HEA 1149 (2022) is the operative law (creates IC §16-42-5.3). No Johnson County-specific cottage food code identified. State preemption is strong for licensing/inspection but not zoning.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.johnsoncounty.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/johnson-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Johnson County	Bartholomew County	Morgan County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.	Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.	Not specified in state law
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales from home, online, at farmers markets, roadside stands, events, and other direct-to-consumer venues. No wholesale or interstate sales.	Direct sales from home, online within Indiana, at events and farmers markets permitted.	Direct delivery to consumer permitted in-state
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Indiana HEA 1149 (2022) allows home-based vendors to sell most nonperishable foods from home, online, at events, and other venues. Food han...	Same as all Indiana counties: no license required; food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) provided to local health department; non-PHF ...	No sales cap. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct sales to consumers; no wholesal...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.	No specific statutory requirement.	Appropriate storage to maintain non-PHF status
POPULATION	161,952	82,371	71,757

State context — Indiana cottage food law

Johnson 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 Johnson 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/johnson-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 Johnson 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/johnson-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