

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Kenton County

Kentucky · Covington · FIPS 21117 · Population 169,066 ·
Crosodo Index #2328*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
KRS §217.137	Okay	60000	MEDIUM	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

Kenton County, Kentucky — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

60000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No explicit state restriction; no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators (commercial equipment prohibited).

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Kentucky label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

KENTUCKY: KENTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2328* · FIPS 21117 · Covington

Kenton County

Population 169,066 · State baseline: KRS §217.137 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Registration required (\$50/year). Non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, syrups (maple/sorghum only), granola, and similar shelf-stable items allowed. Annual sales cap \$60,000. Direct sales only. Acidified foods, pickles, salsas, nut butters, oils, vinegars, fermented foods, juices, and meats prohibited under standard pathway.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state restriction; no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators (commercial equipment prohibited).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Kenton County unincorporated areas may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses. County seat 'Covington' was blank in input — confirmed as Covington. County is highly urbanized (part of greater Cincinnati metro). County URLs were blank in input.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (No routine inspections under standard home-based processor pathway. State may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Registration required (\$50/year). Non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, syrups (maple/sorghum only), granola, and similar shelf-stable items allowed. Annual sales cap \$60,000. Direct sales only. Acidified foods, pickles, salsas, nut butters, oils, vinegars, fermented foods, juices, and meats prohibited under standard pathway.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state restriction; no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators (commercial equipment prohibited).
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing per food safety standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage; commercial storage equipment not permitted.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — No routine inspections under standard home-based processor pathway. State may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Kenton County unincorporated areas may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses. County seat 'Covington' was blank in input — confirmed as Covington. County is highly urbanized (part of greater Cincinnati metro). County URLs were blank in input.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only within Kentucky. No online sales with out-of-state shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only residents of the dwelling may produce; commercial equipment and separate commercial kitchen prohibited.

Relevant county code

KRS §217.136 (home-based processor) / §217.137 (home-based microprocessor); no specific county code found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Kenton County has no verified county-specific cottage food rules beyond Kentucky state baseline. Input cites §217.137 (microprocessor) but primary cottage food provision is §217.136. Kentucky \$60,000 cap confirmed by state baseline. Commercial equipment and separate commercial kitchen explicitly prohibited is a distinctive Kentucky restriction.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.kentoncounty.gov>

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=44478>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Kenton County	Boone County	Campbell County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state restriction; no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators (commercial equipment prohibited).	Not explicitly prohibited by state statute; kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.	No specific restriction stated; kitchen use restrictions apply (no commercial equipment).
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only within Kentucky. No online sales with out-of-state shipping.	Direct sales only. Sales from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, and at festivals/events. No wholesale or indirect sales to retail sto...	Direct sales only to consumers. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or mail order.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Registration required (\$50/year). Non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, syrups (maple/sorghum only), gra...	Annual gross sales capped at \$60,000. Registration (\$50/year, 902 KAR 45:090). No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and no more tha...	Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136): \$60,000 annual sales cap. Registration required (\$50/year, 902 KAR 45:090). Complaint-bas...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage; commercial storage equipment not permitted.	Non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams and jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, syrups (maple and sorghum only), granola, snacks. Refrigerators...	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; kitchen equipment limited to residential-scale appliances.
POPULATION	169,066	136,150	93,122

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
KRS §217.137	60000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Sales limited to direct-to-consumer only within Kentucky — from home (pickup or delivery), markets, roadside stands, community events, and online; shipping outside Kentucky is prohibited, and sales to restaurants or retail stores for resale are not allowed.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=44478>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

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

Questions about Kenton 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/kentucky/kenton-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 Kenton County, Kentucky. 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/kentucky/kenton-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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