

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Ohio County

Kentucky · Hartford · FIPS 21183 · Population 23,933 ·  
Crosodo Index #2714\*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

**Yes**

STATE SALES CAP

**60000**

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

**Varies**

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

**Yes**

INSPECTION

**Upon-complaint**

PETS

**Not specified in state law**

### 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: OHIO COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2714\* · FIPS 21183 · Hartford

## Ohio County

Population 23,933 · State baseline: KRS §217.137 · MEDIUM

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual sales cap \$60,000. Registration required with KY Dept of Public Health (\$50/year). No food handler cert required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no wholesale or retail. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, maple/sorghum syrups, granola, dried goods, snack mixes, popcorn. Prohibited: acidified foods, pickles, salsas, nut butters, fermented foods, low-acid canned foods, meats. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators.)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific home occupation ordinance identified. Unincorporated areas follow county zoning. Local health officials may conduct annual kitchen inspections. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation)

## Home kitchen rules

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Annual sales cap \$60,000. Registration required with KY Dept of Public Health (\$50/year). No food handler cert required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no wholesale or retail. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, maple/sorghum syrups, granola, dried goods, snack mixes, popcorn. Prohibited: acidified foods, pickles, salsas, nut butters, fermented foods, low-acid canned foods, meats. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators.

## SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

## PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state law

## WATER SUPPLY

Standard residential water supply

## HANDWASHING

Good sanitation practices implied

## FOOD STORAGE

Appropriate storage for non-TCS products

## Inspection &amp; permitting

## INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — No county-specific home occupation ordinance identified. Unincorporated areas follow county zoning. Local health officials may conduct annual kitchen inspections. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.

## LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

**Customer-facing rules**

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE         | Conditional                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct-to-consumer only within KY; farmers markets, roadside stands, fairs, festivals, community events, online orders (in-state); home pickup and delivery allowed. No wholesale, no mail delivery, no out-of-state. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME   | Not specified                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

**Relevant county code**

Not identified

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Kentucky Okay-tier state. \$60,000 annual cap. Local ordinances not preempted by state law. State law confirmed via IJ.org and CHFS.ky.gov. No county-specific zoning records identified for home occupation / cottage food overlay. Defaulted to state baseline.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.ohiocounty.gov>

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

<https://ij.org/issues/economic-liberty/homemade-food-seller/kentucky/>

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: [crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/ohio-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/ohio-county-discuss)

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation                 | Ohio County                                                                                                                                      | Breckinridge County                                                                                                                            | Butler County                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                              | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                               | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Not specified in state law                                                                                                                       | No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.                                                       | No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.                                                       |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                   | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                              | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                      | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Direct-to-consumer only within KY; farmers markets, roadside stands, fairs, festivals, community events, online orders (in-state); home pic...   | Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based... | Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Varies                                                                                                                                           | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                           | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Annual sales cap \$60,000. Registration required with KY Dept of Public Health (\$50/year). No food handler cert required. Inspection upon co... | Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CH... | Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CH... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Appropriate storage for non-TCS products                                                                                                         | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage.                                                                 | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage.                                                                 |
| POPULATION                 | 23,782                                                                                                                                           | 20,477                                                                                                                                         | 13,092                                                                                                                                         |

## State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Ohio 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](https://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 Ohio 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/ohio-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/ohio-county-discuss)

## Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### NATIONAL

#### SUPPLIES

##### Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### COURSES

##### Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### INSURANCE

##### Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### LOCAL

#### Advertise here

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

[crosodo.com/advertise](https://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/ohio-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/ohio-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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