

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Texas

A comprehensive guide to the cottage food statute, sales rules, and county-level zoning and health-department overlays for home bakers operating under Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq..

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STATUTE	TIER	IJ GRADE	COUNTIES COVERED
Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.	Great	B	64

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.

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## Executive summary

This report covers the Texas cottage food framework — the state statute, the regulatory body administering it, what producers can and cannot sell, and county-level rules layered on top of state law for the 64 Texas counties included in this dataset.

**ANNUAL SALES CAP**

150000

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

no

**FOOD HANDLER CERTIFICATION**

no

**KITCHEN INSPECTION**

no

**DIRECT SALES ONLY**

no

**INDIRECT SALES (RETAIL/ONLINE/WHOLESALE)**

limited (see notes) — Sales must be made directly to consumers or to a 'cottage food vendor' (a new category created by SB 541 in 2025 – a person with a contractual relationship who sells on behalf of the cottage food operation to consumers in-state). Cottage food products may not be sold as ingredients to a food service establishment. No retail grocery store or wholesale sales permitted under the pre-2025 framework; SB 541 (2025) adds the cottage food vendor intermediary option. Products must be delivered to consumer or vendor at point of sale or consumer-designated location.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Texas cottage food law has undergone major expansions: originally HB 970 (83rd Legislature, 2013) created the basic framework; SB 572 (86th Legislature, 2019) expanded allowed foods to include acidified foods, fermented vegetable products, dried meats, and raised the cap from \$50,000 to \$50,000 (clarified); and SB 541 (89th Legislature, 2025) raised the cap to \$150,000 (inflation-adjusted using CPI-U), added nonprofits as eligible operators, and created the 'cottage food vendor' intermediary. The current cap as of 2025 is \$150,000 gross annual income. Health departments do not have regulatory authority to inspect cottage food operations; the DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health. The excerpt is from the enrolled SB 541 (2025) bill text obtained from capitol.texas.gov.

# Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 437 – Regulation of Certain Foods, Subchapter A – Cottage Food Production Operations

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**CITATION**

Tex. Health &amp; Safety §437.001 et seq.

**ENACTED**

2013

**LAST AMENDED**

2025

**CONFIDENCE**

HIGH

## Allowed foods

Almost all non-TCS (non-temperature-controlled) foods are allowed, including baked goods, candy, jams and jellies, pickles, dried herbs and spices, roasted coffee, granola, vinegar, acidified foods, fermented vegetable products, dried meats, and any food that is not a time-and-temperature control for safety food. Nonprofits may also operate under the cottage food framework as of SB 541 (2025).

## Prohibited foods

Prohibited foods include meat and meat products, poultry or poultry products, seafood and fish products, ice or ice products (shaved ice, ice cream, frozen custard, popsicles, gelato), low-acid canned goods, products containing CBD or THC, and raw milk and raw milk products.

## Labeling requirements

Labels must include: the words 'MADE IN A HOME KITCHEN'; name of the product; list of ingredients and sub-ingredients in descending order of predominance by weight; net weight or volume; name, address, and phone number of the cottage food production operation; and any allergen information required by federal law. Labels may not make any claim about health benefits or contain any false or misleading information.

## Statutory text — verbatim excerpt

### Statute excerpt — verbatim

(2-b) "Cottage food production operation" means an individual, operating out of the individual's home, or a nonprofit organization that: (A) produces at the individual's home or the home of an individual who is a director or officer of the nonprofit organization, as applicable, any food other than: (i) meat, meat products, poultry, or poultry products; (ii) seafood, including seafood products, fish, fish products, shellfish, and shellfish products; (iii) ice or ice products, including shaved ice, ice cream, frozen custard, popsicles, and gelato; (iv) low-acid canned goods; (v) products containing cannabidiol or tetrahydrocannabinol; or (vi) raw milk and raw milk products; (B) has an annual gross income of \$150,000 or less from the sale of food described by Paragraph (A), as the department annually adjusts for inflation using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U); (C) sells the foods produced under Paragraph (A) directly to consumers or to a cottage food vendor; and (D) delivers products to the consumer or cottage food vendor at the point of sale or another location designated by the consumer or cottage food vendor.

Source: <https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/billtext/html/SB00541F.htm>

## Official sources

**Statute** <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

**State dept page** <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

**Extension service** <https://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/>

**Forrager.com** <https://forrager.com/law/texas/>

State dept of agriculture / health: [Texas Department of State Health Services](#)

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## County-level rules

The state statute above sets the floor. Each county may add a home-occupation permit, business license, or zoning rule on top of state law. The 64 Texas counties below are sorted by population (largest first).

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RANK 9999 · FIPS 48155 · Crowell

## Foard County

Population 1,155 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Foard County is one of Texas's smallest counties by population. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Very small rural Texas county, pop. ~1,155. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48159 · Mount Vernon

## Franklin County

Population 10,605 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Franklin County is a small rural county in Northeast Texas. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural Northeast Texas county, pop. ~10,605. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.franklin.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48161 · Fairfield

## Freestone County

Population 19,735 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Freestone County is a rural Central Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural Central Texas county, pop. ~19,735. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.freestone.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48163 · Pearsall

## Frio County

Population 20,306 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Frio County is a rural South Texas county near the Nueces River. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural South Texas county, pop. ~20,306. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.frio.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48165 · Seminole

## Gaines County

Population 21,492 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Gaines County is a rural West Texas county in the Permian Basin. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural West Texas county, pop. ~21,492. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.gaines.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48169 · Post

## Garza County

Population 6,229 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Garza County is a small rural West Texas county on the Llano Estacado. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural West Texas county, pop. ~6,229. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.garza.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48171 · Fredericksburg

## Gillespie County

Population 27,623 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Gillespie County has a planning department and the City of Fredericksburg has active zoning. Unincorporated county areas may have subdivision deed restrictions but the county does not have comprehensive zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulation and prohibits municipalities from banning cottage food on zoning grounds. City of Fredericksburg home occupation rules may apply within city limits but cannot override state cottage food production rights.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors. Fredericksburg Farmers Market is a notable outlet.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local ordinance may apply within Fredericksburg city limits.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025); City of Fredericksburg zoning code for in-city operations

### RESEARCH NOTES

Growing Hill Country county anchored by Fredericksburg tourism economy, pop. ~27,623. Texas state preemption applies county-wide for cottage food health regulation. City of Fredericksburg zoning may have home occupation rules that affect signage and customer traffic but cannot prohibit cottage food production. No specific Gillespie County cottage food ordinance identified beyond state baseline. County website URL not verified.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.gillespiecounty.org>

<https://www.gillespiecounty.org>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48173 · Garden City

## Glasscock County

Population 1,310 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Glasscock County is one of Texas's smallest counties by population. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Very small rural West Texas county, pop. ~1,310. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48175 · Goliad

## Goliad County

Population 7,658 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Goliad County is a rural South Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural South Texas county, pop. ~7,658. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.goliad.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48177 · Gonzales

## Gonzales County

Population 20,837 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Gonzales County is a rural South-Central Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural South-Central Texas county, pop. ~20,837. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.gonzales.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48179 · Pampa

## Gray County

Population 22,535 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	no — Gray County is a Texas Panhandle county anchored by Pampa. Unincorporated county areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales. City of Pampa may have home occupation rules within city limits.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Texas Panhandle county, pop. ~22,535. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.gray.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48185 · Anderson

## Grimes County

Population 28,880 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Grimes County is a rural Central Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural Central Texas county north of Houston, pop. ~28,880. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.grimes.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48189 · Plainview

## Hale County

Population 33,406 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	no — Hale County is a South Plains Texas Panhandle county anchored by Plainview. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales. City of Plainview may have home occupation ordinance within city limits.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

South Plains Texas county, pop. ~33,406. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.hale.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48191 · Memphis

## Hall County

Population 2,784 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Hall County is a small rural Texas Panhandle county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Small rural Texas Panhandle county, pop. ~2,784. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48193 · Hamilton

## Hamilton County

Population 8,461 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Hamilton County is a rural Central Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural Central Texas county, pop. ~8,461. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.hamilton.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48195 · Spearman

## Hansford County

Population 5,399 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Hansford County is a small rural Texas Panhandle county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Small rural Texas Panhandle county, pop. ~5,399. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

## SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48197 · Quanah

## Hardeman County

Population 3,840 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Hardeman County is a small rural North Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural North Texas county, pop. ~3,840. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48205 · Channing

## Hartley County

Population 5,767 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Hartley County is a Texas Panhandle county adjacent to the New Mexico border. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Texas Panhandle county, pop. ~5,767. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

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**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

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RANK 9999 · FIPS 48207 · Haskell

## Haskell County

Population 5,336 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Haskell County is a small rural West-Central Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Small rural West-Central Texas county, pop. ~5,336. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48211 · Canadian

## Hemphill County

Population 3,819 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

**WATER SUPPLY** No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.

**HANDWASHING** Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED** no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Hemphill County is a small rural Texas Panhandle county on the Canadian River. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Small rural Texas Panhandle county, pop. ~3,819. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48217 · Hillsboro

## Hill County

Population 36,649 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Hill County is a Central Texas county on I-35 south of Dallas-Fort Worth. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales. City of Hillsboro may have home occupation rules within city limits.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Central Texas county, pop. ~36,649. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.hill.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48219 · Levelland

## Hockley County

Population 23,162 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

**WATER SUPPLY** No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.

**HANDWASHING** Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED** no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Hockley County is a South Plains county adjacent to Lubbock County. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales. City of Levelland may have home occupation rules within city limits.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

South Plains Texas county adjacent to Lubbock, pop. ~23,162. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.hockley.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48223 · Sulphur Springs

## Hopkins County

Population 37,084 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Hopkins County is a rural Northeast Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales. City of Sulphur Springs may have home occupation rules within city limits.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural Northeast Texas county, pop. ~37,084. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.hopkins.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48225 · Crockett

## Houston County

Population 22,968 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

**WATER SUPPLY** No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.

**HANDWASHING** Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED** no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Houston County is a rural East Texas county (distinct from Harris County/City of Houston). Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural East Texas county (county seat Crockett), pop. ~22,968. Not to be confused with Harris County (Houston metro). No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.houston.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48227 · Big Spring

## Howard County

Population 36,667 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Howard County is a West Texas county anchored by Big Spring. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales. City of Big Spring may have home occupation rules within city limits.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

West Texas county anchored by Big Spring, pop. ~36,667. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.howard.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48229 · Sierra Blanca

## Hudspeth County

Population 4,886 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

**WATER SUPPLY** No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.

**HANDWASHING** Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED** no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Hudspeth County is a large, very sparse Far West Texas county bordering New Mexico. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Very sparse Far West Texas border county, pop. ~4,886. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

## Hutchinson County

Population 21,819 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Hutchinson County is a Texas Panhandle county near Amarillo. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales. City of Borger (largest city) may have home occupation rules within city limits.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Texas Panhandle county, pop. ~21,819. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.hutchinson.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48235 · Mertzon

## Irion County

Population 1,536 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

**WATER SUPPLY** No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.

**HANDWASHING** Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED** no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Irion County is one of Texas's least populous counties in West Texas. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Very small rural West Texas county, pop. ~1,536. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48237 · Jacksboro

## Jack County

Population 8,763 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Jack County is a rural North Texas county northwest of Fort Worth. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural North Texas county, pop. ~8,763. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.jack.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48239 · Edna

## Jackson County

Population 14,760 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Jackson County is a rural South Texas Gulf Coast county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural South Texas Gulf Coast county, pop. ~14,760. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.jackson.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48241 · Jasper

## Jasper County

Population 35,604 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Jasper County is a rural Deep East Texas county in the Piney Woods. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural Deep East Texas Piney Woods county, pop. ~35,604. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.jasper.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48243 · Fort Davis

## Jeff Davis County

Population 2,274 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Jeff Davis County is a very small, rural Trans-Pecos Far West Texas county home to the Davis Mountains. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Very small rural Trans-Pecos county in the Davis Mountains, pop. ~2,274. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48247 · Hebbronville

## Jim Hogg County

Population 5,200 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Jim Hogg County is a small rural South Texas county near the Mexican border. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Small rural South Texas border county, pop. ~5,200. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48249 · Alice

## Jim Wells County

Population 40,838 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Jim Wells County is a South Texas county anchored by Alice. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales. City of Alice may have home occupation rules within city limits.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

South Texas county, pop. ~40,838. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.jim-wells.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48253 · Anson

## Jones County

Population 19,891 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Jones County is a rural West Texas county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural West Texas county, pop. ~19,891. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.jones.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48255 · Karnes City

## Karnes County

Population 15,601 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Karnes County is a rural South Texas county in the Eagle Ford Shale area. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

## Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural South Texas county in the Eagle Ford region, pop. ~15,601. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. County URL not verified; standard format used.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.karnes.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48259 · Boerne

## Kendall County

Population 47,431 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Kendall County is a fast-growing Hill Country county in the San Antonio metro area. Kendall County has a Forms and Permits page at <a href="http://co.kendall.tx.us">co.kendall.tx.us</a> . Unincorporated county areas do not have comprehensive county zoning. City of Boerne has its own zoning and home occupation rules that apply within city limits. Texas cottage food law expressly preempts local health regulation and prohibits zoning-based bans on cottage food production.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors. Boerne Farmers Market is a notable local venue.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local City of Boerne zoning may affect in-city operations.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025); City of Boerne zoning code for in-city operations

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Growing San Antonio metro Hill Country county, pop. ~47,431. Kendall County govt website confirmed at [co.kendall.tx.us](https://co.kendall.tx.us) with a Forms and Permits page. No specific cottage food county ordinance identified; Texas state preemption applies. City of Boerne zoning applies within city limits. Search confirmed no county-level cottage food restrictions beyond state baseline.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.kendall.tx.us/252/Forms-Permits>

<https://www.co.kendall.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

<https://www.co.kendall.tx.us/252/Forms-Permits>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48261 · Sarita

## Kenedy County

Population 404 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Kenedy County is one of the least-populated counties in the United States, a sparsely settled South Texas ranch county. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Extremely sparse South Texas ranch county, pop. ~404 (one of least populated US counties). No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48263 · Jayton

## Kent County

Population 762 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Kent County is one of Texas's smallest counties by population. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Very small rural West Texas county, pop. ~762. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48267 · Junction

## Kimble County

Population 4,337 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Kimble County is a small rural Texas Hill Country county at the confluence of the North and South Llano Rivers. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Small rural Texas Hill Country county, pop. ~4,337. No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48269 · Guthrie

## King County

Population 272 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required for non-TCS foods. TCS food sellers must register with DSHS. Health departments cannot regulate cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — King County is one of the least-populated counties in the United States. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local governments from requiring permits or licenses for cottage food production or direct sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS cottage foods may also be sold wholesale to registered cottage food vendors.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq. (SB 541, 2025)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Extremely sparse West Texas ranch county, pop. ~272 (one of least populated US counties). No county-specific cottage food or zoning ordinance identified. State baseline governs. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000. No verified county website found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48271 · Brackettville

## Kinney County

Population 3,100 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

**WATER SUPPLY** No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.

**HANDWASHING** Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.

**FOOD STORAGE** All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Kinney County is a small, largely rural county. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Kinney County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.kinney.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48273 · Kingsville

## Kleberg County

Population 31,500 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Kleberg County includes Kingsville, which may have home occupation provisions under city zoning. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small county with county seat Kingsville. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Kleberg County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.kleberg.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48275 · Benjamin

## Knox County

Population 3,500 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Knox County is a small rural county. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Very small rural county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Knox County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48279 · Littlefield

## Lamb County

Population 13,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Lamb County is a rural West Texas county. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural West Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Lamb County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48281 · Lampasas

## Lampasas County

Population 21,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** varies — Lampasas County includes the city of Lampasas which may have home occupation provisions under city zoning. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** varies

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Central Texas rural county near Hill Country. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Lampasas County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.lampasas.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48283 · Cotulla

## La Salle County

Population 7,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — La Salle County is a small rural county. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No La Salle County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48285 · Hallettsville

## Lavaca County

Population 20,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Lavaca County is a rural county in South Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural South Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Lavaca County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48287 · Giddings

## Lee County

Population 17,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Lee County is a rural county in Central Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural Central Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Lee County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48289 · Centerville

## Leon County

Population 17,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Leon County is a rural county in East-Central Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Rural East-Central Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Leon County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48293 · Groesbeck

## Limestone County

Population 23,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Limestone County is a rural county in Central Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural Central Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Limestone County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48295 · Lipscomb

## Lipscomb County

Population 3,300 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Lipscomb County is a very small rural county in the Texas Panhandle. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Very small rural Panhandle county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Lipscomb County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48297 · George West

## Live Oak County

Population 12,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Live Oak County is a small rural county in South Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural South Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Live Oak County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48299 · Llano

## Llano County

Population 22,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** varies — Llano County is a Hill Country county with tourism activity. The City of Llano may have home occupation provisions under city zoning. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** varies

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Hill Country county with tourism. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Llano County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.co.llano.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48301 · Mentone

# Loving County

Population 64 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Loving County is the least-populated county in the United States. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Least-populated county in the US (~64 residents). State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Loving County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48305 · Tahoka

## Lynn County

Population 5,800 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Lynn County is a small rural county in West Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Small rural West Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Lynn County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48307 · Brady

## McCulloch County

Population 8,200 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — McCulloch County is a small rural county in Central Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural Central Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No McCulloch County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48311 · Tilden

## McMullen County

Population 800 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — McMullen County is one of the least-populated counties in Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

One of the least-populated counties in Texas. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No McMullen County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48313 · Madisonville

## Madison County

Population 14,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Madison County is a small rural county in East-Central Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural East-Central Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Madison County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48315 · Jefferson

## Marion County

Population 10,200 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** varies — Marion County includes Jefferson, a historic tourism town that may have home occupation provisions under city zoning. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** varies

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

East Texas county with historic Jefferson tourism. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Marion County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48317 · Stanton

## Martin County

Population 5,600 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Martin County is a small rural county in West Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	no

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Small rural West Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Martin County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48319 · Mason

## Mason County

Population 4,100 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Mason County is a small rural Hill Country county. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Small rural Hill Country county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Mason County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48321 · Bay City

## Matagorda County

Population 36,700 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Matagorda County includes Bay City, which may have home occupation provisions under city zoning. Unincorporated areas have no county zoning. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

## Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Gulf Coast county with Bay City as county seat. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Matagorda County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.matagorda.tx.us>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 48327 · Menard

## Menard County

Population 2,100 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** no — Menard County is a very small rural county in West-Central Texas. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** no

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Very small rural West-Central Texas county. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Menard County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

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