

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Saline County

Arkansas · Benton · FIPS 05125 · Population 123,988 ·
Crosodo Index #46*

STATE BASELINE

A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Food Freedom Act, Act 1040 of 2021); no sales cap; no registration; no inspection; direct and indirect sales; state law expressly preempts local restrictions

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Freedom	—	MEDIUM	2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

ARKANSAS: SALINE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #46* · FIPS 05125 · Benton

Saline County

Population 123,988 · State baseline: A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Food Freedom Act, Act 1040 of 2021); no sales cap; no registration; no inspection; direct and indirect sales; state law expressly preempts local restrictions · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use prohibited under this exemption.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) expressly preempts all local government restrictions including permit requirements for home food producers.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Arkansas Food Freedom Act prohibits inspections and local restrictions entirely.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use prohibited under this exemption.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; no specific county overlay.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices; no formal requirement under Freedom Act.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable products; acidified foods require pH testing (pH ≤4.6) and batch records.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Arkansas Food Freedom Act prohibits inspections and local restrictions entirely.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No — Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) expressly preempts all local government restrictions including permit requirements for home food producers.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Arkansas allows direct and indirect sales; online, retail/wholesale, and interstate sales all permitted. No channel restrictions under the Freedom Act.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit under Arkansas Food Freedom Act.

Relevant county code

A.C.A. §20-57-201 et seq. (preempts local rules)

RESEARCH NOTES

Arkansas Food Freedom Act (Act 1040, 2021) is one of the most permissive in the nation and expressly preempts all local restrictions. State tier is 'Freedom.' No county-specific URLs provided in input. Saline County is adjacent to Little Rock metro. State law preemption eliminates need for county-level research on permits/inspections.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/cottage-food>

<https://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/Acts/Document?type=pdf&act=1040&ddBienniumSession=2021%2F2021R>

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county's specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/arkansas/saline-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Saline County	Garland County	Pulaski County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.	No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.	No specific restriction in Arkansas Food Freedom Act.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes	Conditional	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Arkansas allows direct and indirect sales; online, retail/wholesale, and interstate sales all permitted. No channel restrictions under the ...	Interstate and in-state sales permitted. Retail/wholesale channels allowed as long as informed end consumer is the final buyer. Online sale...	No restrictions on sales channels: direct sales, farmers markets, online, interstate, retail, and wholesale to informed end consumers all p...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	No	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No	No	No
RESTRICTIONS	Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary resi...	Arkansas Food Freedom Act (2021): No license, fee, registration, or inspection required. Producers must operate from a primary residence ki...	Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201, Act 1040 of 2021) allows almost all nonperishable, non-potentially hazardous foods directly t...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable products; acidified foods require pH testing (pH ≤4.6) and batch records.	Almost all nonperishable, non-potentially-hazardous foods allowed: baked goods, candies, condiments, dry goods, preserves, fermented foods,...	Non-perishable, non-potentially hazardous foods. Acidified foods (pickles, etc.) require pH testing at or below 4.6 with batch-number label...
POPULATION	123,988	100,021	398,322

State context — Arkansas cottage food law

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

<p>STATUTE A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Act 1040 of 2021)</p> <p>REGISTRATION REQUIRED No</p> <p>KITCHEN INSPECTION No</p> <p>INDIRECT SALES Yes — Retail and wholesale sales are allowed so long as the product is sold to an informed end consumer who can see the product label; sales to businesses for ingredient use or gift resale are not permitted.</p>	<p>ANNUAL SALES CAP —</p> <p>FOOD HANDLER CERT No</p> <p>DIRECT SALES ONLY No</p>
--	--

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Arkansas cottage food law report](#).

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/Acts/Document?type=pdf&act=1040&ddBienniumSession=2021%2F2021R>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/cottage-food>

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

Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Saline County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/arkansas/saline-county-discuss>
