

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Ada County

Idaho · Boise · FIPS 16001 · Population 497,494 · Crosodo Index #476\*

## STATE BASELINE

IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)

## STATE TIER

Great

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

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## CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

## LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-05

**IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

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

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

IDAHO: ADA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #476\* · FIPS 16001 · Boise

# Ada County

Population 497,494 · State baseline: IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions) ·

**MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (All non-potentially hazardous foods except acidified foods. No registration, no inspection, no training requirement, no sales cap. No wholesale/restaurant/retail sales. Direct sales within Idaho only.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation expected

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (Idaho state cottage food law is administered through IDHW and health districts with no formal registration. State does not preempt local ordinances in general. Ada County (Boise area) unincorporated areas and City of Boise may have home occupation permit requirements. City of Boise has its own zoning code governing home occupations. Operators should check with Ada County Development Services or City of Boise Planning for home occupation permit requirements.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (No inspection required; IDHW recommends but does not require a Food Risk Assessment Form)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — All non-potentially hazardous foods except acidified foods. No registration, no inspection, no training requirement, no sales cap. No wholesale/restaurant/retail sales. Direct sales within Idaho only.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation expected
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific water testing requirement in state cottage food law
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific requirement in state cottage food law
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-PHF foods

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — No inspection required; IDHW recommends but does not require a Food Risk Assessment Form
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — Idaho state cottage food law is administered through IDHW and health districts with no formal registration. State does not preempt local ordinances in general. Ada County (Boise area) unincorporated areas and City of Boise may have home occupation permit requirements. City of Boise has its own zoning code governing home occupations. Operators should check with Ada County Development Services or City of Boise Planning for home occupation permit requirements.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales within Idaho: farmers markets, events, home. No wholesale/retail/restaurant. No annual cap. No online/interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law

### Relevant county code

IDAPA 16.02.19. Local: Ada County Development Services/City of Boise zoning codes.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Idaho is a Great-tier state: no registration, no inspection, no training, no sales cap. All non-PHF foods except acidified foods. Direct sales within Idaho only. Ada County (Boise) is the most populous county in Idaho. State does not preempt local ordinances. City of Boise and Ada County unincorporated areas have their own home occupation zoning rules. Specific Ada County/Boise home occupation permit requirements not confirmed from direct source. Confidence medium.

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://adacounty.id.gov>

<https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/food-safety/cottage-food-operations>

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

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

## State context — Idaho cottage food law

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

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<b>STATUTE</b>	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b>
IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)	—
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b>	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b>
No	No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b>	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b>
No	Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b>	
No — Idaho prohibits wholesale, restaurant, and retail store sales; only direct-to-consumer in-person sales at home, farmers markets, events, online (pickup/delivery), and roadside stands are allowed.	

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/16/160219.pdf>

State dept cottage food page: <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/food-safety/cottage-food-operations>

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

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## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/idaho/ada-county-discuss>

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