

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Adams County

Illinois · Quincy · FIPS 17001 · Population 65,583 · Crosodo Index #1860*

STATE BASELINE

410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act)

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

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.

ILLINOIS: ADAMS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1860* · FIPS 17001 · Quincy

Adams County

Population 65,583 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act) ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Must register with local health department (Adams County Health Department) for up to \$50/year. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Inspection is complaint-based. Illinois uses a prohibited-list approach – virtually all non-prohibited foods allowed.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Adams County includes Quincy; local zoning may apply for home-based businesses. Contact Adams County Health Department or Quincy City Planning for requirements. Illinois state law preempts contradictory municipal restrictions in most cases.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or suspected foodborne illness)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must register with local health department (Adams County Health Department) for up to \$50/year. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Inspection is complaint-based. Illinois uses a prohibited-list approach – virtually all non-prohibited foods allowed.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required
HANDWASHING	Handwashing sink required
FOOD STORAGE	Proper storage of shelf-stable and non-TCS foods; acidified foods require pH documentation

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or suspected foodborne illness
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Adams County includes Quincy; local zoning may apply for home-based businesses. Contact Adams County Health Department or Quincy City Planning for requirements. Illinois state law preempts contradictory municipal restrictions in most cases.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only; online sales and in-state shipping of non-perishables permitted. Out-of-state shipping prohibited.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit stated; commercial operations require separate licensing

Relevant county code

Contact Adams County Health Department for local registration requirements

RESEARCH NOTES

Illinois cottage food law (PA 102-0633, 2022; further amended PA 103-0903, 2025) is highly permissive with prohibited-list approach. Registration required with local health department (\$50/year cap). Food Safety Manager cert (CFPM) required – unusual as manager-level cert, not just food handler. Adams County in western IL near Missouri border. No specific Adams County override found. County URLs blank in input.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2625&ChapterID=35>

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

State context — Illinois cottage food law

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

STATUTE 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)	ANNUAL SALES CAP —
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)
KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes
INDIRECT SALES No — Illinois prohibits sales to restaurants, retail stores, and wholesale; direct in-state sales are allowed anywhere including home, online, farmers markets, events, and roadside stands; non-perishable items may be shipped within Illinois only.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2625&ChapterID=35>

State dept cottage food page: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/illinois/adams-county-discuss>
