

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Ness County

Kansas · Ness City · FIPS 20135 · Population 2,766 · Crosodo Index #1867*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
K.S.A. §65-657	Great	—	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

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

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

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

KANSAS: NESS COUNTY

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Ness County

Population 2,766 · State baseline: K.S.A. §65-657 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (No sales cap. No food handler cert required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; allowed at farm, farmers market, roadside stand, home, and events. No state registration required for most cottage foods.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Ness County is a small rural county in west-central Kansas. Unincorporated areas governed by county zoning. Contact Ness County Clerk for home occupation permit requirements. Agricultural zone dominates.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or illness investigation)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — No sales cap. No food handler cert required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; allowed at farm, farmers market, roadside stand, home, and events. No state registration required for most cottage foods.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply
HANDWASHING	Good sanitation practices required
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage to maintain product safety

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or illness investigation
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Ness County is a small rural county in west-central Kansas. Unincorporated areas governed by county zoning. Contact Ness County Clerk for home occupation permit requirements. Agricultural zone dominates.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct delivery to consumer permitted in-state
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at county level

Relevant county code

Ness County zoning regulations

RESEARCH NOTES

Kansas Great-tier state. Ness County is very small and rural (pop. ~2,766). No county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance found. State cottage food law (K.S.A. §65-657) is primary framework.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.nesscountyks.gov>

<https://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/dairy-food-safety/cottage-food>

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

State context — Kansas cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
K.S.A. §65-657	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Indirect sales to restaurants, retail stores, or wholesale are not allowed under the exemption; producers needing wholesale or retail channels must obtain a KDA food processing license.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch65/065_006_0057.html

State dept cottage food page: <https://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/dairy-food-safety/cottage-food>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/kansas/ness-county-discuss>
