

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Madison County

Kentucky · Richmond · FIPS 21151 · Population 92,955 ·  
Crosodo Index #2637\*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
KRS §217.137	Okay	60000	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.

KENTUCKY: MADISON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2637\* · FIPS 21151 · Richmond

# Madison County

Population 92,955 · State baseline: KRS §217.137 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136): \$60,000 annual sales cap. Registration required (\$50/year). Complaint-based inspection. Direct sales only. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, maple and sorghum syrups, granola, snacks. Prohibited: acidified foods, low-acid canned goods, pickles, salsas, sauces, nut butters, oils, pasta, fermented foods, juices, meat jerkies. Kitchen equipment limited to residential-scale (no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens, three refrigerators).)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific restriction stated.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Madison County (Richmond, home of Eastern Kentucky University) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Madison County-specific cottage food permit identified beyond state registration.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint (CHFS / local health department may inspect upon complaint.)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136): \$60,000 annual sales cap. Registration required (\$50/year). Complaint-based inspection. Direct sales only. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, maple and sorghum syrups, granola, snacks. Prohibited: acidified foods, low-acid canned goods, pickles, salsas, sauces, nut butters, oils, pasta, fermented foods, juices, meat jerkies. Kitchen equipment limited to residential-scale (no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens, three refrigerators).
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific restriction stated.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific statutory requirement.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; residential-scale kitchen equipment only.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — CHFS / local health department may inspect upon complaint.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — Madison County (Richmond, home of Eastern Kentucky University) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Madison County-specific cottage food permit identified beyond state registration.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only to consumers. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or mail order under primary pathway.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No employee limit specified; limited to residential-scale kitchen equipment.

### Relevant county code

No Madison County-specific cottage food code identified.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

No Madison County-specific cottage food rules found. Madison County (Richmond) is home to Eastern Kentucky University. Kentucky’s restrictive prohibited foods list (no acidified foods, pickles, salsas, nut butters, pasta) makes the primary pathway one of the more limited among states. Separate §217.137 microprocessor pathway available for acidified foods with additional requirements.

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#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

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

## State context — Kentucky cottage food law

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

<b>STATUTE</b> KRS §217.137	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> 60000
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Sales limited to direct-to-consumer only within Kentucky — from home (pickup or delivery), markets, roadside stands, community events, and online; shipping outside Kentucky is prohibited, and sales to restaurants or retail stores for resale are not allowed.	

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

### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=44478>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

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

## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/madison-county-discuss>

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