

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Jackson County

Missouri · Kansas City · FIPS 29095 · Population 715,526 ·
Crosodo Index #465*

STATE BASELINE

Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298 (cottage food: baked goods, jams/jellies, dried herbs only; direct to consumer); broader individual-stands law also available in some counties

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Great	—	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.

MISSOURI: JACKSON COUNTY

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MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Missouri’s §196.298 limits cottage food to non-perishable baked goods, canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs. No registration, permit, or fee required. State law explicitly prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food production (§196.298(3)(1)).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified; standard sanitation

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (State preemption prevents local health department regulation. However, Kansas City and Jackson County may have home occupation permit requirements for the business activity itself (separate from food safety). Contact Kansas City Planning & Development or Jackson County Planning for applicable home occupation rules.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (State law prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food production. No inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Missouri’s §196.298 limits cottage food to non-perishable baked goods, canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs. No registration, permit, or fee required. State law explicitly prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food production (§196.298(3)(1)).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified; standard sanitation
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water; state baseline
HANDWASHING	No specific requirement under state cottage food law
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage practices

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — State law prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food production. No inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — State preemption prevents local health department regulation. However, Kansas City and Jackson County may have home occupation permit requirements for the business activity itself (separate from food safety). Contact Kansas City Planning & Development or Jackson County Planning for applicable home occupation rules.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer: home pickup, farmers markets, online with in-state delivery (2022 amendment). No wholesale, no events, no roadside stands under §196.298. Note: a separate Missouri individual-stands law may allow broader sales in some county areas.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298; Kansas City Municipal Code for home occupations

RESEARCH NOTES

Jackson County follows Missouri state baseline. State law explicitly prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food production. Kansas City is the dominant municipality and straddles the Jackson/Clay county line. County seat field is blank in input — Kansas City serves as the county seat. The 2022 HB 1697 amendment added online/in-state shipping. The narrow food scope (baked goods, jams/jellies, herbs only) is a significant Missouri limitation.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.jacksongov.org/health>

<https://www.jacksongov.org/planning>

<https://www.jacksongov.org>

<https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=196.298>

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

State context — Missouri cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Under §196.298, sales must be directly to consumers from the producer's home. Events, farmers markets, restaurants, retail stores, and roadside stands are not permitted under this law. Internet/online sales are allowed but only if both the producer and buyer are located in Missouri. Local health departments are explicitly prohibited from regulating the production of food at cottage food operations. A separate Missouri statute (individual stands law) allows sales at events and roadside stands in counties that have adopted it, permitting most other nonperishable foods.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=196.298>

State dept cottage food page: <https://health.mo.gov/safety/foodsafety/cottagefood.php>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/missouri/jackson-county-discuss>
