

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Johnson County

Missouri · Warrensburg · FIPS 29101 · Population 54,025 ·  
Crosodo Index #884\*

## STATE BASELINE

Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298 (amended 2022 by HB 1697)

## 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.

## MISSOURI: JOHNSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #884\* · FIPS 29101 · Warrensburg

## Johnson County

Population 54,025 · State baseline: Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298 (amended 2022 by HB 1697) · **MEDIUM****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Allowed foods: nonperishable baked goods (cookies, cakes, breads, danish, donuts, pastries, pies), canned jams and jellies, dried herbs and herb mixes. No sales cap. Direct sales only. Online/in-state shipping permitted since 2022. Local health departments prohibited from regulating.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific MO state or Johnson County rule.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Johnson County includes Warrensburg (home of University of Central Missouri). No specific county cottage food zoning ordinance identified. Contact Johnson County government in Warrensburg.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (MO statute prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food production.)

**Home kitchen rules**

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Allowed foods: nonperishable baked goods (cookies, cakes, breads, danish, donuts, pastries, pies), canned jams and jellies, dried herbs and herb mixes. No sales cap. Direct sales only. Online/in-state shipping permitted since 2022. Local health departments prohibited from regulating.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific MO state or Johnson County rule.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No formal requirement.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Nonperishable products only. Proper labeling required.

**Inspection & permitting**

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — MO statute prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food production.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — Johnson County includes Warrensburg (home of University of Central Missouri). No specific county cottage food zoning ordinance identified. Contact Johnson County government in Warrensburg.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

**Customer-facing rules**

<b>ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP</b>	Yes
<b>ON-SITE SIGNAGE</b>	Conditional
<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Direct sales including online and in-state shipping. No farmers markets, restaurants, or retail stores under §196.298 (separate individual-stands law may apply in some counties).
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Not specified in MO statute.

## Relevant county code

Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298; no Johnson County-specific ordinance identified

### RESEARCH NOTES

Johnson County (Warrensburg) is home to the University of Central Missouri. No county-specific cottage food rules found. MO state baseline: limited food scope but no sales cap and explicit prohibition on local health department regulation. The 2022 amendment added online/in-state shipping.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://health.mo.gov/safety/foodsafety/cottagefood.php>

<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/johnson-county-discuss>

## State context — Missouri cottage food law

Johnson 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.

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

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

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### 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/>

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## Questions?

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

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

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