

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Bexar County

Texas · San Antonio · FIPS 48029 · Population 2,014,059 ·
Crosodo Index #985*

STATE BASELINE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

150000

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.

TEXAS: BEXAR COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #985* · FIPS 48029 · San Antonio

Bexar County

Population 2,014,059 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Bexar County follows state cottage food law. No county-level health inspection authority for cottage food operations. The City of San Antonio and other incorporated cities within Bexar County may have their own home occupation permit requirements. State law preempts municipal zoning from prohibiting CFPOs.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies by city (No Bexar County-level home occupation permit requirement found for cottage food in unincorporated areas. The City of San Antonio has its own Development Services Department for home occupation permits. Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) in San Antonio does not regulate cottage food under state preemption.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Health departments may act only to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health. No routine or complaint-driven county inspection authority.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Bexar County follows state cottage food law. No county-level health inspection authority for cottage food operations. The City of San Antonio and other incorporated cities within Bexar County may have their own home occupation permit requirements. State law preempts municipal zoning from prohibiting CFPOs.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	State baseline applies
HANDWASHING	State baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Health departments may act only to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health. No routine or complaint-driven county inspection authority.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city — No Bexar County-level home occupation permit requirement found for cottage food in unincorporated areas. The City of San Antonio has its own Development Services Department for home occupation permits. Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) in San Antonio does not regulate cottage food under state preemption.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	State law allows direct and indirect sales, online sales with in-person/household delivery. Annual gross income cap \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). Starting Sept 2025, TCS food sellers must register with DSHS.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State baseline applies

Relevant county code

none — state preemption applies; Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Bexar County follows state baseline with no county-specific cottage food rules found. San Antonio (major city in county) has Metro Health which administers food establishment permits for restaurants and commercial kitchens, but cottage food operations are explicitly exempt from this jurisdiction under state law. Texas SB 541 (2025) expanded the program significantly.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.bexar.org>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/texas-cottage-food-production>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

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

State context — Texas cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.	150000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No

INDIRECT SALES
 Limited (see notes) — Sales must be made directly to consumers or to a 'cottage food vendor' (a new category created by SB 541 in 2025 – a person with a contractual relationship who sells on behalf of the cottage food operation to consumers in-state). Cottage food products may not be sold as ingredients to a food service establishment. No retail grocery store or wholesale sales permitted under the pre-2025 framework; SB 541 (2025) adds the cottage food vendor intermediary option. Products must be delivered to consumer or vendor at point of sale or consumer-designated location.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

- State statute: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>
 - State dept cottage food page: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>
 - Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/texas/>
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Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/texas/bexar-county-discuss>
