What Is Delta-8-Tetrahydrocannabinol? (Delta-8-THC, D8-THC, Δ8-THC)

Alcohol, Drugs & Impairment Division

 Delta-8-THC is a psychoactive compound found in trace amounts (<1%) in Cannabis.

- Delta-8-THC (and Delta-9-THC) can be produced from cannabidiol (CBD) by a chemical reaction.
 - CBD is a non-intoxicating compound found in high amounts in the hemp plant.
 - Some manufacturers produce lab-created THC compounds from CBD and call them "hemp-derived."

Cannabis (Two Forms)



≤0.3% Delta-9-THC "Hemp" Federally Legal >0.3% Delta-9-THC "Marijuana" Federally Illegal

As defined by the 2018 Agriculture Improvement Act (aka "2018 Farm Bill")

- Delta-8-THC and Delta-9-THC, whether plant-derived or lab-created, produce similar psychoactive effects.
- Products containing Delta-8-THC include edibles (e.g., cookies, chocolates, gummies), vaping solutions, distillates, and infused hemp flower.
 - Packaging may appeal to children

Real World Example



All photos courtesy of: Dr. Michelle Peace, Virginia Commonwealth University
Consumer ate 1 honey stick and experienced
4-6 hours of hallucinations. The package said it
contained 45 mg of Delta-8-THC, but it contained 631
mg of Delta-8-THC and 204 mg of Delta-9-THC.

- Product was sold as "hemp-derived" to imply that it came from the hemp plant.
- 14 pounds of hemp with 1% Delta-8-THC would be needed to make this honey stick.
- It is likely that the Delta-8-THC in this product was lab-created.

Delta-8-THC Products Are Unregulated and Can Contain:

Dangerously High Delta-8-THC Concentrations

Delta-9-THC or Other THC Analogs

Debris From Unsanitary Production

Dangerous Solvents or Contaminants





