

Gas Station Drugs

Delta 8 THC, Delta 10 THC, THC-O



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What is Delta 8 THC?

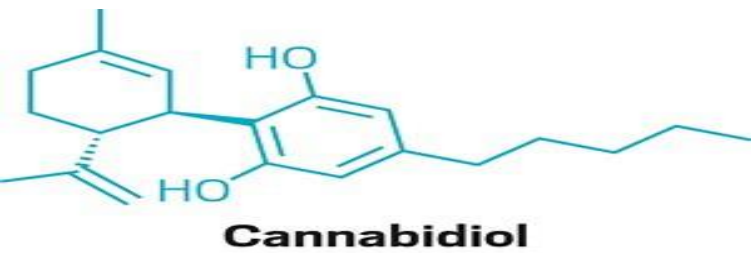
- ▶ Delta-8 THC is synthesized from CBD/ hemp
- ▶ Legal because of **loophole in Farm Bill**
- ▶ Sold in gas stations, convenience stores, smoke shops, CBD shops, health food stores, restaurants, online
- ▶ Produces intoxicating effects similar to delta-9-THC (active ingredient in marijuana)
- ▶ **No regulatory oversight**
- ▶ Most products sold as delta-8-THC are not pure and contain many other compounds
- ▶ Other isomers: Delta 10 THC, THC-O

Reference: <https://cen.acs.org/biological-chemistry/natural-products/Delta-8-THC-craze-concerns/99/i31>

Types of Delta 8 Products

- ▶ Edibles / Candies
- ▶ Vape Products / Carts
- ▶ Flower (Smokable)
- ▶ Oils
- ▶ Capsules
- ▶ Beverages
- ▶ Chips
- ▶ Cereals
- ▶ Inhalers





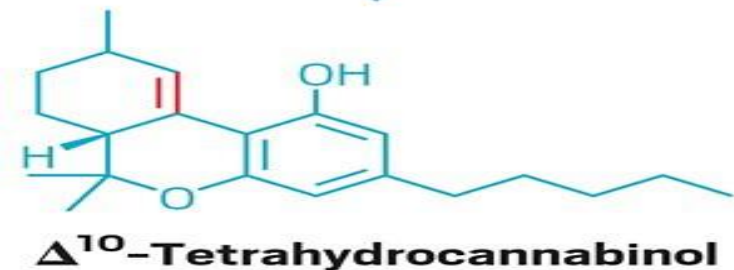
↓
**Acid catalyst,
 solvent, heat**



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- The conversion of CBD to delta-8-THC involves refluxing CBD in an organic solvent, such as toluene or heptane, with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid or another acid that serves as a catalyst.

- Scientists at ProVerde have tested thousands of products labeled delta-8-THC. **“So far, I have not seen one that I would consider a legitimate delta-8-THC product... Consumers are being used as guinea pigs”** --Christopher Hudalla, president of ProVerde Laboratories

Reference: <https://cen.acs.org/biological-chemistry/natural-products/Delta-8-THC-craze-concerns/99/i31>

Delta 8 Candy Purchased in Local Convenience Store & Smoke Shop



THC -O Gummy Worms



- Purchased from a gas station in Tampa
- THC-O is 3 times stronger than delta 9 THC (marijuana)
- Each gummy contains 85 mg of THC- Total **850 mg THC**
- One gummy worm would send a child to the emergency room

Delta 8 and Delta 10 Vapes & Edibles in Rally Convenience Store



Delta 8 THC – FDA Warning

A collage of various Delta 8 THC products. In the top left is a clear plastic bottle with a white cap containing orange gummies. In the top center is a bowl of cereal with milk splashing. In the top right is a black and silver vape pen. In the bottom left is a stack of brownies. In the bottom center are several pieces of chocolate. In the bottom right is a pile of dried cannabis flower. In the bottom center are several colorful gummy bears. In the bottom right are several colorful round candies.

**DELTA-8 THC
HAS SERIOUS
HEALTH RISKS**

FDA Delta 8 Warning

- ▶ **Delta-8 THC products have not been evaluated or approved by the FDA for safe use**
- ▶ **The FDA has received 104 adverse event reports involving delta-8 THC-containing products.**
- ▶ **55% required intervention (e.g., evaluation by emergency medical services) or hospital admission**
- ▶ **Adverse events included, but were not limited to: hallucinations, vomiting, tremor, anxiety, dizziness, confusion, and loss of consciousness**

--*Reference:* <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/5-things-know-about-delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol-delta-8-thc>

National Poison Control Centers

- ▶ **2,362 exposure cases of delta-8 THC products** between January 1, 2021 (i.e., date that delta-8 THC product code was added to database), and February 28, 2022
- ▶ 58% involved adults, **41% involved pediatric patients**
- ▶ 70% required health care facility evaluation, of which 8% resulted in admission to a critical care unit
- ▶ **One pediatric case was coded with a medical outcome of *death***
- ▶ -- *Reference:* <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/5-things-know-about-delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol-delta-8-thc>

Florida Poison Information Center

Delta 8 THC Exposures

Florida Statewide Data 2021

- ▶ **197 total exposures**
- ▶ 76 were under 18

Statewide Data 2022

- ▶ **291 total** ↑

Reference: Florida Poison Information Center, Tampa General Hospital

Cannabis Edible Sickens Child

- ▶ Toddler admitted to ER after eating cannabis cake pop at Groovy Smoothie / Tarpon Springs
- ▶ Villareal purchased a "kid-friendly" cake pop for her 3 year old son at Groovy Smoothie
- ▶ Toddler started crying, then became sedated and was rushed to the emergency department
- ▶ Diagnosed with a marijuana overdose
- ▶ **The cake pop contained 100mg of THC**
- ▶ How could this happen? Groovy Smoothie is not a MJ dispensary. **Delta 8 THC is legal in FL—No Regulations!**

Newsweek story: <https://www.newsweek.com/toddler-sent-hospital-after-consuming-marijuana-cake-pop-purchased-accident-1668277>

Child Sickened by THC Cake Pop



<https://darik.news/hawaii/child-hospitalized-after-eating-cake-pops-made-from-cannabis/202201472249.html>

Groovy Smoothie in Tarpon Springs sells Delta 8 Smoothies and Treats



200mg $\Delta 8$ THC Cake Pop



<https://www.groovysmoothies.org/>

Child Poisoned by Delta 8 in Tampa

Subject: Delta-8 piece on Good day Tampa Bay

Thank you for your focus on awareness on Delta-8. My 10 year old was accidentally poisoned last year at a Home Show in Tampa by eating an entire bag of Delta-8 Fruit Loops that he got from a Delta-8 vendors table. Horrible what happened to my little guy, went to 2 different hospitals and **spent the night in ICU at Johns Hopkins.**

Email from a parent received June 2022

Tampa Home Show- Hemp THC Vendor



Delta 8 THC Toxicity Death

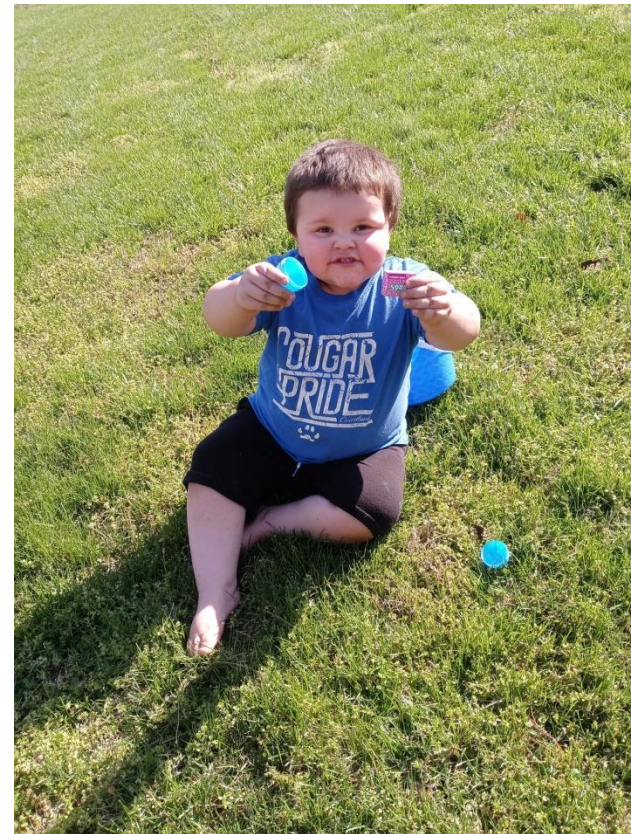
- ▶ Four-year-old Tanner Clements died after eating THC gummies in Virginia
- ▶ Toxicology results showed the child's death was caused by delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol toxicity
- ▶ The mother [told WUSA-TV](#) that she had bought CBD gummies from a store in Fredericksburg
- ▶ Mother charged with murder and child neglect
- ▶ Investigators found empty container of delta 8 gummies in the child's home

Reference: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2022/10/24/virginia-mom-charged-son-thc-gummy-death/10589456002/>

Child Death from Delta 8 THC Toxicity

Tanner Clements

May 18, 2017 – May 8, 2022



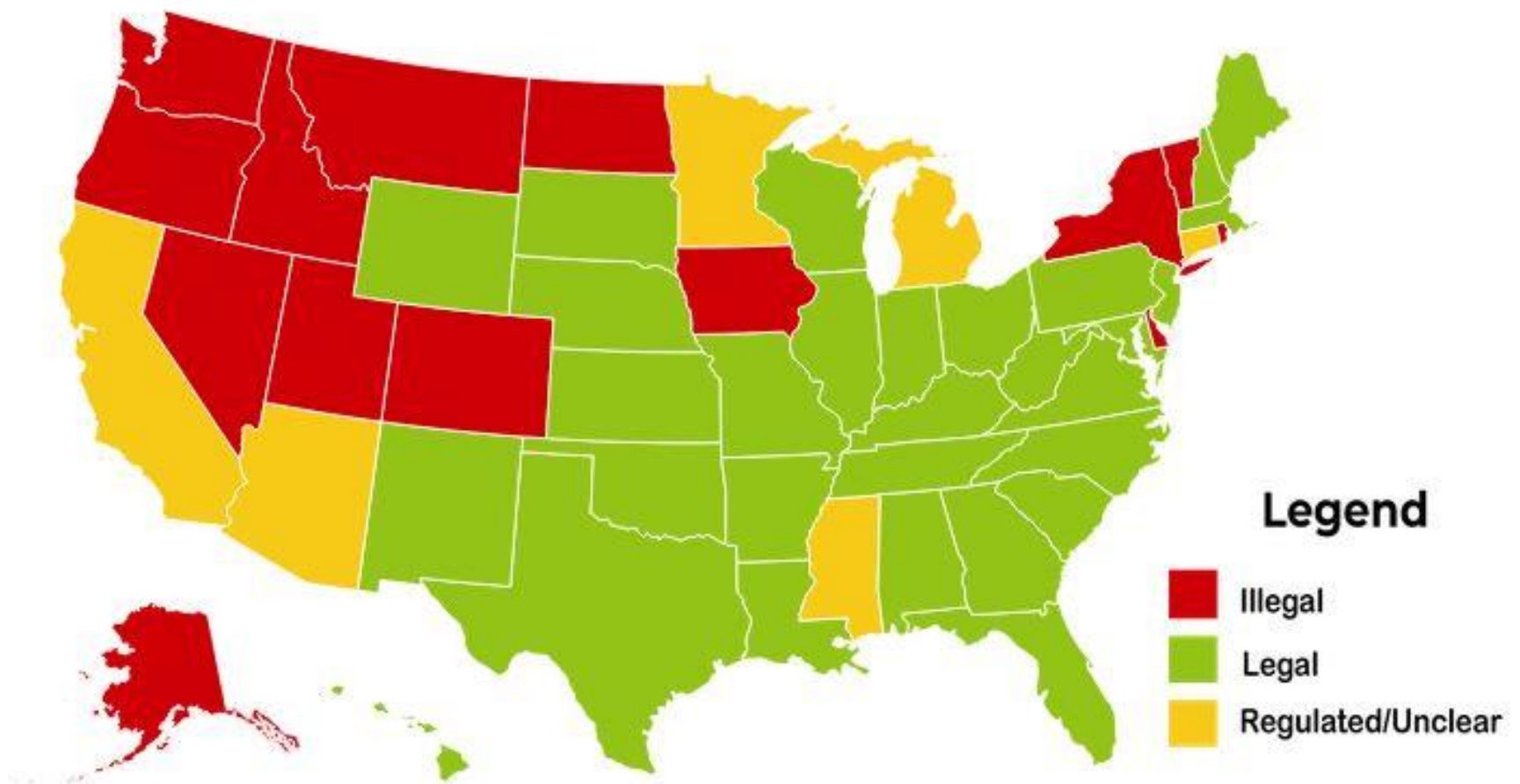
Delta 8 Impacts on Public Health

- ▶ Easy access for children and teens
- ▶ Parents, teachers are unaware of products and harms
- ▶ Similar to marijuana: can cause panic attacks, chest pain, increased heart rate, psychosis, vomiting, passing out, anxiety, hallucinations
- ▶ ER visits and hospitalizations
- ▶ Mental illness
- ▶ May affect brain development
- ▶ Negative impacts on pregnancy
- ▶ Impaired driving crashes

Delta 8 THC Policy

- ▶ 23 states restrict or ban delta-8 THC
- ▶ Delta-8 is in a legal gray area. The 2018 Farm Bill legalized all hemp and hemp compounds but the DEA believes it's a controlled substance
- ▶ **Delta 8 THC is legal in Florida because of a loophole in federal law**
- **Coalitions should advocate for a ban of Delta 8 THC**

Delta 8 Legal Status Map



July 5, 2022



Made with VISME

Reference <https://cbdthinker.com/is-delta-8-thc-legal/>

**States that Recently Banned Delta 8: West Virginia, Virginia, Arkansas

FL Delta 8 THC (Hemp) Legislation– Original Bills– 2023

- ▶ **HB 1475** sponsored by Rep. Will Robinson
 - *Restricts marketing to children; sales age 21
 - *Limits total THC to 5 mg per serving/ 50 mg per package
- ▶ **SB 1676** sponsored by Senator Colleen Burton
 - *Restricts marketing to children; sales age 21
 - *Limits total THC to .5 mg per serving/ 2 mg per package
- ▶ **SB 1676 passed with ban on sales under age 2, no marketing to children** -- but *unlimited* THC levels are allowed. Went into effect July 1

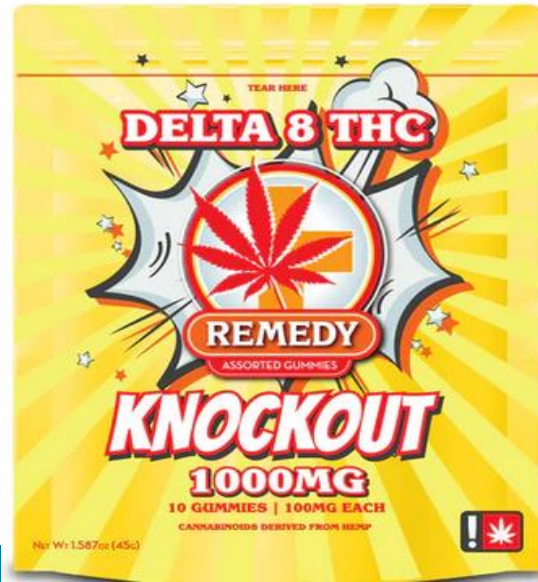
Changes After July 1, 2023

- ▶ No hemp products allowed that are “attractive to children” – in the shape of humans, cartoons, or animals
- ▶ No hemp products manufactured in a form that bears any reasonable resemblance to an existing candy product that is familiar to the public
- ▶ No color additives
- ▶ Packaging/ labels can't be attractive to children
- ▶ Ads must not target children
- ▶ **Ingestible hemp products can't be sold to persons under age 21 (2nd degree misdemeanor)**

What Hemp Products Are Now Illegal in Florida?



Which Delta 8/ Delta 10 Products Are Legal? **High THC Levels Allowed!**



Operation Kandy Krush

- ▶ July 2023– Department of Agriculture inspected 475 food establishments in 37 counties
- ▶ **Uncovered 68,689 packages of hemp extract products targeting children**
- ▶ “attractive to children” means manufactured in the shape of humans, cartoons, or animals; manufactured in a form that bears any reasonable resemblance to an existing candy product
- ▶ “We will continue diligently enforcing the law to keep our communities safe.” Wilton Simpson, FL Commissioner of Agriculture

Reference <https://www.fdacs.gov/News-Events/Press-Releases/2023-Press-Releases/Commissioner-Wilton-Simpson-Announces-Florida-s-Largest-Ever-Hemp-Inspection-Sweep-Operation-Kandy-Krush-Uncovers-Nearly-70-000-Illegal-Product>

OPERATION KANDY KRUSH



Substance Abuse Resources

- ▶ National Institute of Drug Abuse
www.drugabuse.gov
- ▶ Drug Free America Foundation www.dfaf.org
- ▶ Partnership for Drug Free Kids
www.drugfree.org
- ▶ SAMHSA www.samhsa.gov
- ▶ Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association
www.fadaa.org
- ▶ Smart Approaches to Marijuana
<https://learnaboutsam.org/>

Questions?



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