



# WHAT IS DELTA-8 THC?



AS A NATIONAL TRAINER, I commonly receive drug related questions from across the country. Every year, those questions may vary from vapes to CBD to the newest opioid that is trending. But in 2021 without a doubt, the #1 drug related question that I get, is about Delta 8 THC. This bulletin will highlight some Delta-8 street level drug trends, use, sales outlets and more. I will also review some of the early feedback from youth and adult cannabis users of Delta-8.

OFFICER JERMAINE GALLOWAY

Generally, when referencing the common terms of 'THC', 'weed', or 'cannabis' it means Delta-9 THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol). As I have been teaching in my classes, Delta-9 is what we all know weed to be.

## SO, WHAT IS DELTA-8?

Delta-8 THC is a compound from the cannabis plant. Many users of Delta-8 feel that it gives them about half the high of traditional weed (Delta-9). Users also report that the high also doesn't last "nearly as long" as Delta-9 THC. You may be asking yourself, "why do they use Delta-8?". During my research scans, feedback gained from professionals, with clients caught using Delta-8, and talking to a handful of toxicologists, there are varying reasons for Delta-8's popularity. Please, keep in mind the reasons for popularity are subjective opinions, expressed by some drug users of Delta-8:

- Helps with their nausea
- Perceived by some users to be legal in many areas
- Readily available. (Depending on the state, Delta-9 is found in vape shops, smoke shops, CBD stores, gas stations, cannabis dispensaries (near other traditional cannabis products), and shopping malls, to name a few.)
- Although not a new compound, it is a new cannabis trend for youth
- Not all labs can test for it, making it popular for some on probation or parole

*We are finding Delta-8 in many of the same forms we have traditionally seen Delta-9, including vape cartridges, wax, leaf, mixed with some CBD products etc.*



## I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE SOME OF THE FEEDBACK ON DELTA-8 FROM PREVIOUS CLASS ATTENDEES:

Some very valuable info shared from one toxicology lab was that they had commonly seen Delta-8 traveling with Delta-9 test samples...but in early 2020 they began to see some Delta-8 cartridges with little to no Delta-9 and that is what set off the bells in their lab. Also, one of the most common forms of Delta-8, were vape cartridges.

A probation officer called me and shared that he had several clients fail recent drug tests and the clients claimed they had purchased Delta-8 cartridges from a local gas station and were told by the clerk that they would pass drug tests.

Another probation officer said a pregnant female on her caseload told her that Delta-8 helps her with her nausea.

**In regard to the promotion and marketing of Delta-8 THC, we are seeing billboards on major highways, marketing in shopping malls (where youth frequent), sales of various forms in cannabis dispensaries, and sales in the local gas station.**

*If you have questions about the legality of Delta-8 in your city, county or state, please contact your local prosecutor or district attorney, as they are the ones to direct that question.*



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