

SCAN TO VIEW



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WEBSITE

Derived Psychoactive Cannabis Products (DPCPs)

AN OVERLOOKED THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY



Above: Some DPCP product packaging mimics well-known food brands and flavors that appeal to children, including Cap'n Crunch, Cocoa Puffs, Froot Loops, Nerds Ropes, Starbursts and Sour Patch Kids, among others.

WHAT ARE DERIVED PSYCHOACTIVE CANNABIS PRODUCTS (DPCPS)?

- DPCPs have intoxicating properties similar to cannabis, but they are **chemically derived, not grown**.
- Due to a definition in the 2018 Farm Bill (i.e., Agriculture Improvement Act), these compounds are **being regulated as "hemp" despite their intoxicating effects** (because they have < 0.3% Δ -9 THC by weight).¹⁻³
 - Companies are now marketing at least 26 different intoxicating cannabis compounds, including Δ -8 THC, Δ -9 THC, Δ -10 THC, Δ -11 THC, THC-A, THC-B, THC-H, THC-JD, THC-O, THC-P, THC-X, HHC and HHC-P.⁴
- In 2023, 1-in-9 12th graders reported Δ -8 THC use in the past year.⁵

AVAILABILITY AND ACCESS

- DPCPs are available in nearly every state, including most that have banned certain DPCPs such as Δ -8 THC.^{1,2}
 - This is because companies continuously create new types of DPCPs to circumvent these laws.
 - Some of these new DPCPs are marketed as being far more potent than Δ -9 THC.
- DPCPs are easy to buy online: **Age verification measures are rarely used and easily circumvented**.¹²
- In most states, there are **no age laws**, so it is up to the retailers whether to sell DPCPs to children.^{1,13}
- DPCPs are marketed in ways that are **extremely likely to attract children**, such as added in candy, chips and chocolates.
- DPCPs are inexpensive (sometimes < \$5), and stores are **disproportionately located in low-income areas**.¹⁴

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DPCPS CARRY RISK OF HARM, ESPECIALLY TO YOUNG PEOPLE.^{1,5-7}

- Most states **do not require testing for chemical contaminants, even though DPCPs are commonly synthesized using harsh solvents** that are hazardous to human health.¹
- Potency limits are rare, despite conclusive evidence that more potent products carry higher risk of harms.¹
- Research supports that DPCP use is associated with **acute psychiatric disorders, including severe psychosis, as well as lung, chest and heart disorders, injuries and poisonings**.⁶⁻⁸
- DPCPs are new, so we don't know all the short- and long-term risks from use.¹
- DPCPs are **often consumed accidentally by children** because of poor labeling and a lack of child-proof containers.⁹
- This problem appears to be getting worse. In 2022, U.S. Poison Centers managed **82% more Δ -8 THC cases** than in 2021.¹⁰
- These products are marketed to young people. Some DPCP product packaging **mimics well-known food brands and flavors that appeal to children**, including Cap'n Crunch, Cocoa Puffs, Froot Loops, Nerds Ropes, Starbursts and Sour Patch Kids, among others.¹¹

No psychoactive drug should be sold as "hemp."

The 2024 Farm Bill and state laws should help prevent kids from accessing harmful, psychoactive candy.

