Legalization of Marijuana in Texas

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According to a December 2022 NHTSA study,

23.10/0

Of seriously or fatally injured roadway users tested positive for ALCOHOL.

Alcohol and Drug Prevalence Among Seriously or Fatally Injured Road Users (nhtsa.gov)

According to a December 2022 NHTSA study,

25.10%

Of seriously or fatally injured roadway users tested positive for active THC.

THE MOST PREVALENT DRUG CATEGORY DETECTED WAS CANNABINOIDS.



Cannabis Explained

Marijuana:

- Subspecies
 - Indica
 - Sativa
- Compounds (phytocannabinoids)
 - Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
 - Cannabidiol (CBD)
 - Cannabinol (CBN)

Hemp:

- Defined by the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018
 - Less than 0.3% Delta-9 THC



ARTISAN CBD

DELTA 8 · INDICA· 7 ORGANIC PRE-ROLLS

NET WT. 3.5 G



Hemp-Derived Consumables

Delta-8, Delta-10 – Natural* (hemp derived)

Commercially available products aren't extracted

THC-P_- Natural* (hemp derived)

Same traits as THC, but chemical structure gives higher bonding activity to CB1 receptors (30x stronger than D9)

Discovered by accident in 2019, but something to look for in the future

HHC - Natural* (hemp derived)

Longer shelf-life, originally thought to not show up on drug screen (now thought not to be true)

THC-O Acetate - Synthetic (hemp derived)

2-3 times more potent than Delta-9 THC

Toxic chemical process to create, extremely flammable and potentially explosive



U. S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration 8701 Morrissette Drive Springfield, Virginia 22152

www.dea.gov

February 13, 2023

Mr. Rod Kight Kight Law Office PC P.O. Box 526 Edneyville, North Carolina 28787

Dear Mr. Kight:

This is in response to your letter dated August 17, 2022 and subsequent email dated February 7, 2023, in which you request the control status under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) of THC acetate ester (THCO). The only substances of which the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is aware of the THC acetate ester are delta-9-THCO (delta-9-THC acetate ester) and delta-8-THCO (delta-8-THC acetate ester). The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reviewed the CSA and its implementing regulations with regard to the control status of these substances.

Delta-9-THCO and delta-8-THCO do not occur naturally in the cannabis plant and can only be obtained synthetically, and therefore do not fall under the definition of hemp. Delta-9-THCO and delta-8-THCO are tetrahydrocannabinols having similar chemical structures and pharmacological activities to those contained in the cannabis plant. Thus, delta-9-THCO and delta-8-THCO meet the definition of "tetrahydrocannabinols," and they (and products containing delta-9-THCO and delta-8-THCO) are controlled in schedule I by 21 U.S.C. § 812(c) Schedule I, and 21 CFR § 1308.11(d). The Controlled Substances Code Number (CSCN) assigned to these substances are 7370, which is that of tetrahydrocannabinols, and the conversion factors (CF) are 1.00. Because delta-9-THCO and delta-8-THCO and delta-8-THCO are controlled substances, they do not meet the definition of controlled substance analogues under 21 U.S.C. § 813.

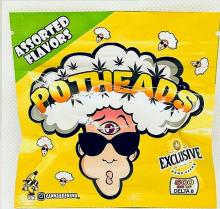
Concerns

- Traffic Safety
 - Psychoactive & Intoxicating Effects
 - Poly-Substance Use Crashes
 - (Alcohol + THC most common)
- Processing could be dangerous to consumer safety
 - FDA: "Delta-8 THC has Serious Health Risks"
- Attractive/Accessible to Youth
- Packaging and marketing
- No warning labels

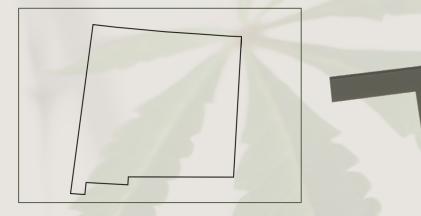








Texas is Surrounded



New Mexico

Recreational Market

Cannabis Smoking Lounge Opened near the Border of El Paso in April 2022

Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA

Comprehensive Medical

Voters will decide on Adult Use March 7, 2023



Arkansas

Comprehensive Medical

Arkansas Voters Rejected Adult Use Cannabis on November 8, 2022 Louisiana Comprehensive Medical

Texas is considered to have a CBD or Low-THC Program

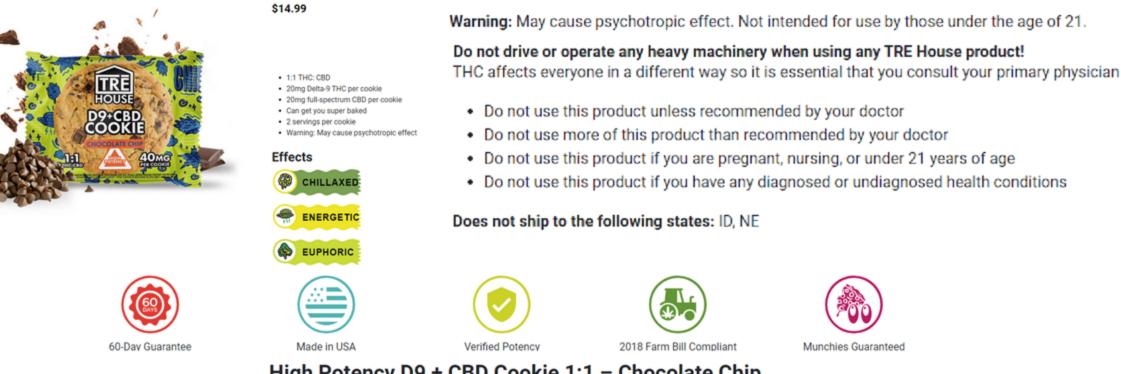
New Mexico Cannabis Dispensary Hot Spots Near Texas

NM-Texas border towns with proposed and approved recreational marijuana retail licenses.



Cannabis businesses in eastern and southern New Mexico are counting on a stampede of Texans to supersize their sales when the state's adult-use marijuana market launches Friday, but that opportunity might not last forever.

Cannabis Products Currently Available in Legalized States



High Potency D9 + CBD Cookie 1:1 – Chocolate Chip

The only thing that beats getting wasted and eating cookies is eating cookies that get you wasted! Our High-Potency Delta 9 cookie is packed with a 1:1 ratio of D9 and CBD. With 20mg of Delta-9 THC and 20mg of CBD, you get to enjoy a perfectly balanced buzz that'll leave you feeling great for hours. If that wasn't enough, this chocolate chip cookie rivals anyone's Nana's recipe! Now grab that cookie and strap in for takeoff!

Benefits

- Relaxation
- Mood Elevation
- Body Buzz
- Head Buzz
- Mildly Trippy

Directions for Best Results:

SNACK NIBBLE BITE SCARE

Our cookies are incredibly easy to use. All you need to do is decide what serving size will work best for you, remove the cookie from the wrapper, and start eating! Our recommended serving size is a half cookie, but it's a good idea to start with just a guarter cookie. These babies can get you super cheefed, so start small and work your way up!

Hey! This is in no way your average THC cookie. We recommend you start with a nibble, wait 45 minutes, and see how it affects you. It would suck to accidentally get too baked or start feeling anxious, so start small. You can always eat more if you want to go to the moon!

IOUSE AINBO HERBE **I GRAM CARTRIDGE** HIGH POTENCY D9 + D10

THC-O Cartridge + D8 + D9 + D10 -Rainbow Sherbet - Hybrid 1g



- 1 full gram of Live Resin THC-0
- Tastes like the popular Rainbow Sherbert Strain
- ZERO Additives
- Helmet suggested, but not required
- Warning: May cause psychotropic effect

Effects



Benefits

- Relaxation
- Mood Elevation
- Body Buzz
- Head Buzz
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Our THC-O carts are impressively strong so we recommend that you take it slow. Start with just one small puff, wait 20-30 minutes, and take note of how you feel. If you want to blast off further into space, take another puff!

Does not ship to the following states: AK, AR, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, ID, KS, LA, MS, MT, ND, NE, NV, OR, RI, SD, UT, VT, WA

Cannabis Products Cannabis Products Cannabis Products







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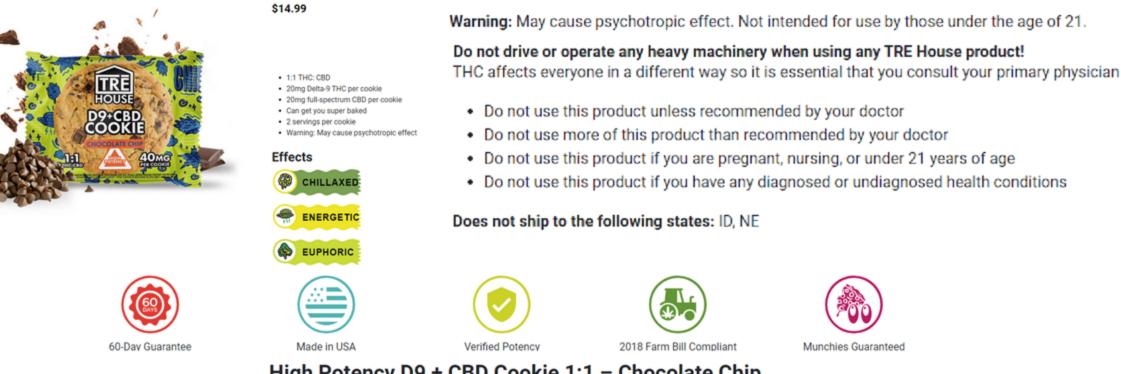


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Analysis Type	SOP	Date Tested	Status	
Cannabinoids	EA-SOP-POTENCY	10/29/2022	Complete	
Heavy Metals	EA-SOP-HM	10/31/2022	Pass	
Microbials	EA-SOP-ARIA	11/01/2022	Pass	
Mycotoxins	EA-SOP-MYCO	10/31/2022	Pass	
Residual Solvents	EA-SOP-RES	10/31/2022	Pass	
Pesticides	EA-SOP-PEST	10/31/2022	Pass	



Unit Size (g): 85

Analyte					
	Result (mg/g)	mg/unit	w/w %	LOQ (ppm)	LOD (ppm)
CANNABIDIVARIN (CBDV)	<lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<></td></lod<></td></lod<>	<lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<></td></lod<>	<lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<>	100	30
CANNABICHROMENE (CBC)	<lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<></td></lod<></td></lod<>	<lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<></td></lod<>	<lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<>	100	30
CANNABIGEROL (CBG)	<lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<></td></lod<></td></lod<>	<lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<></td></lod<>	<lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<>	100	30
CANNABIDIOL (CBD)	0.33	28.11	0.03	100	30
CANNABINOL (CBN)	<lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<></td></lod<></td></lod<>	<lod< td=""><td><lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<></td></lod<>	<lod< td=""><td>100</td><td>30</td></lod<>	100	30
Δ9 TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL (D9-THC)	0.27	23.35	0.03	100	30
Δ8 TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL (D8-THC)	0.09	7.99	0.01	100	30







Texas Marihuana Legislative Update

Current Marijuana Availability in Texas

Recreational Cannabis is Illegal

Some jurisdictions have decriminalized cannabis

Medical Cannabis - Texas Compassionate Use Program (TCUP)

- Allows low-dose (1%) THC for patients with qualifying medical conditions:
 - Qualified physician must prescribe low-dose THC
 - Sold through a licensed dispensing organization
 - Managed by the Texas Department of Public Safety

Texas Hemp Farming Act - 2018

- THC concentration of not more than 0.3%.
- Cloth, fiber, fuel, paper, particleboard, plastics
 - Consumable products
 - Department State Health Services



Recreational Cannabis Use

- Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 22 Senator Sarah Eckhardt (D)
 - This would put the regulation of an adult use cannabis market up to election by Texas voters on November 5, 2024.
- House Joint Resolution (HJR) 89 Representative Mihaela Plesa (D)
- HJR 91 Representative Terry Canales (D)
 - All 3 propose a constitutional amendment directing the legislature to authorize and regulate the possession, cultivation, and sale of cannabis.
- Senate Bill (SB) 209 Senator Sarah Eckhardt (D)
 - Allows for adult use and personal cultivation of cannabis (up to 12 plants)
 - Provides several regulations for a legalized market

Medical Cannabis Laws

- SB 121 Senator Jose Menendez (D)
 - Changes language from prescription to recommendation
 - Removes "Low-dose" THC
 - Removes ailments to qualify for TCUP program
 - Establishes rules for medical cannabis research board
- SB 127 Senator Carol Alvarado (D)
 - Changes language from prescription to recommendation
 - Defines medical cannabis separate from "Low-dose" THC
 - Jurisdictions cannot allow prohibition of medical cannabis businesses
 - Allows parents to administer medical cannabis to their children



Medical Cannabis Laws Continued

- HB 1200 Representative Ron Reynolds (D)
 - Changes language from prescription to recommendation
 - Changes "Low-dose" THC to medical cannabis
 - Allows access to TCUP for non-resident medical patients
 - Adds language about testing facilities and labeling
 - Allowable possession not less than 2.5 oz.
 - Expands list of medical conditions that qualify for the TCUP program
- HB 1341 Representative Eugene Wu (D)
 - Changes "Low-dose" THC to medical cannabis
 - Removes penalties for parents administering medical cannabis to a child



Marihuana Concentrates

- SB 87 Senator Nathan Johnson (D)
- HB 127 Representative Terry Canales (D)
- HB 1374 Representative Joseph Moody (D)

Currently, Possession of these two vape pens = 2-10 years jail + Fine up to \$10,000 **3rd Degree Felony**

 All 3 of these bills seek to lower criminal penalties for higher amounts of marijuana concentrate possession.

Criminal Penalties

- HB 218 Representative Joseph Moody (D)
- SB 967 Senator Nathan Johnson (D)
 - Moves THC and isomers into its own penalty group of drugs
 - Officers may not arrest, but may write citations for possession
 - Adds expungement language
- HB 388 Senfronia Thompson (D)
 - Removes penalties for possessing 2 oz. or less of marijuana
- SB 208 Senator Sarah Eckhart (D)
 - Reduces penalties for possession of marijuana
 - Officers may not arrest, but may write citations for possession



Criminal Penalties

- HB 382 Representative Nicole Collier (D)
 - Possession of a consumable hemp product is not a criminal offense
- HB 520 Representative Eugene Wu (D)
 - Maximum penalty for large amounts of marijuana possession 5 years jail
 - Drug offenses would not be subject to enhancement
- HB 939 Representative Harold Dutton (D)
 - Changes penalties for possession of controlled substances
 - Removes penalties for small amounts of marijuana

Paraphernalia

- HB 987 Representative Donna Howard (D)
- HB 224 Representative Diego Bernal (D)



 Both bills would remove testing equipment from paraphernalia laws

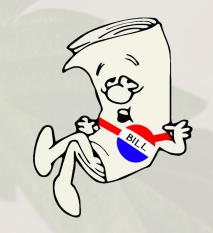
Drug Testing

• HB 1467 - Representative John Bucy (D)

- Prohibits drug testing and prescription drug policies (for the presence of cannabinoids) by state agencies or political subdivisions of the state as a condition of employment
 - EXEMPT: Peace Officers and US DOT drug testing regulations
- Provides compensatory relief through judicial or administrative proceedings if the state agency is found in violation
- Protections related to Medical Cannabis:
 - Legal action, presumption of child abuse, denial of parental rights, seizure or forfeiture, prosecution for provision of paraphernalia, disciplinary action against students and school health care professionals
- HB 822 Representative Ken King (R)
 - Adult applicants who apply for financial assistance benefits must submit to a marihuana and controlled substance screening. If the drug screening indicates presence of marihuana, or a controlled substance, the applicant is ineligible for benefits, unless they are prescribed low-dose THC.

Increased Penalties

- HB 513 Representative William Metcalf (R)
 - Increases penalties for the manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance, or marihuana, causing death or serious bodily injury, whether the controlled substance, or marihuana was used by itself or with another substance.
- HB 2330 Representative Craig Goldman (R)
- SB 645 Senator Joan Huffman (R)
- HB 2107 Representative Briscoe Cain (R)
- HB 513 Representative William Metcalf (R)



+ 7 More - 88th Texas Legislative Session

- Another constitutional amendment
- Availability of defense to the prosecution for possession offenses
- Eligibility to participate in certain drug court programs
- Equipment used in testing or analyzing controlled substances
- Increasing penalties at/near public schools
- Reduction of penalties for possession
- TOTAL Marihuana Bills = 34 Bills Filed to Date
- Deadline for Filing bills = March 10, 2023



Federal Farm Bill

- Expires September 30, 2023
- Hemp Industry Advocates:
 - Change Hemp's THC Limit from 0.3% to 1%
 - Distinction of Industrial Hemp from Floral and Cannabinoid Hemp
 - Remove the DEA Registered Lab Testing
 - Clarification on Hemp-Derived Consumables
 - FDA guidance on CBD products
 - Revising bank regulations
 - USDA stamp of approval for hemp transported between jurisdictions (US)



Driving While Intoxicated

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) in Texas

Driving While Intoxicated: Penal Code Sec. 49.04

A person commits an offense if the person is intoxicated while operating a motor vehicle in a public place.

No defense for medical use – Penal Code Sec. 49.10 NO DEFENSE: The fact that the defendant is or has been entitled to use the alcohol, controlled substance, drug, dangerous drug, or other substance is not a defense.

Implied Consent - Transportation Code Sec. 724.011

CONSENT TO TAKING OF SPECIMEN: If a person is arrested for an offense arising out of acts alleged to have been committed while the person was operating a motor vehicle in a public place, or a watercraft, while intoxicated, the person is deemed to have consented, to submit to the taking of one or more specimens of the person's breath or blood for analysis to determine the alcohol concentration or the presence in the person's body of a controlled substance, drug, dangerous drug, or other substance.

Polysubstance Use

The most common substances found in combination, identified in drivers involved in motor vehicle crashes are alcohol and marijuana.

- Compared to sober drivers:
 - Alcohol-impaired 16x increased crash risk
 - Alcohol and marijuana combined 25x
- This combination effects:
 - The ability to divide attention between more than two tasks
 - Effectively engage in defensive driving skills
- Most prevalent among young adults and college students ("HRIDs")





Texas Data – Cannabis Category 2016-2020 Drivers in Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drugs

All Crash Injury Severities

- 1. Multiple Drugs 13.9%
- 2. Cannabis 8.9%

Fatality & Serious Injury Crashes

- 1. Multiple Drugs 25.3%
- 2. Cannabis 22.5%

All Crash Severities With Alcohol Involved

- 1. Multiple Drugs 13.8%
- 2. Cannabis 12.7%

Fatality & SSI With Alcohol Involved

- . Cannabis 26.1%
- 2. Multiple Drugs 24%



Campaign image from: California Office of Traffic Safety

Information represents data collected from Texas Peace Officer's Crash Reports (CR-3) received and processed by the Texas Department of Transportation as of January 21, 2022.

Underreported Data: Houston Study (2014 – 2018)

Alcohol & Drug Testing

- 12,682 total samples
- Suspected impaired driving cases
- Texas typically does not test for drug presence when the alcohol concentration is ≥ 0.100 g/dL

Drug Testing

- 9,437 BAC ≥ 0.100 g/dL
- 3,182 (25.6%) tested for drugs
- 3% negative for both alcohol and drugs

Cannabinoids

- 1,095 (34.4%) of drug cases tested positive for cannabinoids
- 54% also tested positive for alcohol
- 1,095/12,682 = 8.6% of total sample positive for cannabinoids**

NHTSA Trauma Center/Medical Examiner Study

Driver Data (excludes other roadway users)

- Killed or injured in 2019-2021
- Positive Alcohol: 24%
- Positive Cannabis: 26%

• n = 4,798

Medical States (FL, MD, NC)

Medical & Recreational States (CA, MA)

- Positive Alcohol: 25%
- Positive Cannabis: 26%
- n = 3,919

- Positive Alcohol: 19%
- Positive Cannabis: 28%
- n = 625

CBD / Low THC States (IA)

- Positive Alcohol: 17%
- Positive Cannabis: 17%
- n = 254



Reducing Marijuana Impaired Driving

State Level Prevention

Delta 8 Legal States 2023



17 states have Outlawed Delta 8 Products,

16 have legal cannabis markets:

- Alaska Adult Use
- Oregon Adult Use
- Nevada Adult Use
- Montana Adult Use
- Colorado Adult Use
- Utah Medical
- North Dakota Medical
- Arizona Adult Use
- Minnesota Medical
- Iowa Low Dose THC
- Michigan Adult Use
- New York Adult Use
- Vermont Adult Use
- Rhode Island Adult Use
- Connecticut Adult Use
- Delaware Medical

Community Level Prevention

Zoning and Planning Commissions can recommend local ordinances to be adopted by City Councils

- Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - Unified Development Codes (UDCs)
 - Special Use Permits (SUPs)
 - Distance requirements to schools, community centers, parks, daycare facilities, etc.
 - Prohibition of delta-8, delta-10, etc. products
 - No sales to minors / Minors may not enter premise
 - Remove THC-O Products





Strategies: Enforcement

- Per se laws are ineffective
- All law enforcement officers need to become Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) certified
- On-call Drug Recognition Experts (DRE)
- Green labs
- Roadside oral fluid screening

Strategies: Public Education

- Campaigns highlighting the consequences of driving under the influence of marijuana: DUI
- **Messaging** emphasizing that marijuana and other drugs impair at various levels. Calling on a designated driver is the solution if the choice to ingest marijuana is made.
- **Partnerships** with the industry: trusted sources for consumers

Campaign Lessons

Recommendations:

- Consumers make responsible choices
- Wait longer after use
- Emphasize slowed reaction time
- Avoid stereotypes
- Discuss credible risks and consequences

What does not work:

- Scare tactics, fear, or overstating dangers
- Threats from government or law enforcement
- Unrealistic or derogatory scenarios that may elicit mockery

Youth:

- Empowering them to make healthy decisions
- Be direct
- Talk with them, not at them
- Factual, believable and easily understood





IF YOU PL

A RIDE.

★+@=DUI

DON'T.

DRIVE. HIGH.



COLORADO

Want more info? Ask about the TTI online course for marijuana education! Cody Stewart <u>c-stewart@tti.tamu.edu</u> Christine Adams <u>c-adams@tti.tamu.edu</u>



