

Issue	Cannabis	Alcohol
Death and Premature Deaths	"Most people who overdose on marijuana/cannabis run no risk of dying from the toxic changes in their normal body function." [3]	"3 million deaths every year result from harmful use of alcohol; this represents 5.3 % of all deaths (globally)."[1]
Cancer Risk	Does not increase risk for cancer.[5]	The US Department of Health lists alcohol as a carcinogen no matter what level of use.[7]
General Loss of Health and disability	Heavy smokers run the increased risk of stroke and heart failure. [9]	"5.1 % of the global burden of disease and injury is attributable to alcohol. The harmful use of alcohol is a causal factor in more than 200 disease and injury conditions."[1]
Addiction Potential	Marijuana Use Disorder. "A 2016 survey found that about 4 million people 12 and older meet the classification for a marijuana use disorder. [4] It is said that a disorder does not always indicate addiction.[10]	Overall, alcohol use disorders rose (between the years of 2002 and 2003 and then from 2012 to 2013) by almost 50%, affecting a projected 8.5% of the population during the first research period, and 12.7% during the second. That's almost 30 million Americans actively struggling with alcohol abuse. "[11]
Driving Impairment	There is substantial evidence of a statistical association between cannabis use increases the risk of motor vehicle crashes by 83%. [2]	A blood-alcohol level of 0.05% increases the odds of an accident by 575%. [12]
Violent Crimes	When both spouses frequently used marijuana study findings showed they were at the lowest risk for Intimate Partner Violence. [15]	"About 3 million violent crimes occur each year (US) in which victims perceive the offender to have been drinking." [13] A link has been found between alcohol and violent behavior. [14]
Memory Loss	Consistent with heavy recreational marijuana use. [16]	Short-term loss is related to blackouts. Long-term heavy drinkers show some level of cognitive impairment.[17]
Mental Health	"...likely to increase the risk of developing schizophrenia, other psychoses, and social anxiety disorders, and to a lesser extent depression."[5]	Can increase anxiety and stress and lead to aggression. [6]
Healthcare Costs	"The difference between healthcare costs for Canadian drinkers vs. weed smokers: \$20.50 per year per toker vs. \$165.11 per drinker."[18]	"The difference between healthcare costs for Canadian drinkers vs. weed smokers: \$20.50 per year per toker vs. \$165.11 per drinker." [18]