

Article: Relationship Between Gender and Drinking Problems

Inferential Test: Chi Squared

Excerpt from the Research Article¹

College freshmen (age $M = 18.24$)...responded to an anonymous questionnaire...as part of an adjudication process for having been cited by campus authorities...for violating rules concerning under-aged drinking or the use of illicit drugs.

The Alcohol Change Index (ACI)...is a single-item question: "In the past three months, how would you describe your pattern of alcohol use?" Responses were classified as "increased drinking" or "not increased drinking."

Binge drinking measures whether or not participants consumed five or more drinks at one sitting within the past two weeks (four or more for women).

Heavy drinking was indicated by usually drinking five or more drinks per week.

The ten-question AUDIT includes three questions on alcohol consumption, four questions on dependence, and three on consequences. A respondent who obtains a cut-off score of greater than or equal to eight is considered a problem drinker in this analysis.

The College Alcohol Problem Scale asks "How often have you had any of the following problems over the past year as a result of drinking too much alcohol?" Because the subscale for distributions are very positively skewed, both the personal and social problem subscales were recoded into dichotomous measures (experienced one or more incidents of a problem or did not)....

Table 1
Univariate Data for Major Factors for Total Sample ($n = 389$) and by Women ($n = 143$) and Men (246)

	Total		Female		Male		Chi-square	Cramer's V
	f	%	f	%	f	%		
ACI	73	18.8	23	16.1	50	20.3	.99	
Binge drinking	241	62.0	66	46.2	175	71.1	23.98**	.25**
Heavy drinking	142	36.5	31	21.7	111	45.1	21.44**	.24**
AUDIT (≥ 8)	257	66.1	73	51.0	184	74.8	22.75**	.24**
Personal problems	145	37.3	47	32.9	98	39.8	1.88	
Social problems	191	49.1	55	38.5	136	55.3	10.24**	.16**

** $p < .01$

¹ Source: O'Hare, T. (2005). Comparing the AUDIT and 3 drinking indices as predictors of personal and social drinking problems in freshman first offenders. *Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education*, 49, 37-61. Copyright © 2005 by the American Alcohol and Drug Information Foundation. Reprinted with permission.