

Table 3 Beliefs concerning alcohol consumption and their association with problem drinking among university students in Lebanon

Characteristic	AUDIT score < 8 (n = 1036)		AUDIT score ≥ 8 (n = 199)		P-value	OR (95%CI)
	No.	%	No.	%		
Alcohol is always dangerous for health					< 0.001	
No	832	81.3	192	18.8		6.67 (2.91–15.2)
Yes	173	96.6	6	3.4		Ref.
Frequent and massive consumption of alcohol is dangerous					0.052	
No	202	79.5	52	20.5		1.42 (1.00–2.01)
Yes	803	84.6	146	15.4		Ref.
Alcohol is dangerous for pregnant women					< 0.001	
No	527	79.6	135	20.4		1.94 (1.41–2.69)
Yes	478	88.4	63	11.6		Ref.
In general, alcohol is dangerous for health					< 0.001	
Yes	985	85.7	164	14.3		Ref.
No	20	37.0	34	63.0		10.2 (5.74–18.2)
It is dangerous to drink and drive					< 0.001	
Totally disagree	33	73.3	12	26.7		2.98 (1.41–6.23)
Disagree	21	53.8	18	46.2		7.03 (3.45–14.3)
Agree	139	68.1	65	31.9		3.83 (2.63–5.58)
Totally agree	820	89.1	100	10.9		Ref.
It is never good to drink alcohol					< 0.001	
Totally disagree	191	71.8	75	28.2		8.03 (3.76–17.7)
Disagree	423	81.7	95	18.3		2.24 (1.00–5.17)
Agree	215	93.1	16	6.9		1.52 (0.62–3.83)
Totally agree	184	95.3	9	4.7		Ref.
It is OK to get drunk sometimes					< 0.001	
Totally disagree	283	93.1	21	6.9		Ref.
Disagree	288	85.7	48	14.3		2.25 (1.27–3.99)
Agree	305	80.5	74	19.5		3.27 (1.91–5.64)
Totally agree	125	71.4	50	28.6		5.39 (3.01–9.72)
It is OK to get drunk sometimes if we have good academic results					< 0.001	
Totally disagree	495	92.2	42	7.8		Ref.
Disagree	324	83.1	66	16.9		2.40 (1.56–3.70)
Agree	131	73.6	47	26.4		4.23 (2.61–6.86)
Totally agree	56	58.9	39	41.1		8.21 (4.75–14.2)
	Mean (SD)		Mean (SD)			
Age of first consumption of alcohol (years)	15.2 (2.6)		13.6 (3.2)		< 0.001	NA
Maximal drinks on 1 occasion (no.)	5.3 (6.8)		11.0 (6.9)		< 0.001	NA

SD = standard deviation; Ref. = reference category; OR = odds ratio; CI = confidence interval; NA = not applicable.