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# **The Impact of Alcohol Misuse on College Student Retention**

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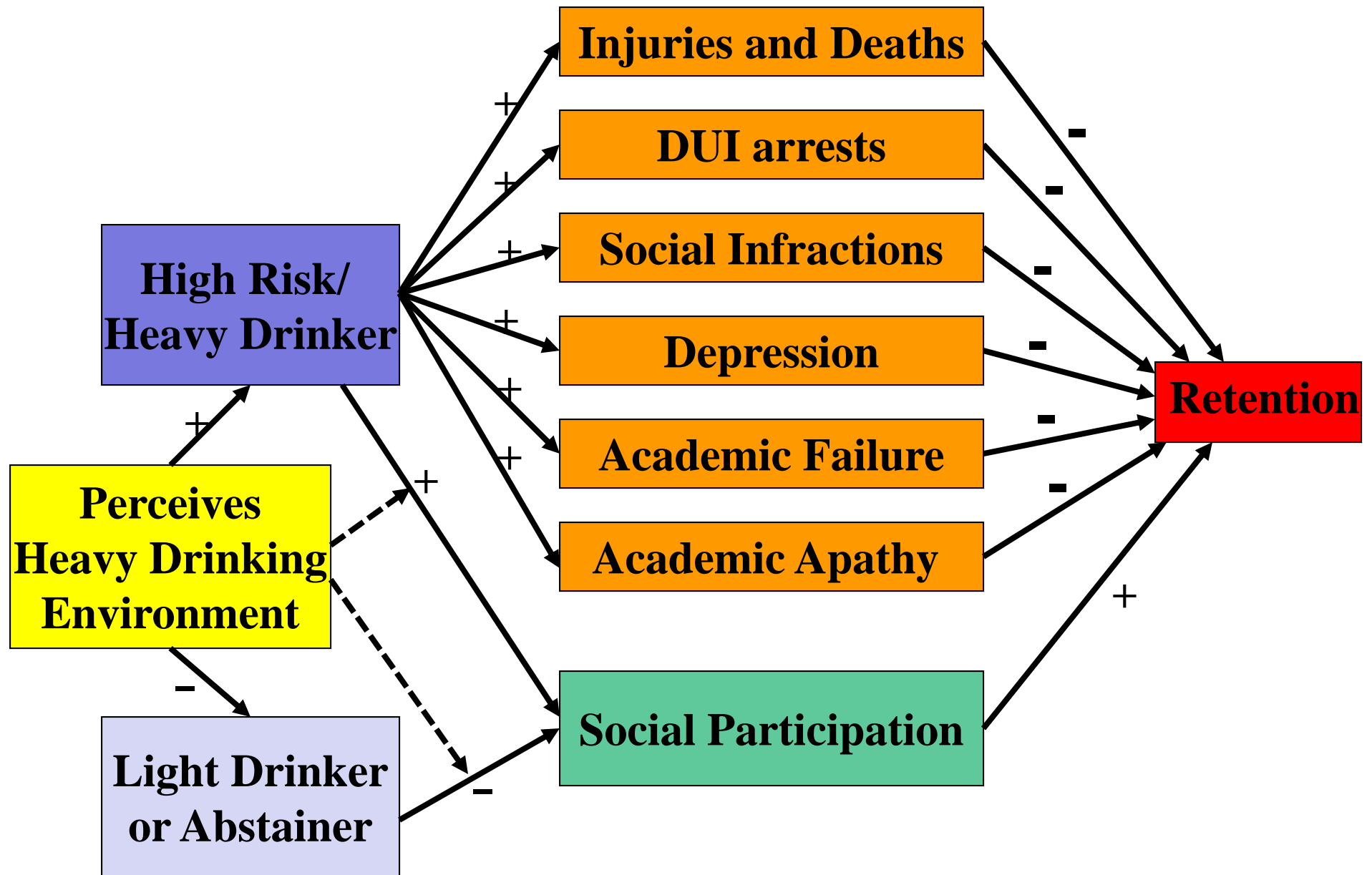
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# Path Model of Student Drinking Impact on Retention



## Canadian student disaffection among very light and non-drinkers<sup>a</sup> by their perceptions of the student drinking norm at parties and bars in their school environment (N=1,197)

Source: H.W. Perkins, *Addictive Behaviors* 37, 2007.

Indicators of Disaffection	Accurate Perception of Drinking Norm	Overestimates Drinking Norm
% that do not feel valued as a person at their school	13.0	21.3***
% not happy at school most of the time	7.9	11.8*
% thinking that they do not fit in with other students on campus	25.6	32.8**
% that do not think it is important to work with other students to improve their school	21.8	34.2***

<sup>a</sup>Students reporting typically consuming 0 or 1 drinks at parties and bars.

\*Significant difference between percentages at  $p < .05$ ; \*\*  $p < 01$ ; \*\*\* $p < .001$ .

# Data Collection Strategies to Assess the Link Between Heavy Drinking and Attrition/Retention

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- Institutional Records on Social Behavior, Academic Performance, and Graduation
- Public Records on Arrests and Enrollment
- Surveys of Student Drinking and Engagement
- Surveys of Incoming or New Students Matched Later to Graduation Records

**STATUS \* ACTS10 DRANK BEER \* COLLEGE Crosstabulation**

				ACTS10 DRANK BEER			Total
				1 NOT AT ALL	2 OCCASIONALLY	3 FREQUENTLY	
Gender Male	STATUS 1	Graduated	Count	74	174	97	345
			% within ACTS10 DRANK BEER	80.4%	77.7%	71.3%	76.3%
	3	Voluntary	Count	14	43	31	88
			% within ACTS10 DRANK BEER	15.2%	19.2%	22.8%	19.5%
	4	Required	Count	4	7	8	19
		% within ACTS10 DRANK BEER	4.3%	3.1%	5.9%	4.2%	
	Total		Count	92	224	136	452
			% within ACTS10 DRANK BEER	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Gender Female	STATUS 1	Graduated	Count	150	253	61	464
			% within ACTS10 DRANK BEER	77.3%	79.1%	64.2%	76.2%
	3	Voluntary	Count	39	59	31	129
			% within ACTS10 DRANK BEER	20.1%	18.4%	32.6%	21.2%
	4	Required	Count	5	8	3	16
		% within ACTS10 DRANK BEER	2.6%	2.5%	3.2%	2.6%	
	Total		Count	194	320	95	609
			% within ACTS10 DRANK BEER	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## References

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