

# DIP Merseyside Drug Testing Report

(April 2013 – March 2014)

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List of Tables .....	2
List of Figures .....	3
<b>1. Exectutive Summary</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>2. Introduction</b> .....	<b>8</b>
Drug Testing (see Appendix B).....	8
Drug Interventions Programme.....	9
The Report: .....	10
<b>3. Liverpool</b> .....	<b>11</b>
Belle Vale Custody Suite .....	12
St Anne Street Custody Suite.....	17
Wavertree Custody Suite.....	22
<b>4. Sefton</b> .....	<b>27</b>
Copy Lane Custody Suite .....	28
Southport Custody Suite.....	33
<b>5. St Helens</b> .....	<b>38</b>
St Helens Custody Suite.....	39
<b>6. Wirral</b> .....	<b>43</b>
Wirral Custody Suite.....	44
<b>7. Trends across Merseyside</b> .....	<b>48</b>
<b>8. Summary</b> .....	<b>53</b>
Conclusion .....	56
<b>9. Methodology</b> .....	<b>58</b>
<b>Appendix A</b> .....	<b>59</b>
<b>Appendix B: Drug Testing</b> .....	<b>61</b>
<b>Appendix C: Requited Assessment</b> .....	<b>62</b>
<b>10. References</b> .....	<b>63</b>

## TABLES

Table 1: Drug Testing Demographic across Merseyside .....	7
Table 2: Drug Testing Demographic across Liverpool.....	11
Table 3: Drug Testing Demographic across Sefton .....	27
Table 4: Drug Testing Demographic across St Helens.....	38
Table 5: Drug Testing Demographic across Wirral.....	43

## FIGURES

Figure 1: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	12
Figure 2: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	12
Figure 3: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	13
Figure 4: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	13
Figure 5: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	14
Figure 6: Belle Vale Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	15
Figure 7: Belle Vale Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	15
Figure 8: Belle Vale Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	16
Figure 9: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	17
Figure 10: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	17
Figure 11: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	18
Figure 12: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	18
Figure 13: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	19
Figure 14: SAS Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	20
Figure 15: SAS Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences .....	20
Figure 16: SAS Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences .....	21
Figure 17: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Wavertree Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	22
Figure 18: Time of Drug Testing at Wavertree Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	22
Figure 19: Time of Drug Testing at Wavertree Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	23
Figure 20: Time of Drug Testing at Wavertree Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	23
Figure 21: Time of Drug Testing at Wavertree Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	24
Figure 22: Wavertree Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	25
Figure 23: Wavertree Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	25
Figure 24: Wavertree Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	26
Figure 25: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	28
Figure 26: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	28
Figure 27: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13- Mar 14) .....	29
Figure 28: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	29
Figure 29: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	30
Figure 30: Copy Lane Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week versus Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	31
Figure 31: Copy Lane Positive Drug Test by Trigger versus Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	31
Figure 32: Copy Lane Negative Drug Test by Trigger versus Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	32
Figure 33: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	33
Figure 34: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	34
Figure 35: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	34
Figure 36: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	35
Figure 37: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	35
Figure 38: Southport Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	36
Figure 39: Southport Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	36
Figure 40: Southport Negative Drug Test by Trigger versus Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	37

Figure 41: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	39
Figure 42: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	39
Figure 43: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	40
Figure 44: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	40
Figure 45: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	41
Figure 46: St Helens Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	41
Figure 47: St Helens Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	42
Figure 48: St Helens Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	42
Figure 49: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	44
Figure 50: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	44
Figure 51: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	45
Figure 52: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	45
Figure 53: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	46
Figure 54: Wirral Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	46
Figure 55: Wirral Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	47
Figure 56: Wirral Negative Drug Test by Trigger versus Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14).....	47
Figure 57: Merseyside Time of Drug Testing by Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	48
Figure 58: Time of Drug Testing at Merseyside Custody Suites Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	49
Figure 59: Time of Drug Testing at Merseyside Custody Suites Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	49
Figure 60: Time of Drug Testing at Merseyside Custody Suites Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	50
Figure 61: Time of Drug Testing at Merseyside Custody Suites by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	50
Figure 62: Merseyside Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week versus Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	51
Figure 63: Merseyside Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	51
Figure 64: Merseyside Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14) .....	52

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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report focuses on the seven Merseyside custody suites which carried out drug tests between April 2013 and March 2014, the demographic details captured during the drug testing process and the times at which drug tests were carried out. This report aims to complement the findings from previous reports on this topic in order to provide Merseyside police and local Drug (Alcohol) Action Teams (D(A)AT) with up to date information regarding the clients who are arrested and drug tested, the times of these presentations and outcomes of drug tests carried out in these custody suites.

The data used for this analysis were taken from drug testing data which had been provided to LJMU by Merseyside police. Analysis was initially carried out on data for all drug tests attempted from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 inclusive and filtered as required for the analysis using SPSS (frequencies, cross-tabs).

In general, the overall client demographic of those arrested and drug tested across Merseyside was male, aged between 18-24 years of age, of white European ethnicity, arrested for a trigger offence, as likely to test positive as negative and, of those who test positive, slightly more likely to test positive for cocaine only than opiate metabolites. Overall, five of the seven Merseyside custody suites were staffed by a drugs worker during times when most drug tests occurred; this ranged between 57% and 85% coverage. This coverage also included the peak time when positive tests for opiates and positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) occurred.

The findings from this report were similar to those from previous reports and recommended that custody suites with a robust out of hours communication process in existence across all stages of the RA process could look to reduce their staffed hours in the custody suite, especially between 8 – 10pm. However some custody suites could look to increase their coverage as there is no drugs worker staffing the suite for nearly half of all presentations.

**Table 1: Drug Testing Demographic across Merseyside**

	Liverpool	Sefton	St Helens	Wirral	Merseyside
<b>No of Attempted Tests</b>	5355	2162	1923	2395	11835
<b>No of Successful Tests (%)</b>	5223 (97.5%)	2137 (98.8%)	1899 (98.8%)	2373 (99.1%)	11632 (98.3%)
<b>Age (%)</b>					
<b>18 – 24</b>	30.9%	31.7%	32.4%	31.8%	31.5%
<b>25 – 29</b>	18.3%	17.1%	19.0%	16.1%	17.7%
<b>30 – 34</b>	12.8%	14.2%	16.0%	12.6%	13.5%
<b>35 – 39</b>	12.7%	10.9%	11.0%	12.3%	12.0%
<b>40 – 44</b>	12.0%	11.3%	11.4%	12.5%	11.9%
<b>45 – 49</b>	7.0%	8.7%	4.3%	8.3%	7.1%
<b>50+</b>	6.4%	6.0%	6.0%	6.4%	6.2%
<b>Gender (%)</b>					
<b>Male</b>	83.5%	82.7%	83.2%	82.1%	83.0%
<b>Female</b>	16.5%	17.3%	16.8%	17.9%	17.0%
<b>Ethnicity (%)</b>					
<b>White European</b>	92.6%	97.8%	98.5%	98.1%	95.6%
<b>Dark European</b>	1.8%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	1.0%
<b>Afro-Caribbean</b>	2.9%	0.5%	0.6%	0.8%	1.6%
<b>Other</b>	2.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%	1.2%
<b>Unknown</b>	0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%
<b>D(A)AT of Residency (%)</b>					
<b>Knowsley</b>	4.9%	11.8%	12.2%	0.4%	6.4%
<b>Liverpool</b>	72.0%	17.9%	7.2%	5.3%	37.9%
<b>Sefton</b>	4.2%	53.0%	0.6%	0.6%	11.8%
<b>St Helens</b>	0.9%	0.6%	52.5%	0	9.1%
<b>Wirral</b>	2.2%	0.6%	0.1%	73.5%	16.1%
<b>Other</b>	5.3%	5.1%	5.6%	2.4%	4.7%
<b>Blank field</b>	10.7%	11.1%	21.8%	17.7%	14.0%
<b>Test Results (%)</b>					
<b>Negative</b>	55.1%	56.2%	57.5%	61.9%	57.1%
<b>Positive</b>	44.9%	43.8%	42.5%	38.1%	42.9%
<b>Cocaine</b>	56.4%	55.7%	52.3%	48.2%	54.1%
<b>Opiates</b>	13.3%	11.4%	18.1%	20.1%	14.9%
<b>Both (Cocaine and Opiates)</b>	30.3%	32.8%	29.6%	31.7%	30.9%
<b>Offences (%)</b>					
<b>Trigger</b>	88.7%	91.4%	86.1%	86.8%	88.4%
<b>Non-Trigger</b>	11.3%	8.6%	13.9%	13.2%	11.6%



## 2. INTRODUCTION

The process whereby offenders committing certain offences are drug tested once arrested/charged has been in place in the criminal justice system since 2001. Such testing underpins the Required Assessment (RA) process and Drugs Interventions Programme (DIP) and is used to identify and assess drug misusing offenders and encourage them to engage with suitable drug treatment services. The overall aim of this process is to reduce the cycle of drug use and crime for the individual but also for the community as a whole. This report focuses on drug testing across Merseyside between April 2013 and March 2014 and how the data collected contributes to the drug treatment services being delivered across Merseyside.

### DRUG TESTING (see Appendix B)

Drug testing was introduced as a pilot by the Home Office in 2001 for individuals who were charged with certain trigger offences (See Appendix A). When DIP was introduced in 2003 the criteria for drug testing changed so that tests to occur at the time of arrest instead of at charge. This enabled the identification of drug misusing offenders at the earliest stage possible (Home Office, 2010c). The main criteria for an individual to be drug tested include being:

- aged 18 years or more
- in police custody
- arrested for a trigger offence or for an offence linked to drug use (inspector's authority).

The current legislation underpinning drug testing is as follows:

- Section 63B of Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) (as amended by Section 7 of the Drugs Act 2005) provides for a sample of urine, or a non-intimate sample, to be requested by a police officer and taken from persons in police detention for the purpose of ascertaining whether they have a specified Class A drug (heroin or cocaine/crack) in their body if:
  - (a) the person concerned has been arrested or charged with a "trigger" offence (trigger offences are detailed in Schedule 6 to the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000); or
  - (b) the person concerned has been arrested or charged with an offence and a police officer of Inspector rank or above, who has reasonable grounds to suspect that the misuse by the person of any specified Class A drug caused or contributed to the offence, has authorised the taking of the sample. (Home Office, 2010c)

In Merseyside saliva samples are taken from an individual being tested for Class A drug use.

When an individual tests positive for opiates only, cocaine only or both (cocaine & opiates), they are served with a Required Assessment (RA) by the police (see Appendix C). This is a compulsory legal sanction for that individual to attend up to two appointments (an Initial RA and a follow-up RA) with a drugs worker. During these assessments the drugs worker will assess the individual's drug and offending behaviour and, if necessary, encourage them to engage

with drug treatment services (Home Office, 2010c). Failure by the individual to attend either of these two assessments would result in additional breach charges being made against them.

In England and Wales, drug testing on arrest by the police had initially been introduced across 22 police force areas, 97 Basic Command Units (BCUs) and included 177 custody suites. In 2011, new powers were introduced by the Home Office which allowed all of the 43 police forces across England and Wales to drug test any individuals who were arrested and where there was reasonable evidence to suspect that they had used particular Class A drugs (Home Office, 2011a).

Overall the police play a very important role in the early stages of DIP by identifying drug misusing offenders through the arrest process and serving them with an RA; this in turn is the starting point for these individuals to break their cycle of drug use and offending and thus reduce drug use and offending across the local community.

## DRUG INTERVENTIONS PROGRAMME

The Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) is an initiative set up by the Home Office in 2003 with an overarching aim to break the cycle of drug misuse and crime and as a result reduce acquisitive crime in communities within England and Wales. The DIP process is seen as an important early engagement opportunity, via drug testing, as many of the clients who are assessed for DIP can be some of the most difficult to reach problematic drug users (Home Office, 2010b). DIP itself is a multi-agency initiative incorporating the police, criminal justice system, the Crown Prosecution Service, probation, the Prison service and treatment agencies who work together to direct class A drug misusing offenders towards treatment. These treatments and services incorporate a holistic support system and include harm reduction interventions, overdose management, offending treatment pathways as well as other more generic services relating to housing, health, independent living, managing finances, developing new social support networks and rebuilding relationships with families (Home Office, 2009).

The most recent drug strategy, *Reducing Demand, Restricting Supply, Building Recovery: Supporting people to live a drug free life*, embraces the concept of DIP in assisting with its aims to support drug using offenders and help encourage them to access treatment and recovery whilst in contact with the criminal justice system (CJS) (Home Office, 2010a).

In October 2013, the Home Office decommissioned DIP as a national programme and Public Health England (PHE) took responsibility for collecting and reporting the data previously reported to the Home Office in relation to criminal justice interventions. There were some limitations as not all data sets could be reported on by PHE e.g. drug testing data, but locally teams had more scope to tailor their data collection to their local needs once it complied with the overarching Required Assessment/PHE criminal justice process. DIP as a programme continues to be implemented across Merseyside, with the processes which underpinned it originally still remaining in place at all stages of the criminal justice system in order to engage offenders into drug treatment (Home Office, 2010c).

This report will focus on the seven Merseyside custody suites which carried out drug tests between April 2013 and March 2014, the demographic details captured during the drug testing process and the times at which drug tests were carried out. Previous research on this topic has been carried out by the Centre for Public Health (Howarth et al 2011a; Howarth et al 2011b; Cuddy et al, 2008; Regan et al, 2007) and this report aims to complement the findings from these reports in order to provide the Merseyside D(A)ATs with up to date information regarding the times and outcomes of drug tests carried out in the seven Merseyside drug testing custody suites. This information should be used to assist D(A)ATs in targeting resources more effectively, particularly in the current climate of diminishing funding and increasing levels of client engagement.

### 3. LIVERPOOL

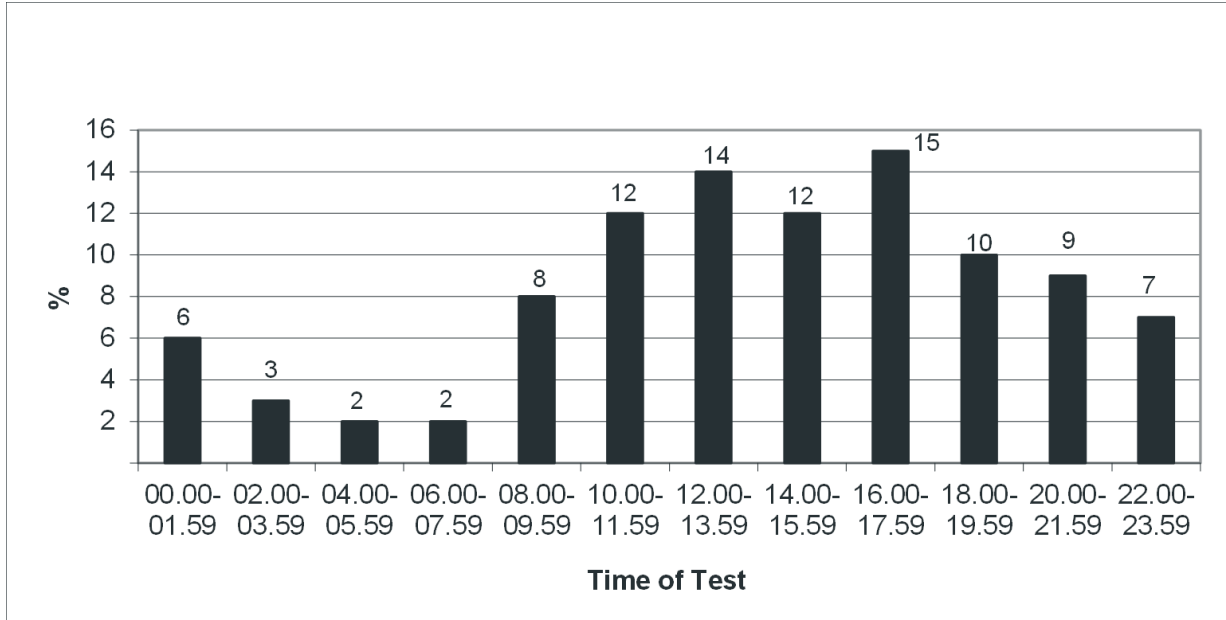
Drug tests in Liverpool are mostly carried out on males aged between 18 -24 years of age who are resident in Liverpool and are white European. These clients are mostly drug tested due to committing a trigger offence and the majority test positive for cocaine use.

**Table 2: Drug Testing Demographic across Liverpool**

	Belle Vale	St Anne Street	Wavertree	Liverpool Total
<b>No of Attempted Tests</b>	1042	3698	615	5355
<b>No of Successful Tests (%)</b>	1028 (98.7%)	3595 (97.2%)	600 (97.6%)	5223 (97.5%)
<b>Age (%)</b>				
<b>18 – 24</b>	33.1%	30.5%	29.7%	30.9%
<b>25 – 29</b>	18.4%	18.2%	18.2%	18.3%
<b>30 – 34</b>	11.4%	13.1%	14.0%	12.8%
<b>35 – 39</b>	11.3%	13.4%	10.7%	12.7%
<b>40 – 44</b>	10.6%	12.2%	13.0%	12.0%
<b>45 – 49</b>	8.2%	6.8%	6.0%	7.0%
<b>50+</b>	7.1%	5.8%	8.5%	6.4%
<b>Gender (%)</b>				
<b>Male</b>	83.2%	84.1%	80.5%	83.5%
<b>Female</b>	16.8%	15.9%	19.5%	16.5%
<b>Ethnicity (%)</b>				
<b>White European</b>	90.2%	93.4%	92.3%	92.6%
<b>Dark European</b>	2.1%	1.8%	1.0%	1.8%
<b>Afro-Caribbean</b>	4.6%	2.4%	3.0%	2.9%
<b>Other</b>	2.1%	2.1%	3.0%	2.2%
<b>Unknown</b>	1.0%	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%
<b>D(A)AT of Residency (%)</b>				
<b>Knowsley</b>	7.2%	3.9%	6.7%	4.9%
<b>Liverpool</b>	78.6%	70.6%	68.7%	72.0%
<b>Sefton</b>	0.8%	5.5%	1.7%	4.2%
<b>St Helens</b>	1.1%	0.9%	0.5%	0.9%
<b>Wirral</b>	0.5%	2.9%	0.7%	2.2%
<b>Other</b>	3.4%	6.3%	2.0%	5.3%
<b>Blank field</b>	8.5%	9.8%	19.8%	10.7%
<b>Test Results (%)</b>				
<b>Negative</b>	61.1%	53.0%	57.3%	55.1%
<b>Positive</b>	38.9%	47.0%	42.7%	44.9%
<b>Cocaine</b>	66.0%	53.8%	58.6%	56.4%
<b>Opiates</b>	12.5%	13.6%	12.1%	13.3%
<b>Both (Cocaine and Opiates)</b>	21.5%	32.6%	29.3%	30.3%
<b>Offences (%)</b>				
<b>Trigger</b>	92.9%	87.1%	91.0%	88.7%
<b>Non-Trigger</b>	7.1%	12.9%	9.0%	11.3%

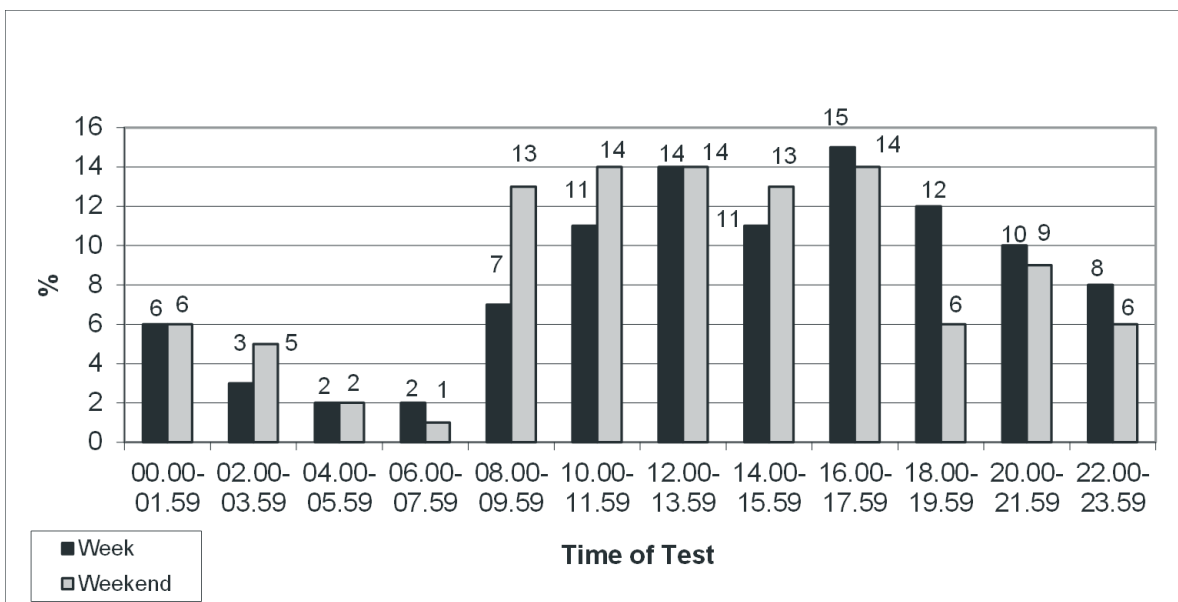
There were a total of 1042 tests attempted in Belle Vale custody suite over the 12 month period. Of these tests, 1028 were completed (98.7%). The majority of tests (80%) occurred between the main staffed hours of 8am to 10pm. Peak times for tests were between 10am and 6pm (53%; Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



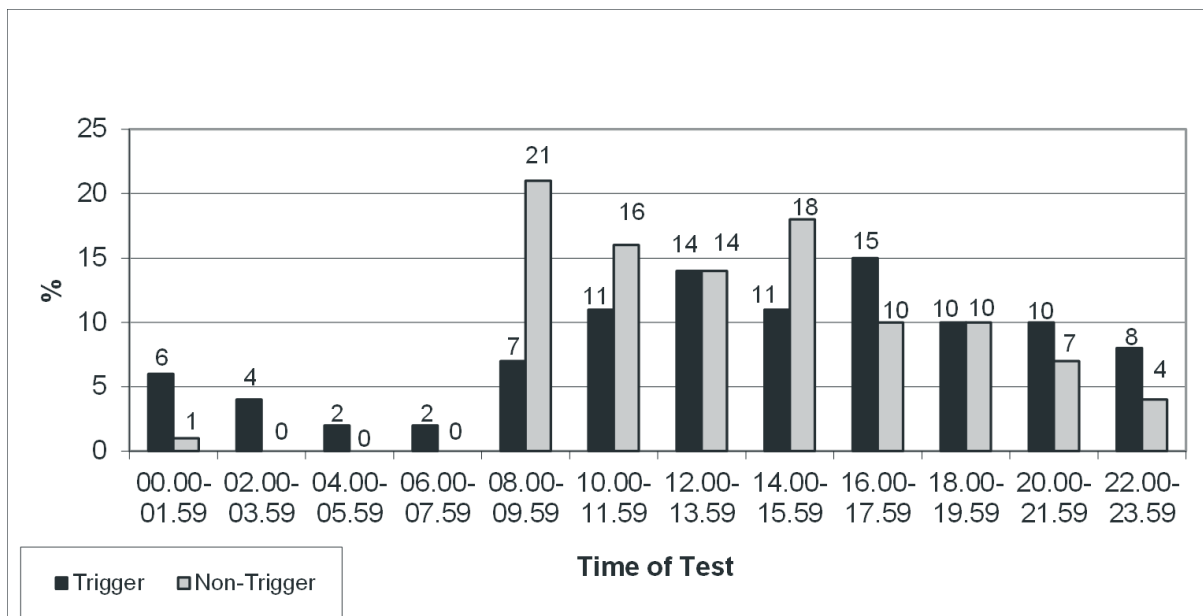
Of the total number of successful tests, 72% occurred during the week, with 28% taking place on the weekend. Peak times of testing during the week were between midday and 2pm (14%) and between 4pm and 6pm (15%), whilst peak times at weekends were between 10am and 2pm (28%) and between 4pm and 6pm (14%). There were similar proportions of drug tests attempted during the weekend between midnight and 8am (14%) compared to those over the same period during weekdays (13%; Figure 2).

**Figure 2: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



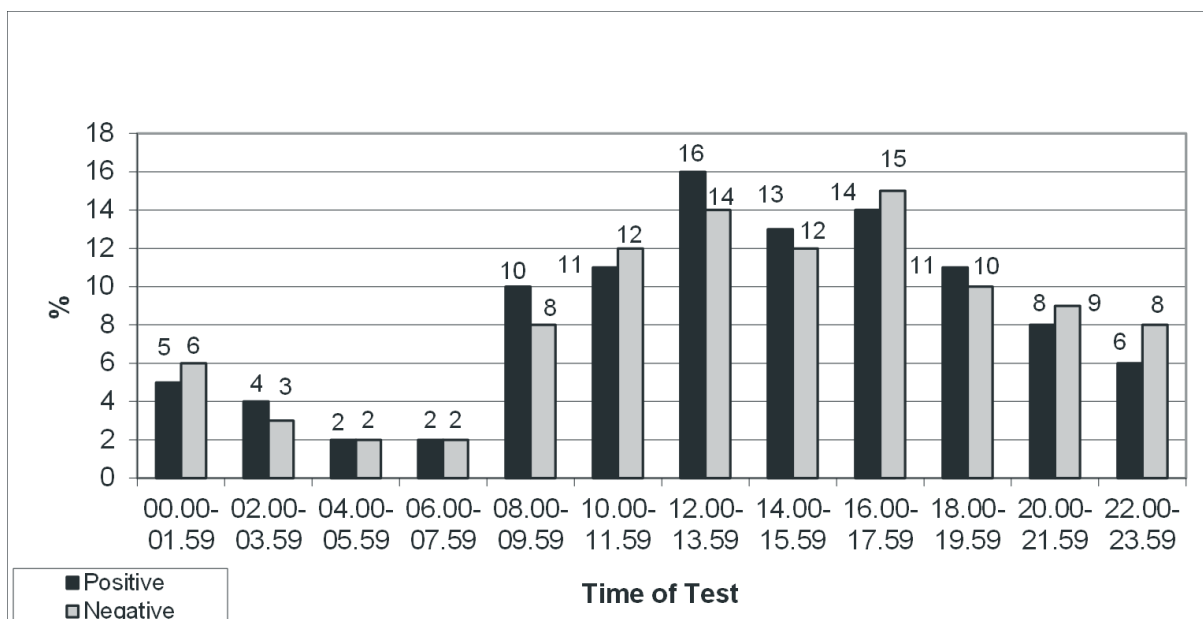
Of those who had a successful drug test, 7% were arrested for a non-trigger offence within the 12 month period. A higher proportion of tests for non-trigger offences occurred between 8am and 10am (21%) and 2pm and 4pm (18%) compared to the proportion of tests for trigger offences during the same time period (7% and 11% respectively). In contrast to this, a higher proportion of all tests for trigger offences occurred between 4pm and 6pm (15%) and between 8pm and 8am (32%) compared to the proportion of tests for non-trigger offences during the same time period (10% and 12% respectively; Figure 3).

**Figure 3: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of the 1028 tests completed over the 12 month period, almost four in ten returned a positive test result (39%). The time distribution of positive and negative tests was similar, with large proportions of both positive and negative tests occurring between 10am and 8pm (65% and 63% respectively; Figure 4).

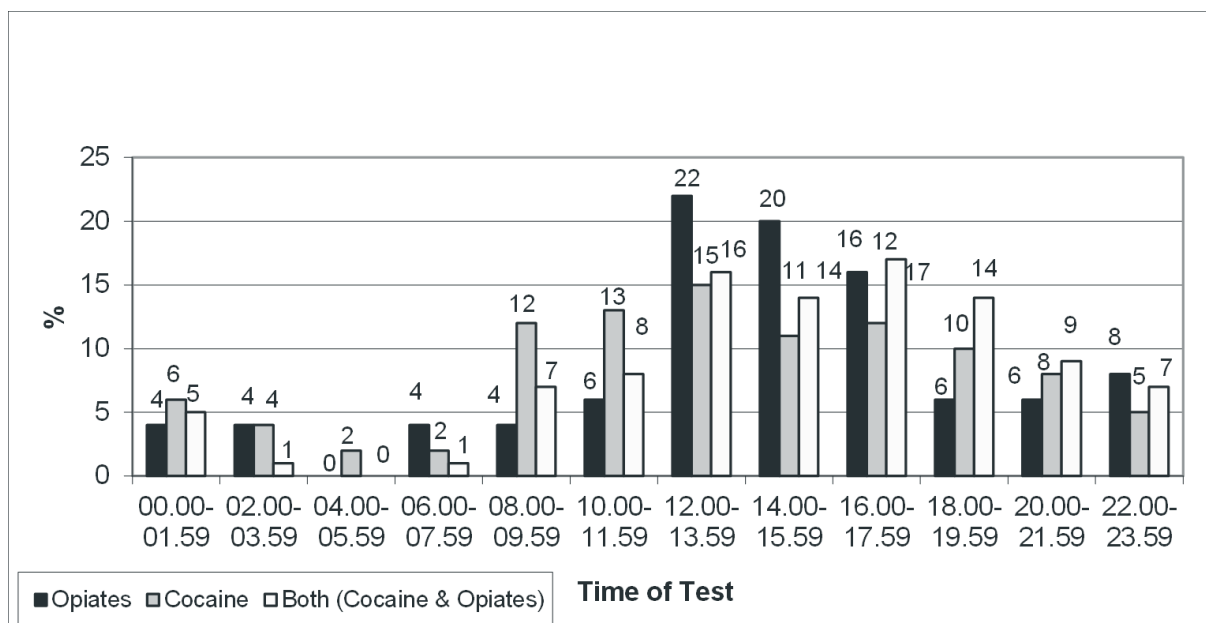
**Figure 4: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of those who tested positive in Belle Vale over the 12 month period, two thirds (66%) tested positive for cocaine only, with 22% testing positive for both (cocaine & opiates). The remaining 13% tested positive for opiates only.

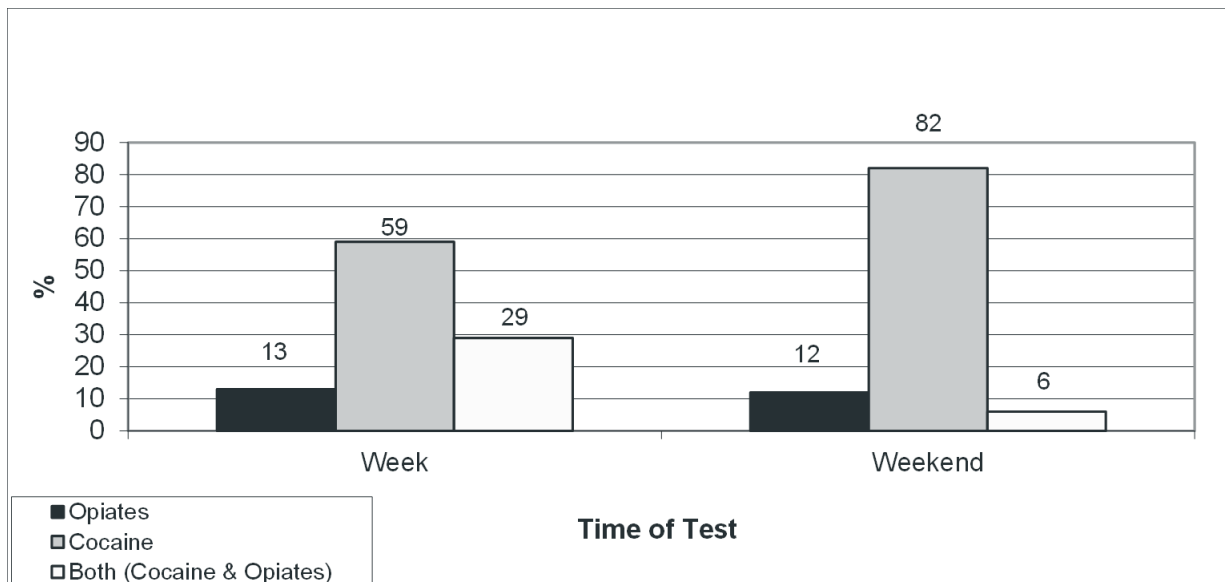
The peak times for all positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were between midday and 8pm (61%), for opiates only between midday and 6pm (58%) and the peak times for cocaine only occurred between 8am and 4pm (51%). Positive tests for opiates only were more likely to occur between midday and 4pm (42%) than positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) (30%) or positive tests for cocaine only (26%). Positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur between 4pm and 8pm (31%) than positive tests for cocaine only or for opiates only (22% each). Positive tests for cocaine only were more likely to occur between 8am and midday (25%) than positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) (15%) or for opiates only (10%; Figure 5).

**Figure 5: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Vale Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



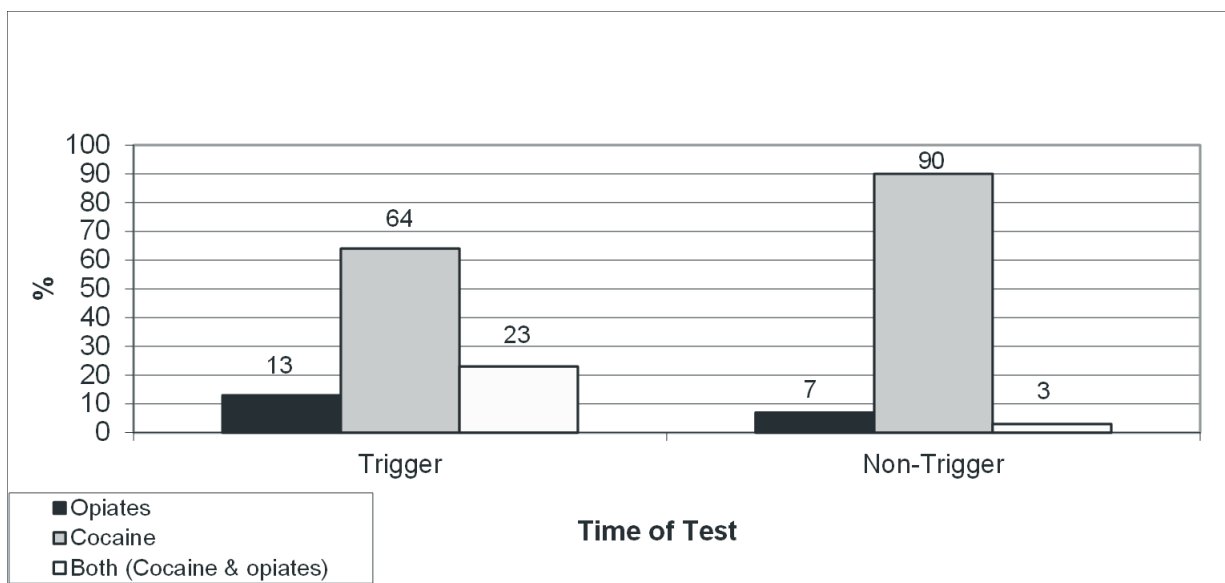
During the weekend positive test results for cocaine only were most likely at Belle Vale custody suite (82%) with a similar less pronounced pattern occurring during the week (59%). Positive test results for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur during the week (29%) than during the weekend (6%), and positive test results for opiates only were as likely to occur during the week as at weekends (13% and 12% respectively; Figure 6).

**Figure 6: Belle Vale Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The most likely positive test result for a trigger offence was for cocaine only (64%). Positive tests results for both (cocaine & opiates) or opiates only were also likely to occur but at much lower levels (23% and 13% respectively). The majority of positive test results for non-trigger offences were for cocaine only (90%; Figure 7).

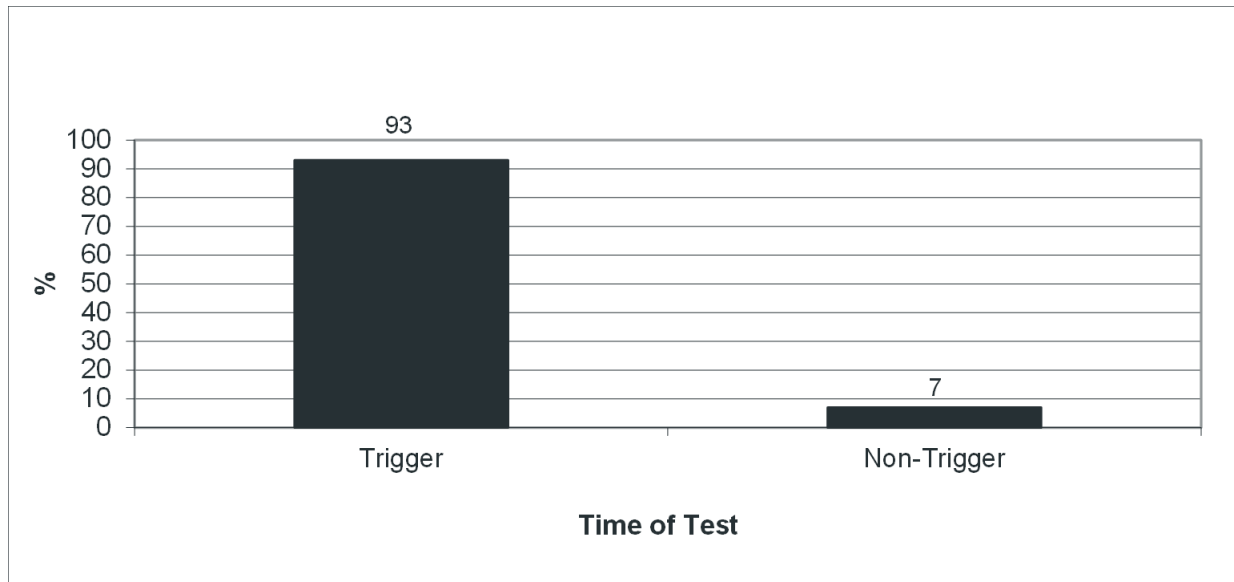
**Figure 7: Belle Vale Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The majority of negative drug test results at Belle Vale custody suite were for trigger offences (93%; Figure 8).

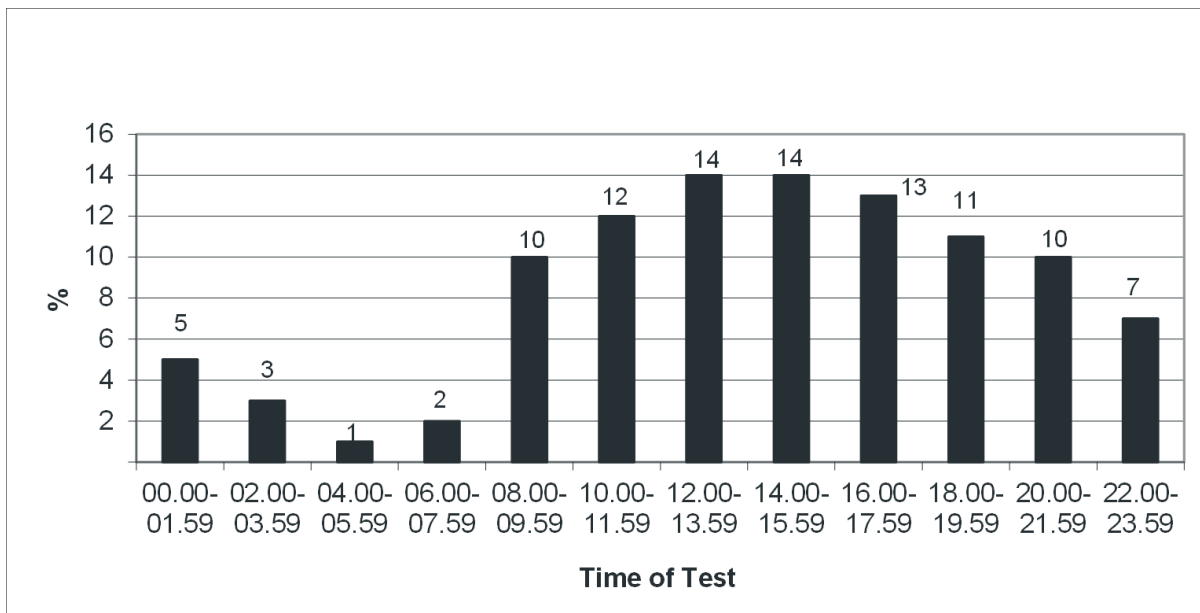


Figure 8: Belle Vale Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)



There were a total of 3698 tests attempted in St Anne Street (SAS) custody suite over the 12 month period. Of these tests, 3595 were completed (97%). The majority of tests (84%) occurred between the main staffed hours of 8am to 10pm. Peak times for tests were between midday and 6pm (41%; Figure 9).

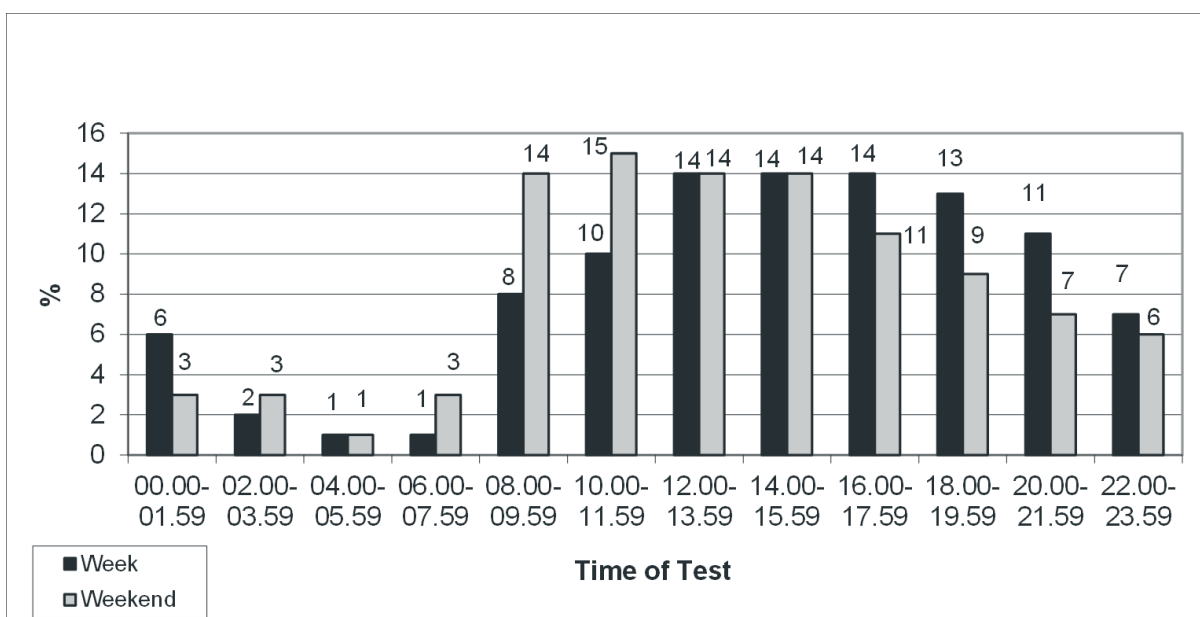
**Figure 9: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Note: one client did not have a time of test recorded, therefore was removed from time related analysis

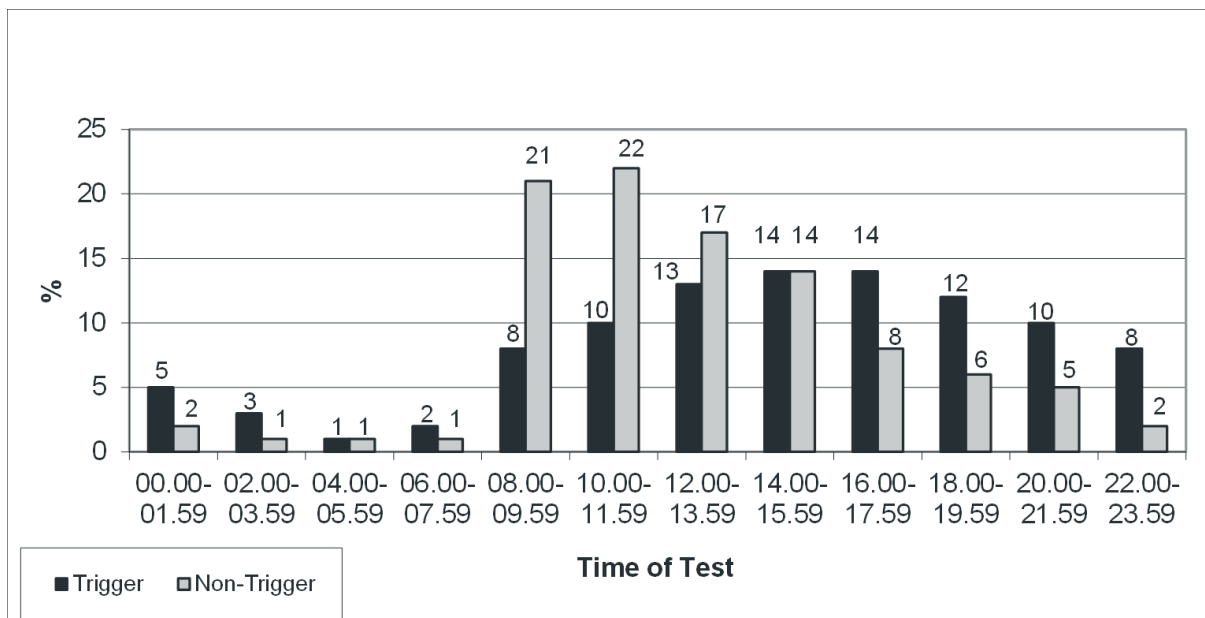
Of the total number of successful tests, 70% occurred during the week, with 30% taking place on the weekend. Peak times of testing during the week were between midday and 6pm (42%) while peak times at weekends were between 8am and 4pm (57%). There were a greater proportion of drug tests attempted during the weekend between 2am and 10am (21%) compared to those attempted during weekdays (12%; Figure 10).

**Figure 10: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



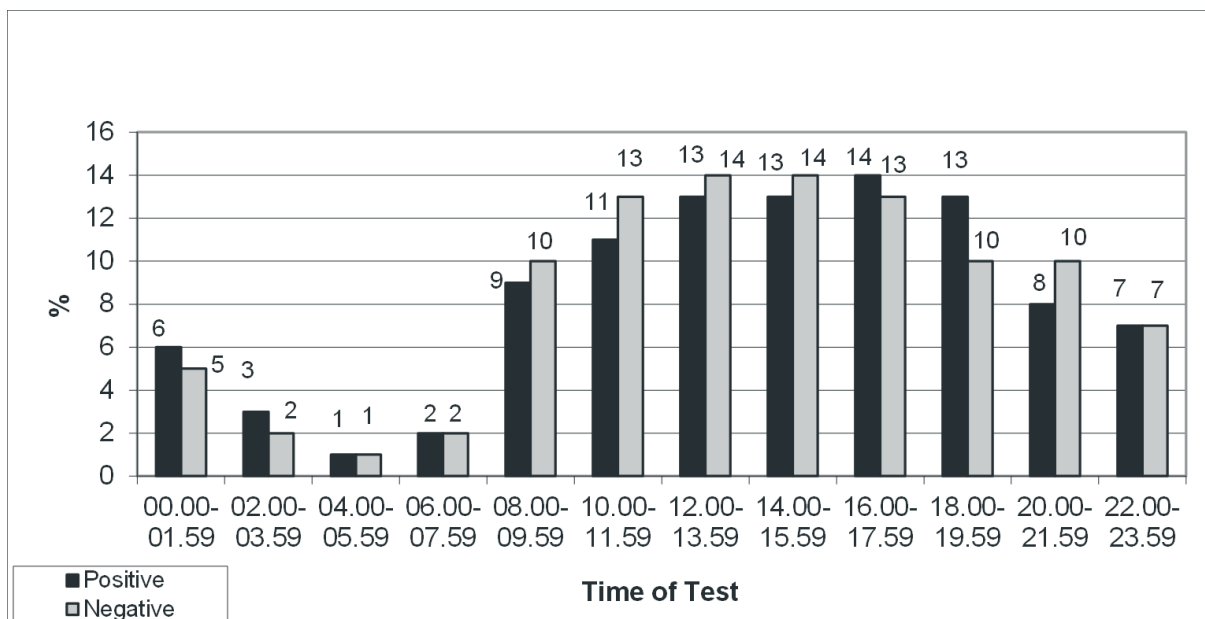
Of those who had a successful drug test, 13% were arrested for a non-trigger offence within the 12 month period. A higher proportion of tests for non-trigger offences occurred between 8am and 2pm (60%) than proportion of tests for trigger offences during the same time period (31%). In contrast to this, more than half of all tests for trigger offences occurred between 4pm and 4am (52%), more than twice the proportion of tests for non-trigger offences conducted within these times (24%; Figure 11).

**Figure 11: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



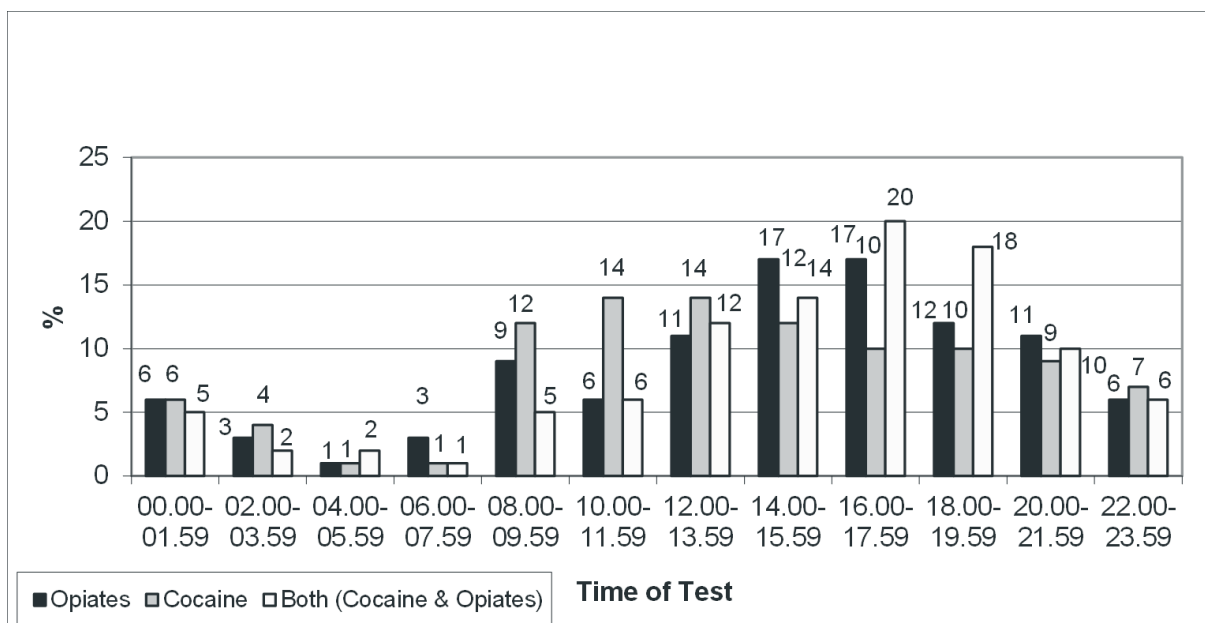
Of the 3594 tests completed over the 12 month period, 1688 returned a positive test result (47%). The time distribution of positive and negative tests was similar, with large proportions of both positive and negative tests occurring between 10am and 10pm (72% and 74% respectively; Figure 12).

**Figure 12: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



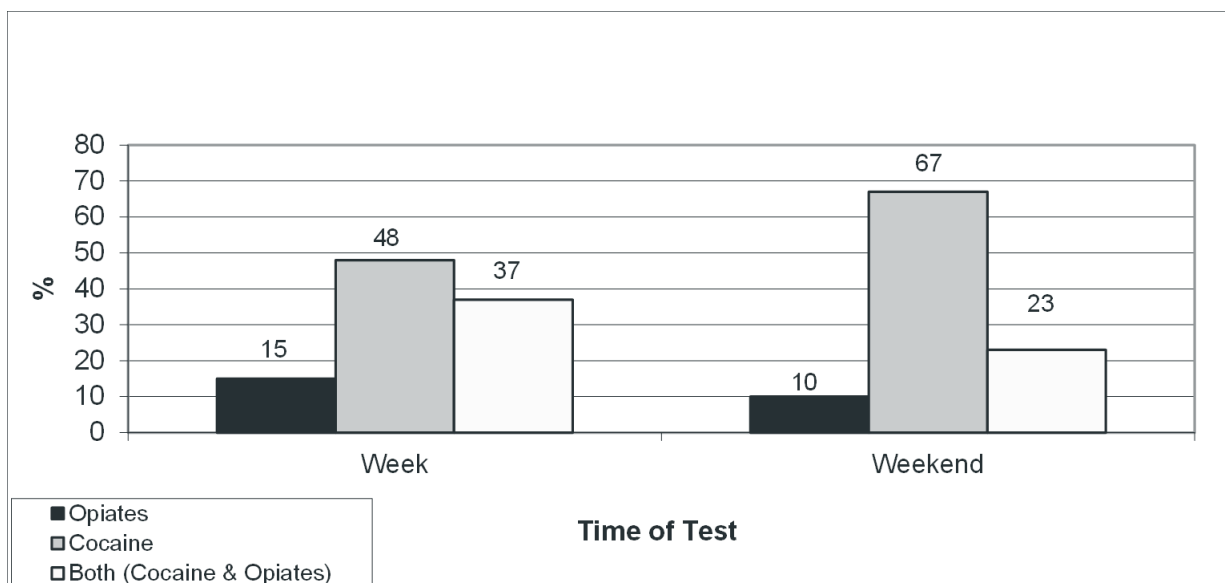
Of those who tested positive in SAS over the 12 month period, over half (54%) tested positive for cocaine only, with 33% testing positive for both (cocaine & opiates). The remaining 17% tested positive for opiates only. Over half (52%) of all positive tests for cocaine only occurred between 8am and 4pm. Peak times for testing positive for opiates only were between midday and 10pm (68%). The peak times of testing for both (cocaine & opiates) were between 2pm and 8pm (52%). Positive tests for cocaine only were more likely to occur between 8am and 2pm (40%) than those for opiates only (26%) or for both (cocaine & opiates) (23%). Positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur between 4pm and 8pm (38%) than positive tests for opiates only (29%) or for cocaine only (20%). Positive tests for opiates only were more likely to occur between 2pm and 4pm (17%) than positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) (14%) or positive tests for cocaine only (12%; Figure 13).

**Figure 13: Time of Drug Testing at SAS Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



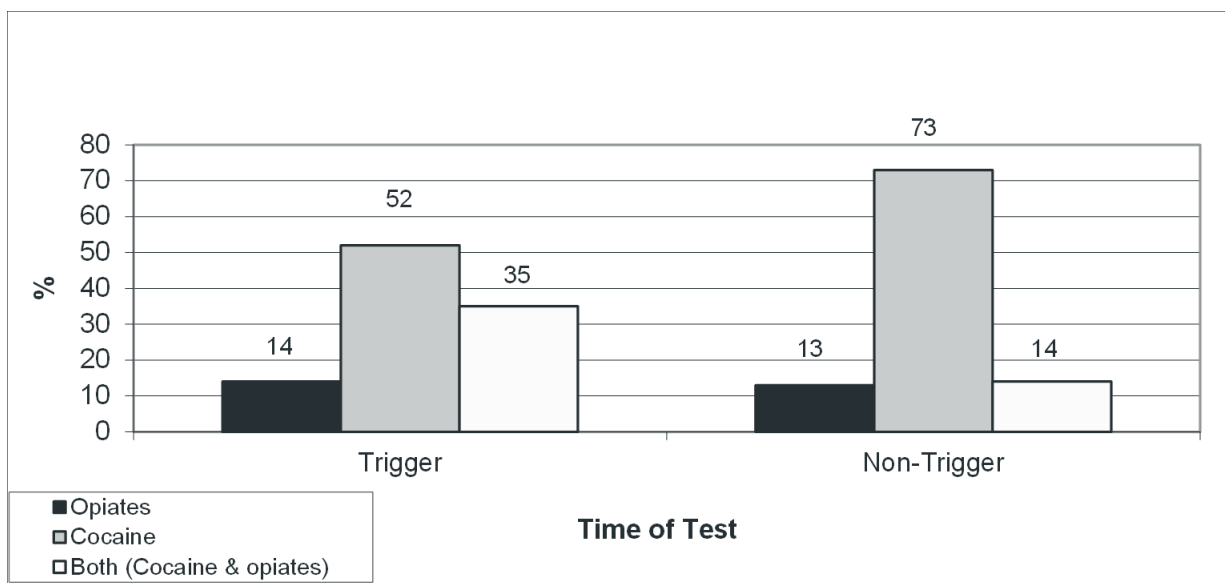
During the weekend positive drug test results were mostly likely to be for cocaine only at SAS custody suite (67%) with a similar less pronounced pattern occurring during the week (48%). Positive test results for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur during the week (37%) than during the weekend (23%) and positive test results for opiates only were as likely to occur during the week as at weekends (15% and 10% respectively; Figure 14).

**Figure 14: SAS Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



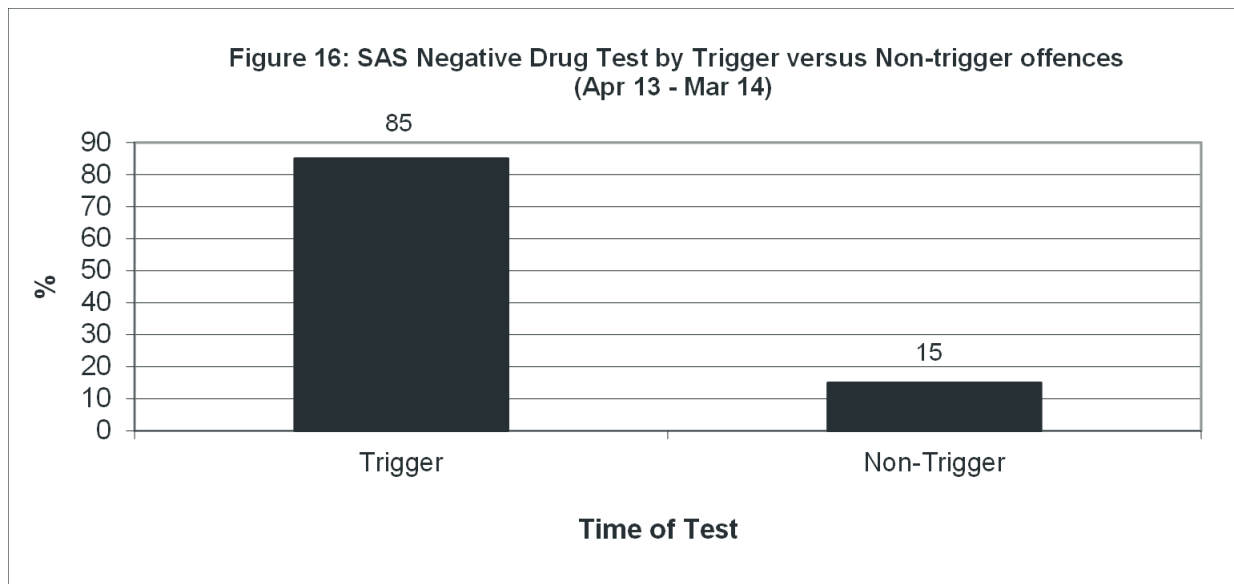
The majority of positive test results for a trigger offence were for cocaine only (52%). Positive tests results for both (cocaine & opiates) or opiates only were also likely to occur but at lower levels (35% and 14% respectively). The majority of positive tests for non-trigger offences were for cocaine only (73%; Figure 15).

**Figure 15: SAS Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences**



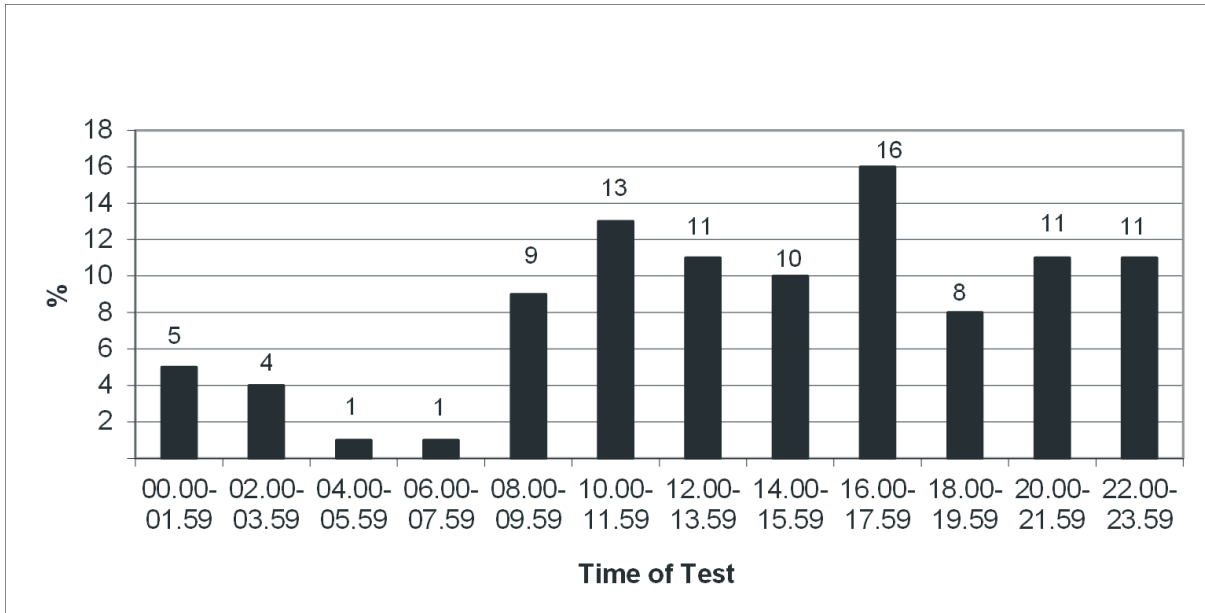
The majority of negative drug test results at SAS custody suite were for trigger offences (85%; Figure 16)

Figure 16: SAS Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences



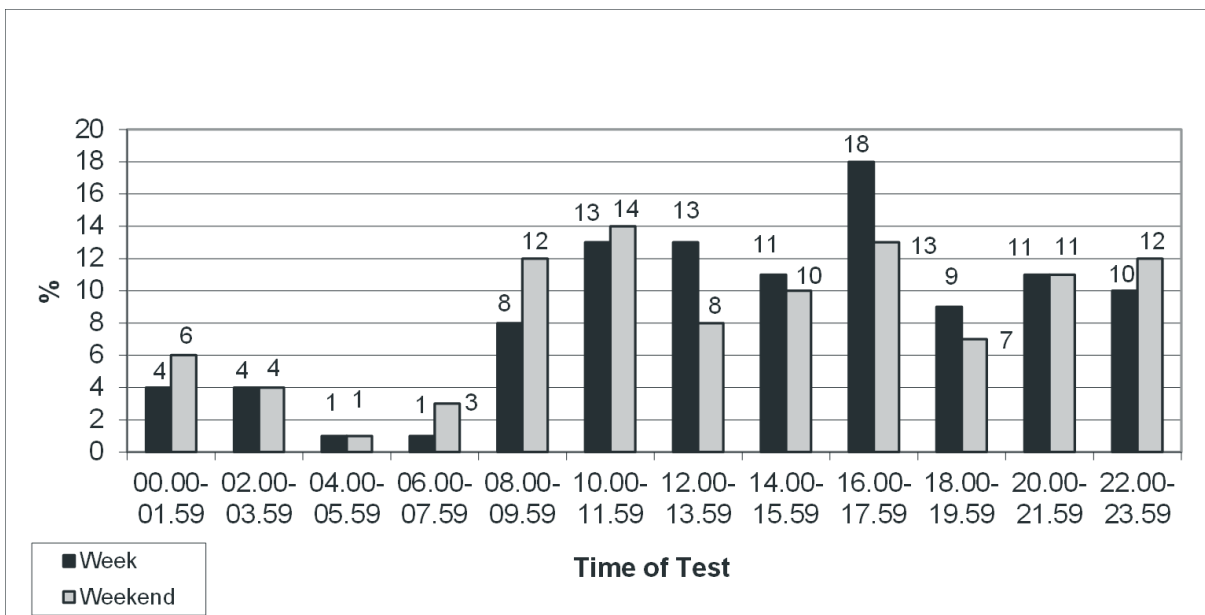
There were a total of 615 tests attempted in Wavertree custody suite over the 12 month period. Of these tests, 600 were completed (98%). The majority of tests (78%) occurred between the main staffed hours of 8am to 10pm. Peak times for tests were between 10am and midday (13%) and between 4pm and 6pm (16%; Figure 17).

**Figure 17: Time of Drug Testing at Belle Wavertree Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



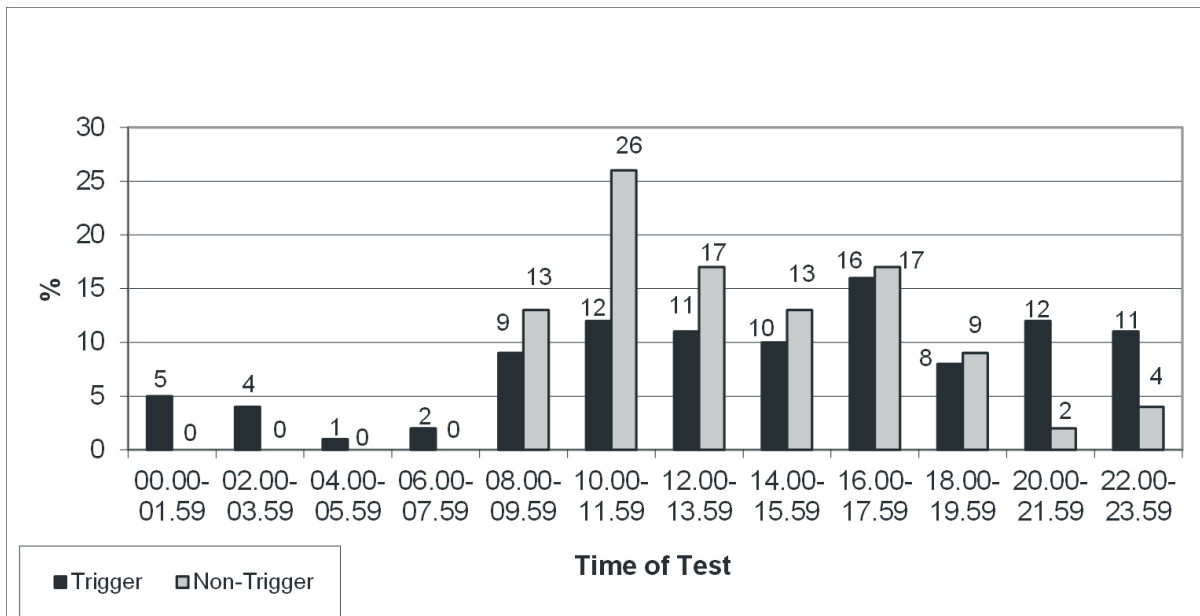
Of the total number of successful tests, 68% occurred during the week, with 32% taking place on the weekend. Peak times of testing during the week were between 10am and 2pm (26%) and between 4pm and 6pm (18%), whilst peak times at weekends were between 8am and midday (26%). There were a greater proportion of drug tests attempted during the weekend between 10pm and 2am (18%) and between 6am and midday (29%) compared to the proportion of tests attempted during weekdays (14% and 22% respectively; Figure 18).

**Figure 18: Time of Drug Testing at Wavertree Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



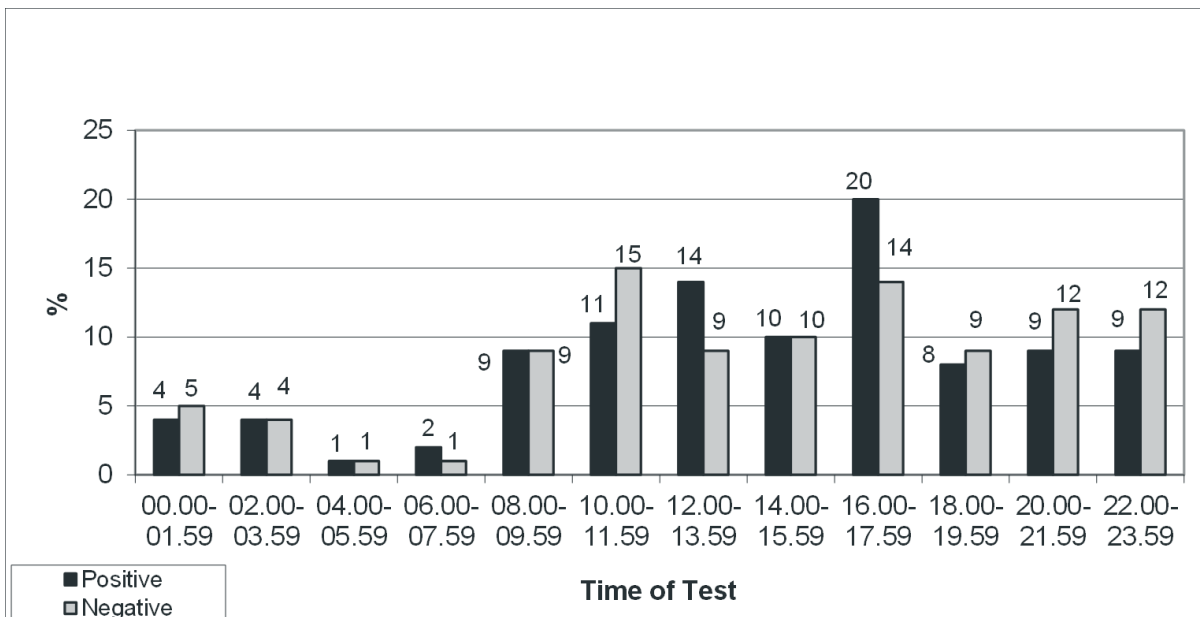
Of those who had a successful drug test, 9% were arrested for a non-trigger offence within the 12 month period. A far higher proportion of tests for non-trigger offences occurred between 10am and 4pm (56%) compared to the proportion of tests for trigger offences during the same time period (33%). In contrast to this, over a third of all tests for trigger offences occurred between 8pm and 8am (35%), almost six times the proportion of tests for non-trigger offences conducted within these times (6%; Figure 19).

**Figure 19: Time of Drug Testing at Wavertree Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of the 600 tests completed over the 12 month period, 256 returned a positive test result (43%). The time distribution of positive and negative tests was similar, with large proportions of both positive and negative tests occurring between 10am and 10pm (72% and 69% respectively; Figure 20).

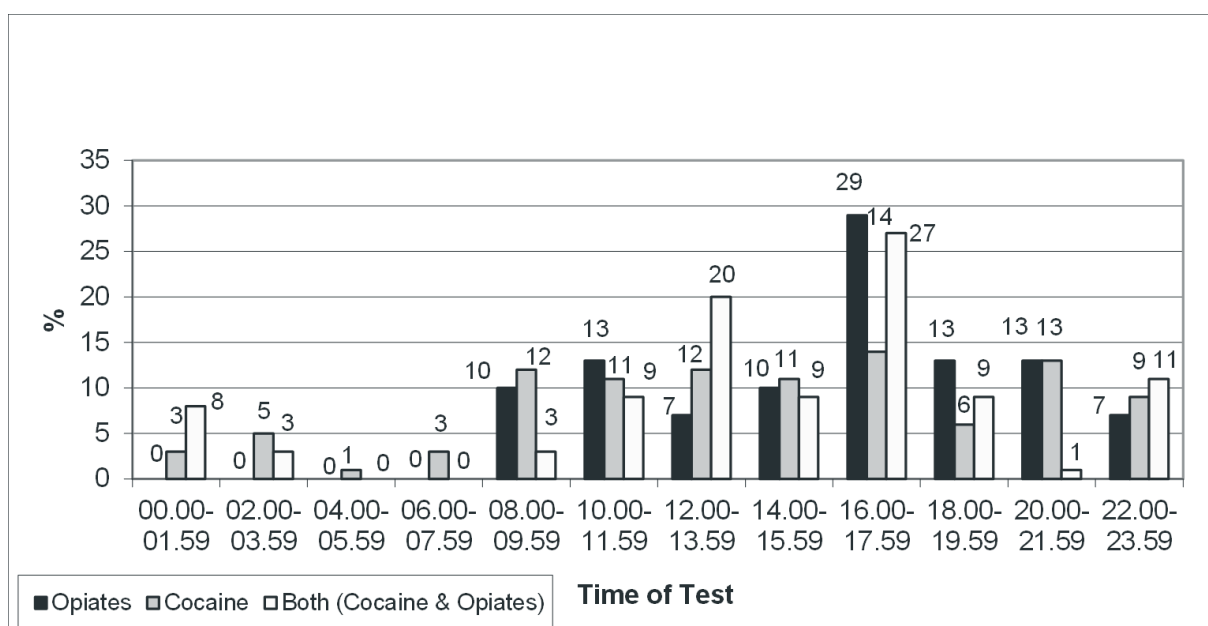
**Figure 20: Time of Drug Testing at Wavertree Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**





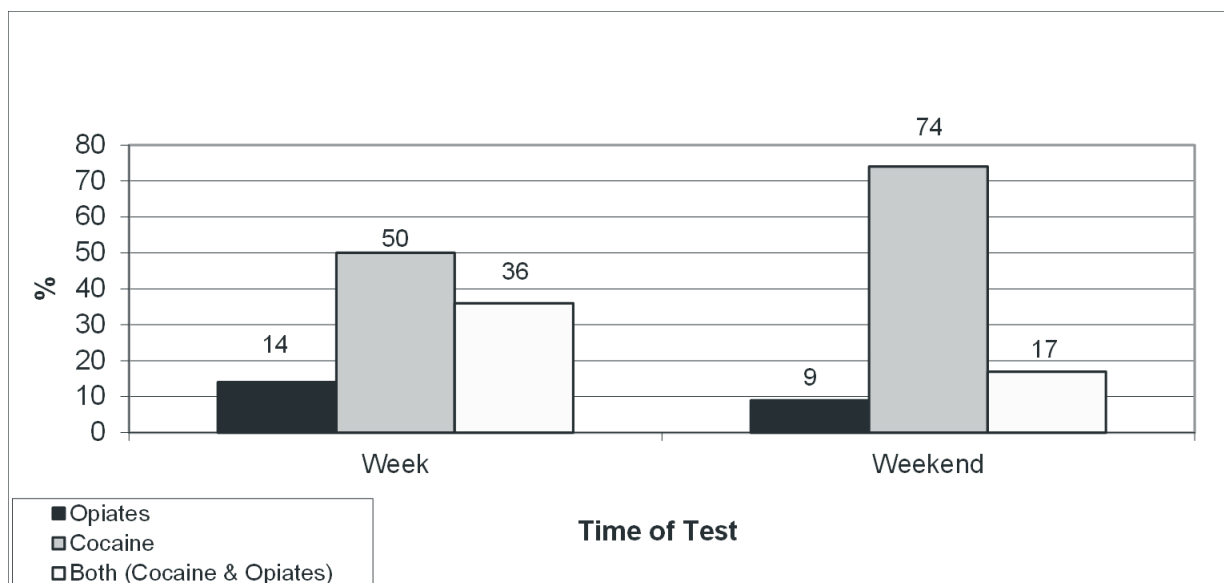
Of those who tested positive in Wavertree over the 12 month period, almost three in five (59%) tested positive for cocaine only, with 30% testing positive for both (cocaine & opiates). The remaining 12% tested positive for opiates only. Three in five (60%) of all positive tests for cocaine only occurred between 8am and 6pm. Peak times for testing positive for opiates only were between 8am and midday (23%) and between 4pm and 6pm (29%). The peak times of testing for both (cocaine & opiates) were between midday and 2pm (20%) and 4pm and 6pm (27%). Positive tests for cocaine only were more likely to occur between 2am and 10am (21%) than positive tests for opiates only (10%) or for both cocaine and opiates (6%). Positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur between midday and 2pm (20%) and 10pm and 2am (19%) than positive tests for cocaine only (12% for both) or for opiates only (7% for both). Positive tests for opiates only were more likely to occur between 4pm and 6pm (29%) than positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) (27%) or for cocaine only (14%; Figure 21).

**Figure 21: Time of Drug Testing at Wavertree Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



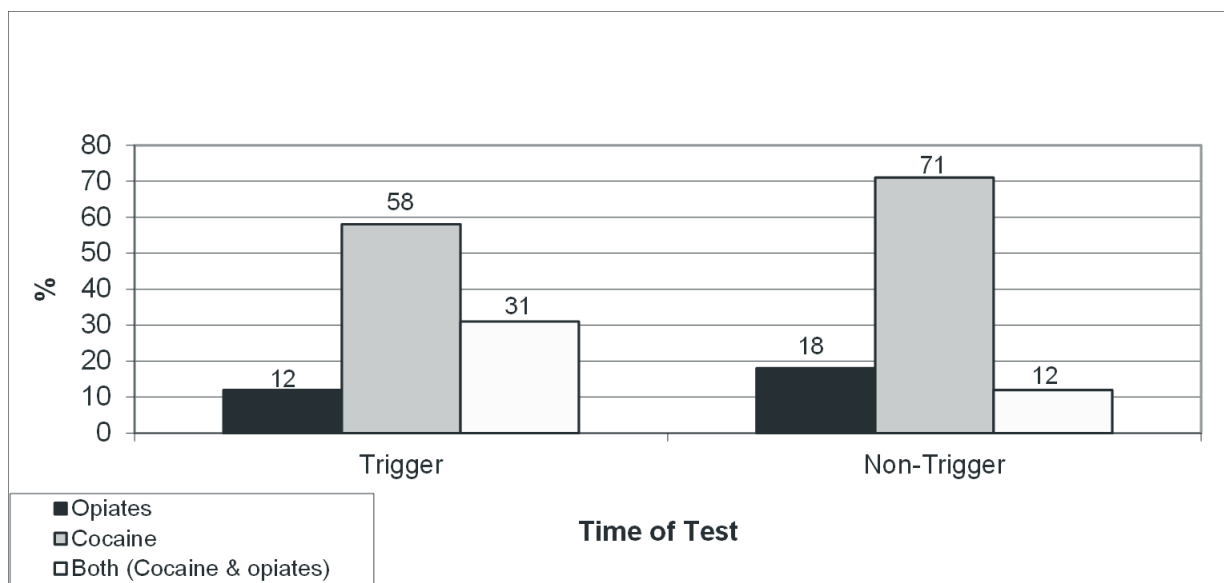
During the weekend cocaine was the most frequent positive drug test result at Wavertree custody suite (74%) as well as being quite likely to occur during the week (50%). Positive test results for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur during the week (36%) than during the weekend (17%) and positive test results for opiates only were slightly more likely to occur during the week than at weekends (14% and 9% respectively; Figure 22).

**Figure 22: Wavertree Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



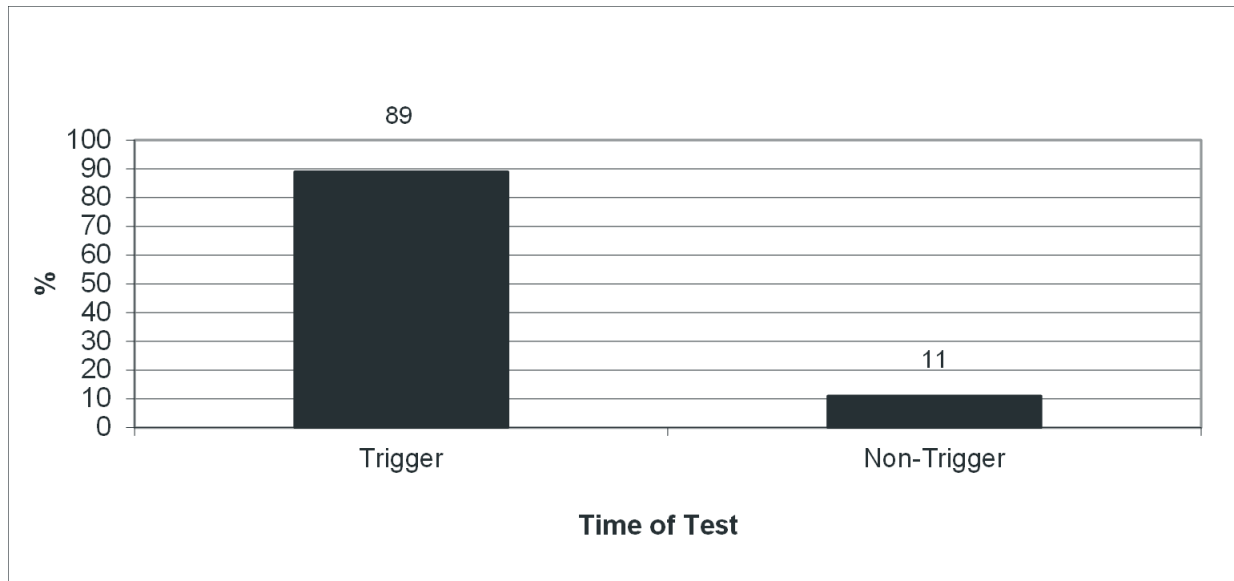
The most frequent positive test result for a trigger offence was for cocaine (58%). Positive tests results for both (cocaine & opiates) or opiates only were also likely to occur but at much lower levels (31% and 12% respectively). The majority of positive tests for non-trigger offences were for cocaine only (71%; Figure 23).

**Figure 23: Wavertree Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The majority of negative drug test results at Wavertree custody suite were for trigger offences (89%; Figure 24).

Figure 24: Wavertree Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)



## 4. SEFTON

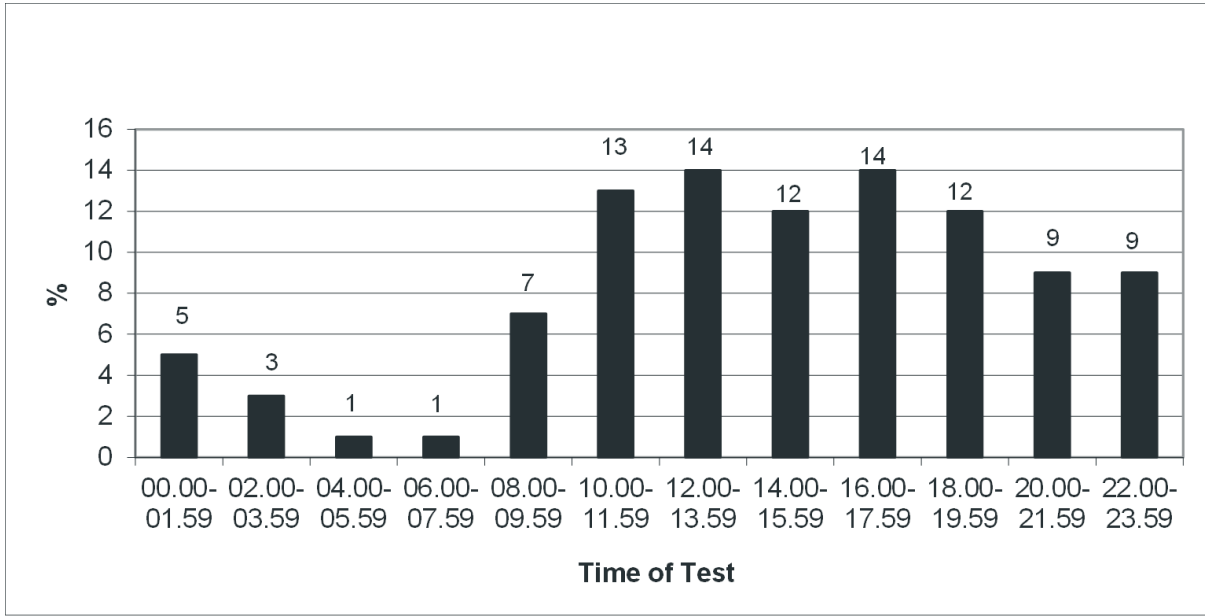
Drug tests in Sefton are mostly carried out on males aged between 18 -24 years of age who are resident in Sefton and are white European. These clients are mostly drug tested due to committing a trigger offence and the majority test positive for cocaine use.

**Table 3: Drug Testing Demographic across Sefton**

	Copy Lane	Southport	Sefton Total
<b>No of Attempted Tests</b>	1845	317	2162
<b>No of Successful Tests (%)</b>	1822 (98.8%)	315 (99.4%)	2137 (98.8%)
<b>Age (%)</b>			
<b>18 – 24</b>	31.1%	34.0%	31.7%
<b>25 – 29</b>	17.7%	13.7%	17.1%
<b>30 – 34</b>	14.1%	14.9%	14.2%
<b>35 – 39</b>	10.9%	11.1%	10.9%
<b>40 – 44</b>	11.7%	8.9%	11.3%
<b>45 – 49</b>	8.7%	8.6%	8.7%
<b>50+</b>	5.5%	8.9%	6.0%
<b>Gender (%)</b>			
<b>Male</b>	82.3%	85.1%	82.7%
<b>Female</b>	17.7%	14.9%	17.3%
<b>Ethnicity (%)</b>			
<b>White European</b>	98.0%	96.5%	97.8%
<b>Dark European</b>	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%
<b>Afro-Caribbean</b>	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%
<b>Other</b>	0.4%	1.0%	0.5%
<b>Unknown</b>	0.6%	1.3%	0.7%
<b>D(A)AT of Residency (%)</b>			
<b>Knowsley</b>	13.1%	4.8%	11.8%
<b>Liverpool</b>	19.0%	11.4%	17.9%
<b>Sefton</b>	51.2%	63.2%	53.0%
<b>St Helens</b>	0.5%	1.0%	0.6%
<b>Wirral</b>	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%
<b>Other</b>	4.4%	8.9%	5.1%
<b>Blank field</b>	11.3%	10.2%	11.1%
<b>Test Results (%)</b>			
<b>Negative</b>	56.7%	53.7%	56.2%
<b>Positive</b>	43.3%	46.3%	43.8%
<b>Cocaine</b>	56.9%	49.3%	55.7%
<b>Opiates</b>	11.5%	11.0%	11.4%
<b>Both (Cocaine and Opiates)</b>	31.6%	39.7%	32.8%
<b>Offences (%)</b>			
<b>Trigger</b>	91.7%	90.2%	91.4%
<b>Non-Trigger</b>	8.3%	9.8%	8.6%

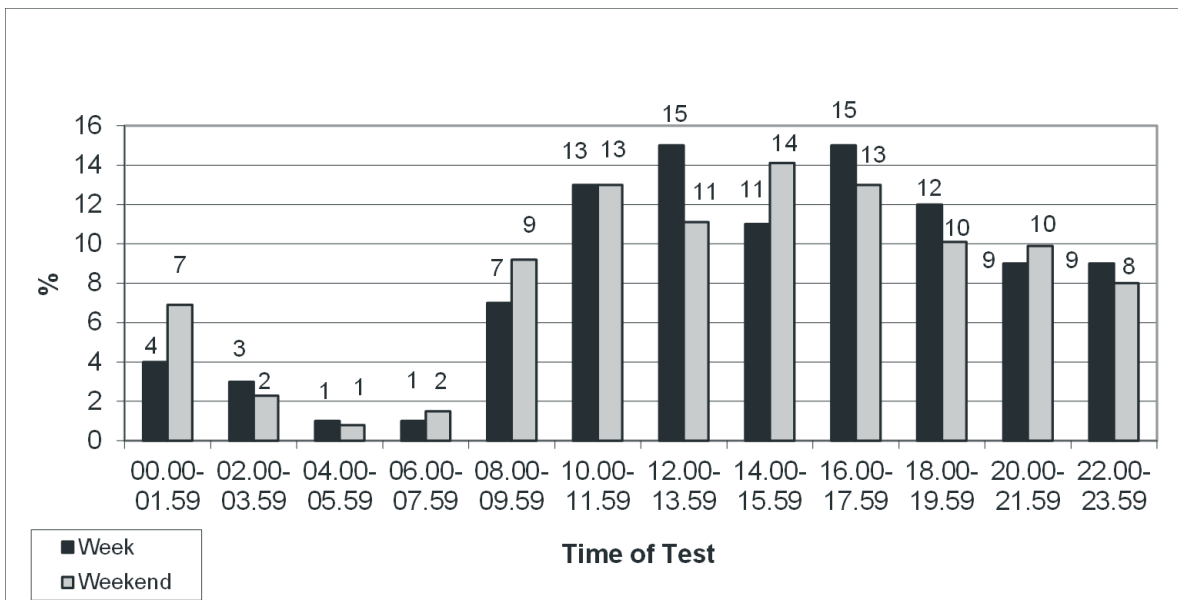
There were a total of 1845 tests attempted in Copy Lane custody suite over the 12 month period. Of these tests, 1822 were completed (99%). Just under half of these drug tests (46%) were completed between the main staffed hours of 8am to 4pm. Peak times for tests were between 10am and 2pm (27%) and between 4pm and 6pm (14%; Figure 25).

**Figure 25: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



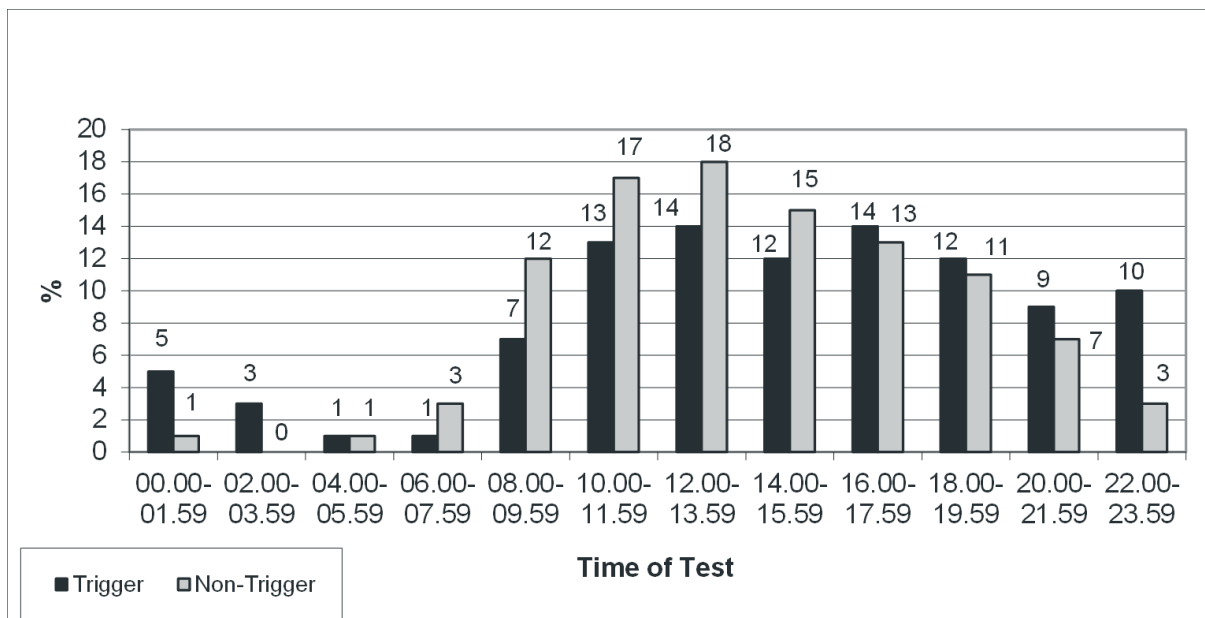
Of the total number of completed tests, 74% occurred during the week, with 26% taking place on the weekend. Peak times of testing during the week were between 10am and 2pm (28%) and between 4pm and 6pm (15%), whilst peak times at weekends were between 2pm and 6pm (27%). There were a greater proportion of drug tests attempted during the weekend between midnight and 10am (21%) compared to those attempted during weekdays over the same time period (16%; Figure 26).

**Figure 26: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



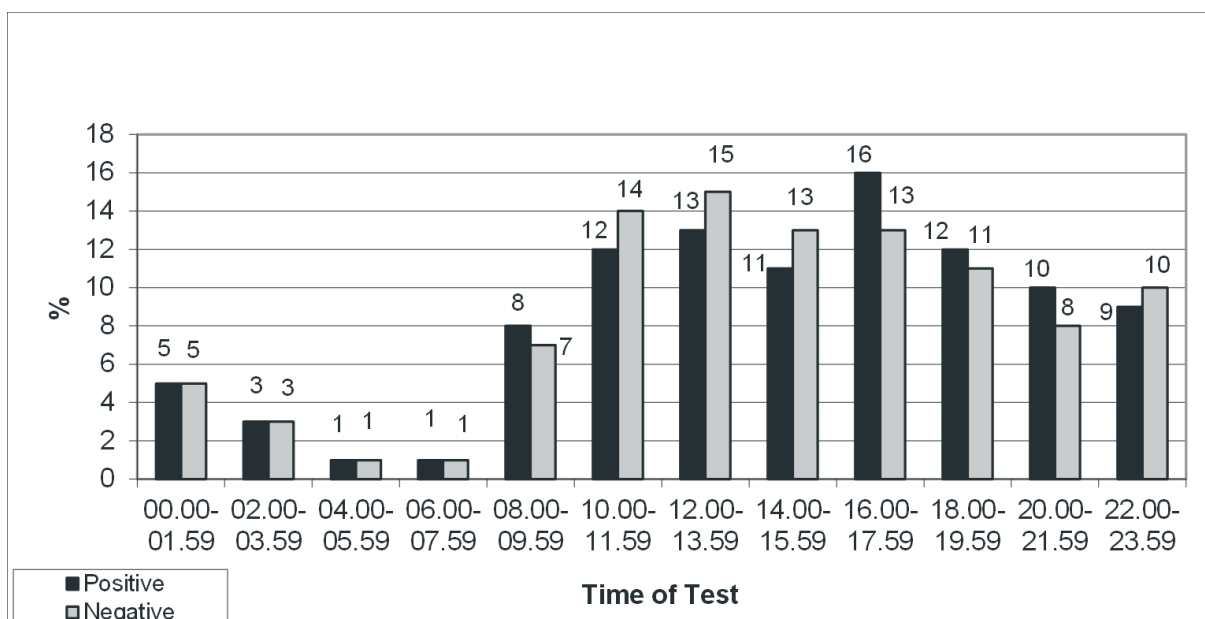
Of those who had a successful drug test, 8% were arrested for a non-trigger offence within the 12 month period. A higher proportion of tests for non-trigger offences occurred between 6am and 4pm (65%) compared to the proportion of tests for trigger offences during the same time period (47%). In contrast to this, almost a fifth of all tests for trigger offences occurred between 10pm and 4am (18%), more than four times the proportion of tests for non-trigger offences conducted within these times (4%, Figure 27).

**Figure 27: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13- Mar 14)**



Of the 1822 tests completed over the 12 month period, 789 returned a positive test result (43%). The trend in the time distribution of positive and negative tests was similar, with large proportions of both positive and negative tests occurring between 10am and 10pm (74% for both; Figure 28).

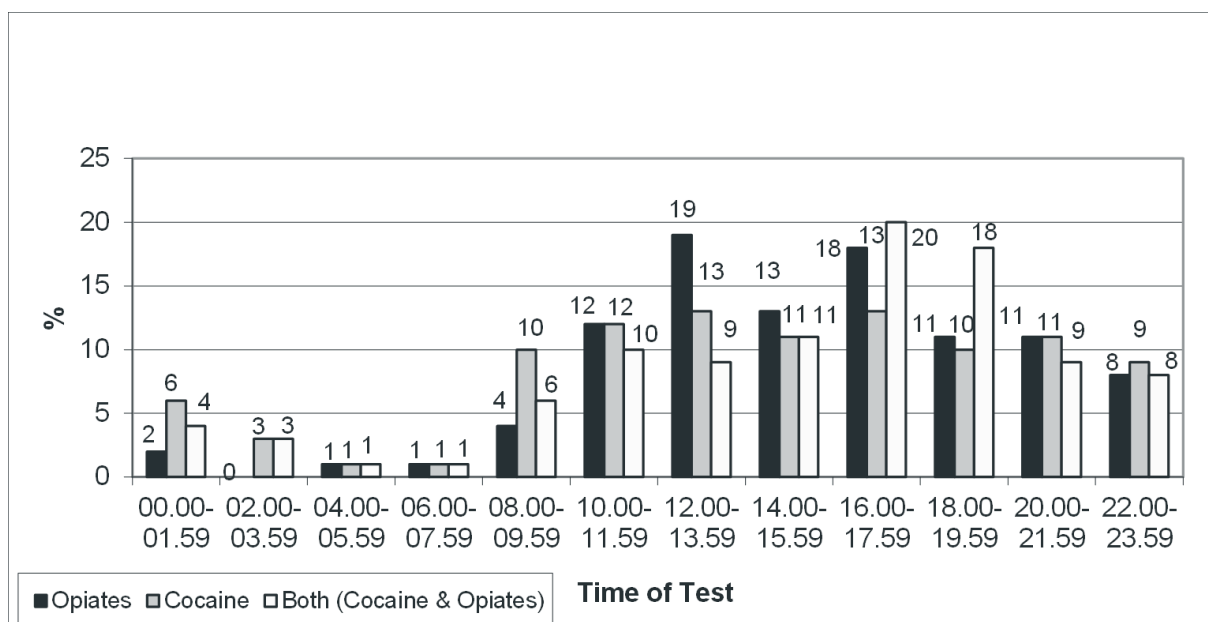
**Figure 28: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of those who tested positive in Copy Lane over the 12 month period, more than half (57%) tested positive for cocaine only, with 32% testing positive for both (cocaine & opiates). The remaining 12% tested positive for opiates only. Almost half (49%) of all positive tests for cocaine only occurred between 10am and 6pm. Peak times for testing positive for opiates only were between midday and 2pm (19%) and between 4pm and 6pm (18%). The peak times of testing for both (cocaine & opiates) were between 4pm and 8pm (38%).

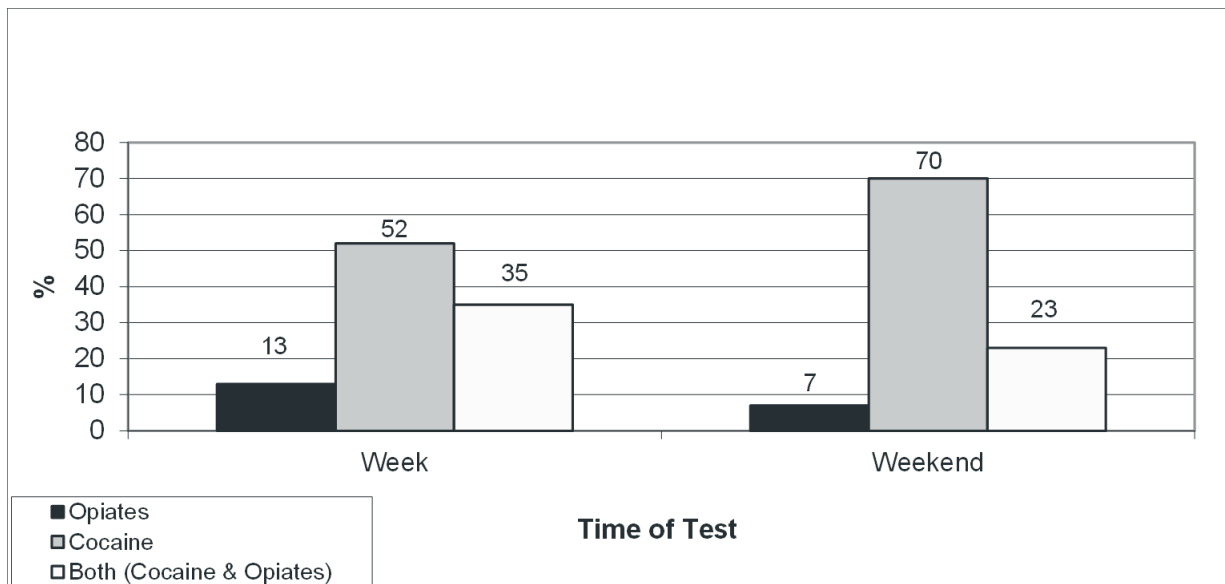
Positive tests for cocaine only were more likely to occur between 10pm and 2am (15%) and between 8am and 10am (10%) than positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates; 12% and 6% respectively), or for opiates only (10% and 4% respectively). Positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur between 4pm and 8pm (38%) than positive tests for opiates only (29%) or for cocaine only (23%). Positive tests for opiates only were more likely to occur between midday and 4pm (32%) than positive tests for cocaine only (24%) or positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) (20%; Figure 29).

**Figure 29: Time of Drug Testing at Copy Lane Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



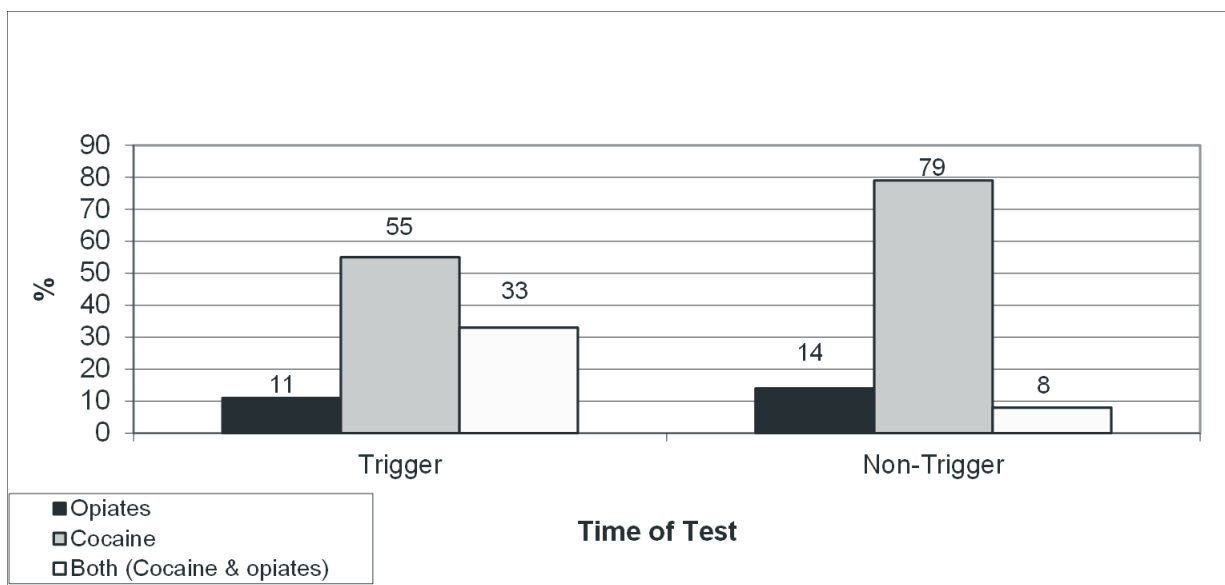
During the weekend cocaine was the most likely positive drug test result at Copy Lane custody suite (70%) with a similar, though less pronounced, pattern occurring during the week (52%). Positive test results for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur during the week (35%) than during the weekend (23%) while positive test results for opiates only were slightly more likely to occur during the week than at weekends (13% and 7% respectively; Figure 30).

**Figure 30: Copy Lane Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week versus Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The most likely positive test result for those arrested for trigger offences was for cocaine only (55%). Positive tests results for both (cocaine & opiates) or opiates only were also likely to occur but at much lower levels (33% and 11% respectively). The majority of positive tests for non-trigger offences were for cocaine only (79%; Figure 31).

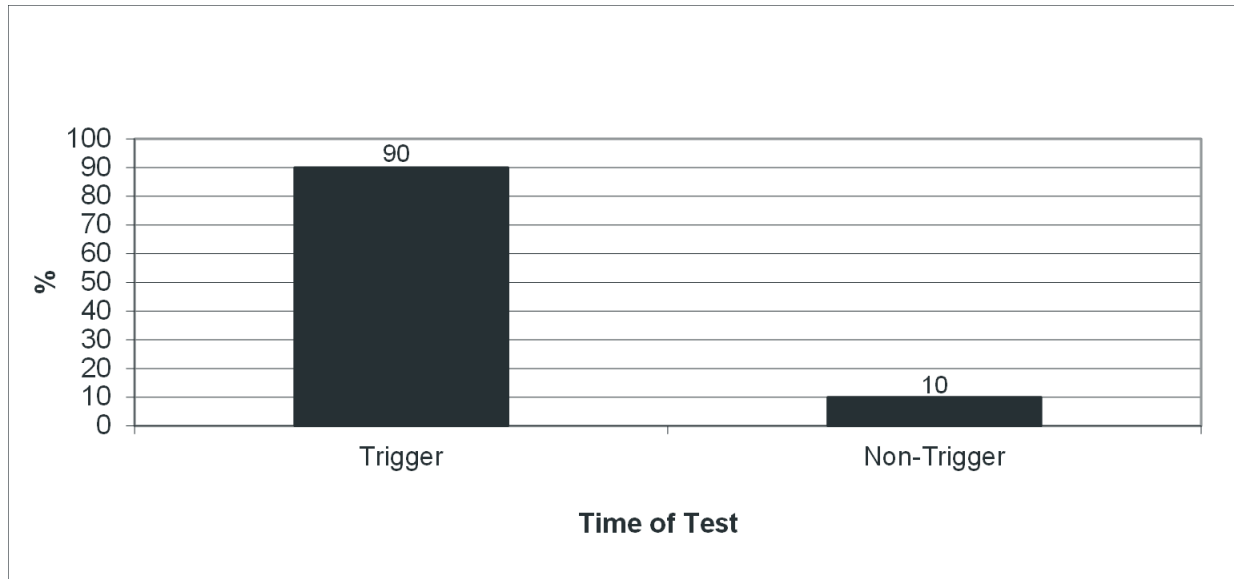
**Figure 31: Copy Lane Positive Drug Test by Trigger versus Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The majority of negative drug test results at Copy Lane custody suite were for trigger offences (90%; Figure 32).

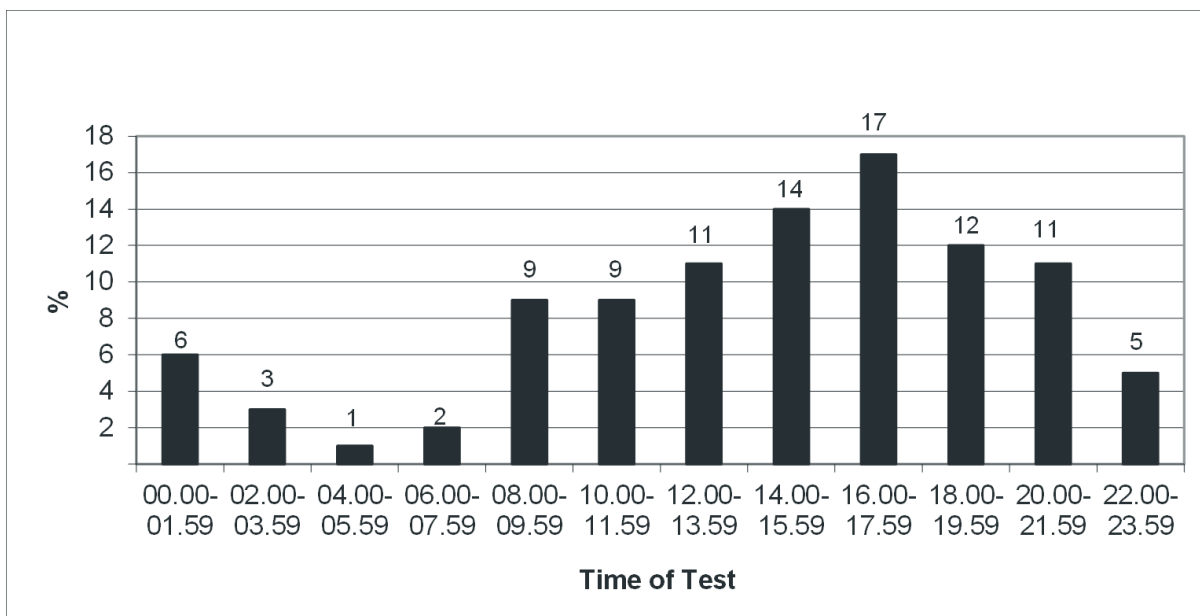


Figure 32: Copy Lane Negative Drug Test by Trigger versus Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)



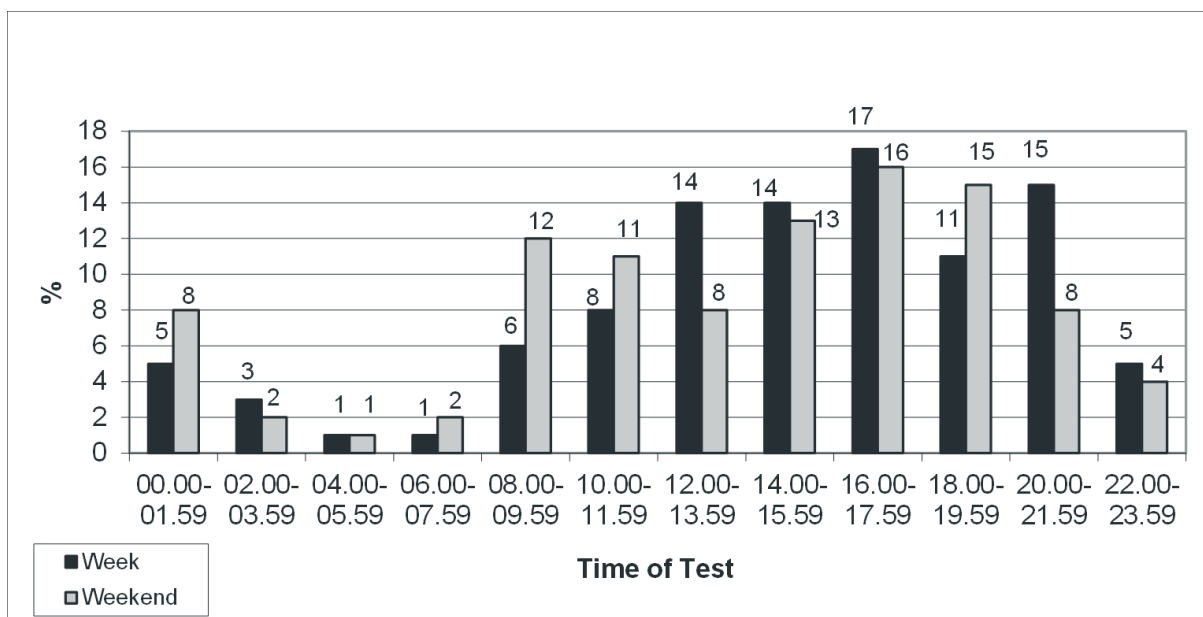
A total of 317 tests were attempted at Southport custody suite between April 2013 and March 2014, of which 315 (99%) were completed successfully. As the staffed hours in Southport custody suite fluctuated considerably across the 12 month period, from only being open during the weekend, to being closed and then re-opened to cover Copy Lane being closed between February and March 2014, main staffed hours were taken as those for Copy Lane custody suite, 8am to 4pm. During these hours, 43% of all drug tests were completed. The peak times of testing were between 2pm and 6pm (31%; Figure 33).

**Figure 33: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



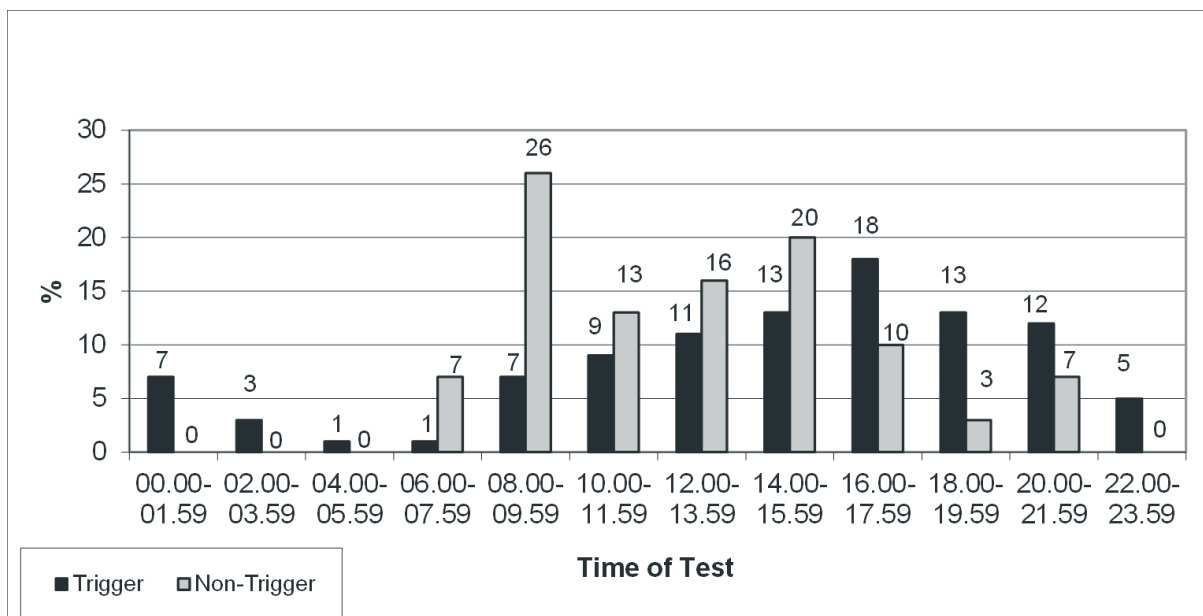
Of the 315 tests completed, a slightly larger proportion (55%) took place during the week than during the weekend. Peak times of testing during the week were between midday and 6pm (45%), whilst peak times at weekends were between 4pm and 8pm (31%). There were a greater proportion of drug tests attempted during the weekend between 6am and midday (25%) compared to the proportion of tests attempted during weekdays (15%; Figure 34).

**Figure 34: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



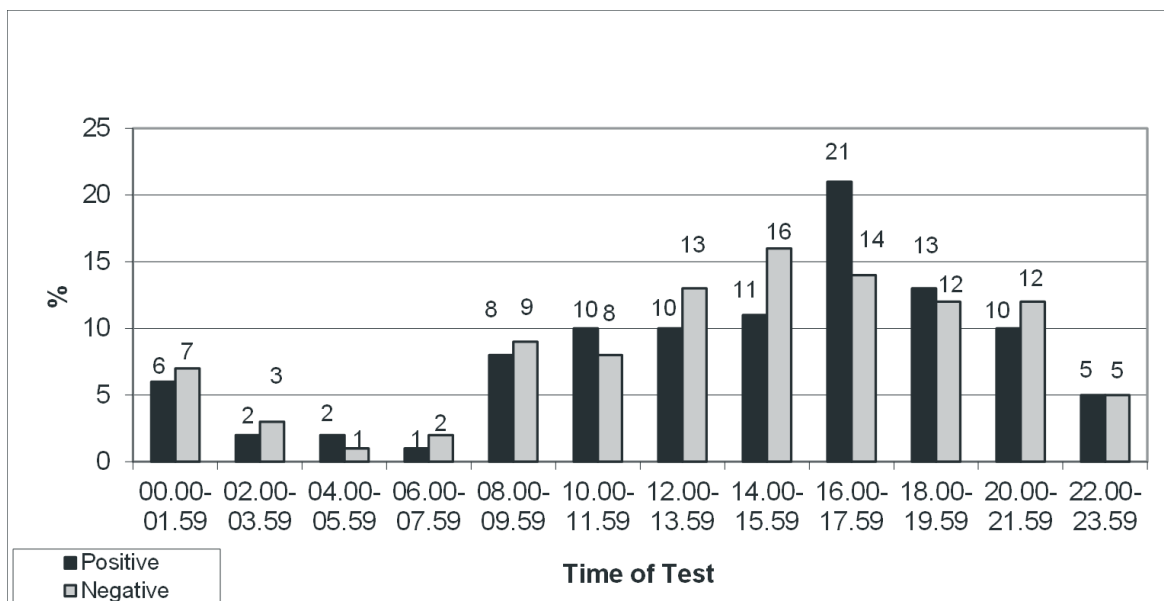
Of those who had a drug test completed, 10% were arrested for a non-trigger offence within the 12 month period. A higher proportion of tests for non-trigger offences occurred between 6am and 4pm (82%) than tests for trigger offences conducted during the same time period (41%). In contrast to this, more than half of tests for trigger offences occurred between 4pm and 2am (55%), compared to a much lower proportion of tests for non-trigger offences within these times (20%; Figure 35).

**Figure 35: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



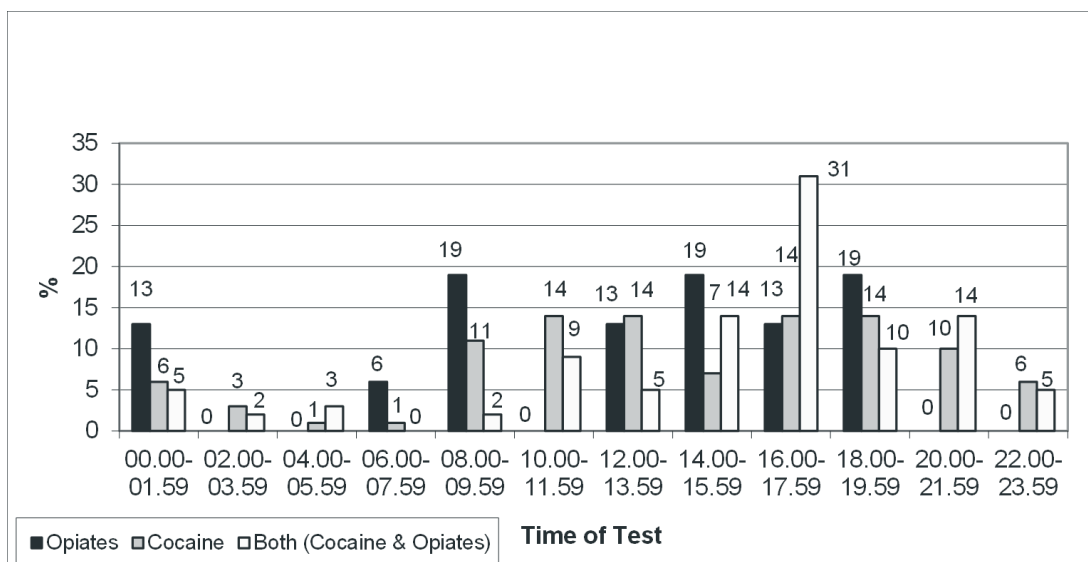
Of the 315 successful tests, 46% were positive. A higher proportion of positive tests occurred between 4pm and 6pm (21%) than negative tests (14%). A greater proportion of negative tests occurred between midday and 4pm (29%) than positive tests (21%; Figure 36).

**Figure 36: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



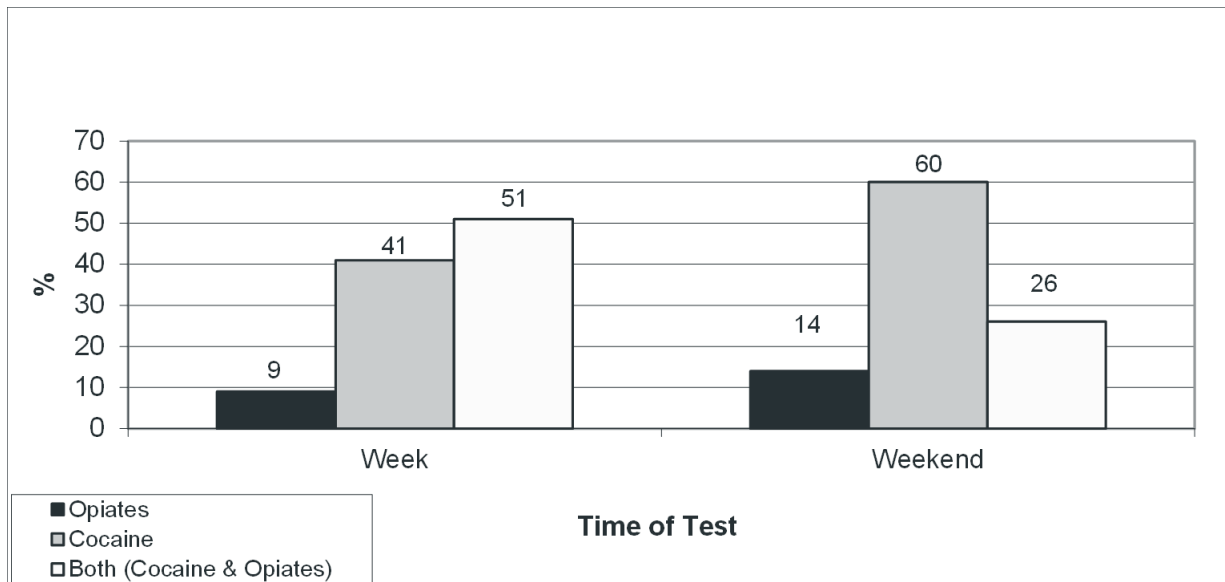
Of those who tested positive in Southport over the 12 month period, 49% tested positive for cocaine only, with 40% testing positive for both (cocaine & opiates) and 11% testing positive for opiates only. The peak times for cocaine only positive tests were between 8am and 2pm (39%). The peak time for those testing positive for opiates only were between 8am and 10am, 2pm and 4pm and between 6pm and 8pm (19% each). The peak time for those testing positive for both (cocaine & opiates) was between 4pm and 6pm (31%). Almost a third of all positive tests for cocaine only occurred between 10am and 2pm (28%) compared to positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates;14%) or opiates only (13%) for the same time frame. Positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur between 4pm and 6pm (31%) than positive tests for cocaine only (14%) or opiates only (13%) in the same time frame. Positive tests for opiates only were more likely to occur between 6am and 10am (25%) than positive tests for cocaine only (12%) or for both (cocaine & opiates) (2%); Figure 37).

**Figure 37: Time of Drug Testing at Southport Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



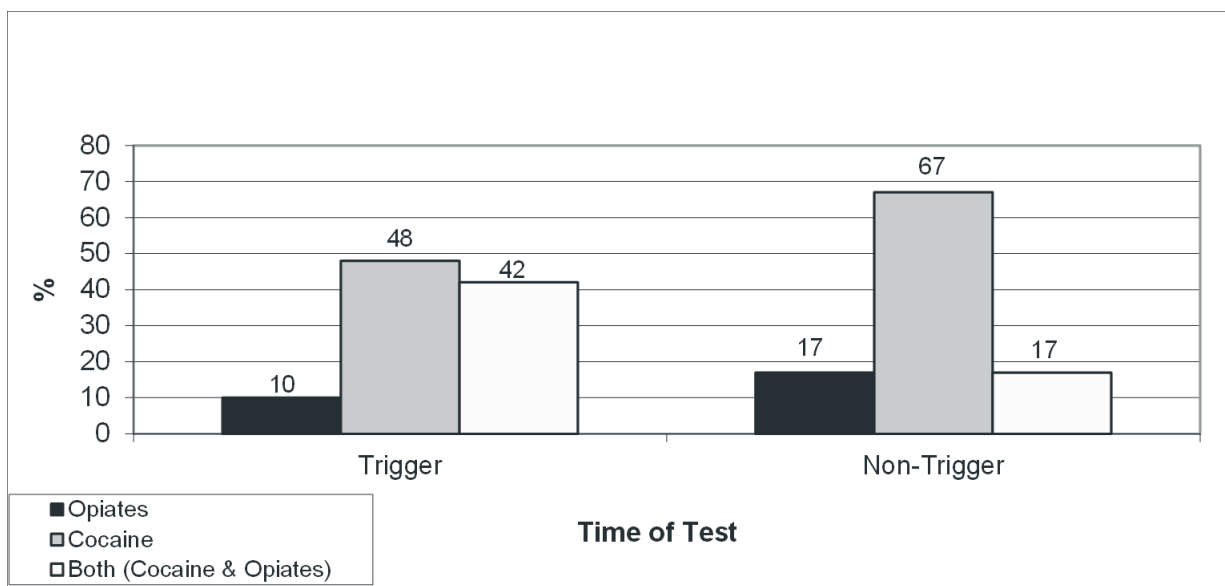
During the weekend cocaine was the most likely positive drug test result at Southport custody suite (60%) as well as being quite likely to occur during the week (41%). Positive test results for both (cocaine & opiates) were most likely to occur during the week (51%) but not as likely during the weekend (26%). In addition to this, positive test results for opiates only were slightly more likely to occur at weekends than during the week (14% and 9% respectively; Figure 38).

**Figure 38: Southport Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



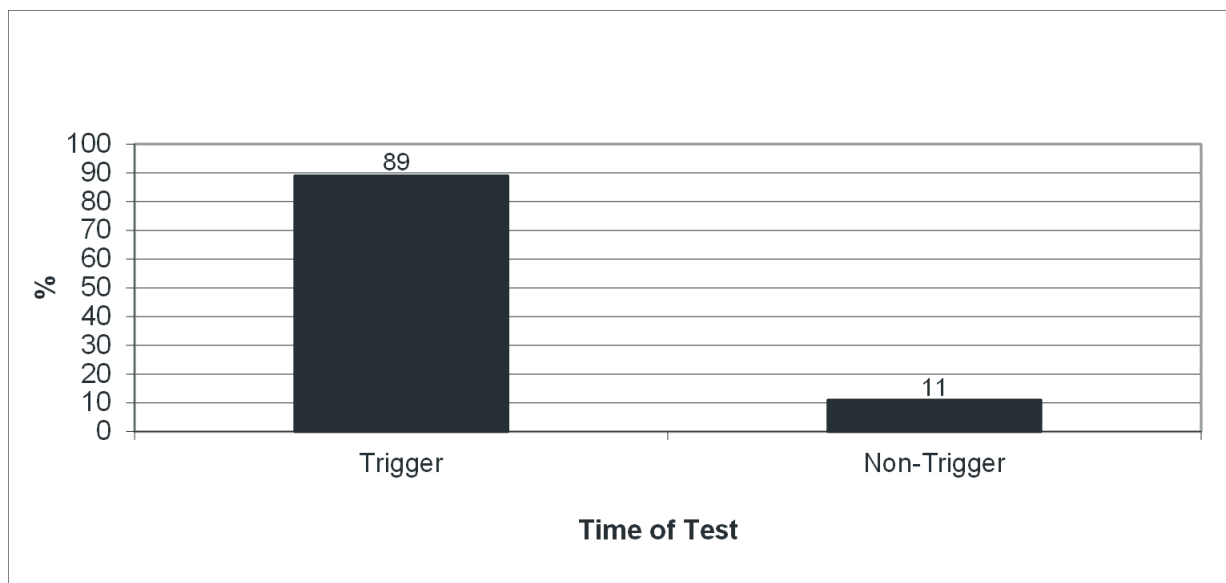
The most frequent positive test result for a trigger offence was either for cocaine only (48%) or for both (cocaine & opiates) (42%). Positive test results for opiates occurred at a much lower level (10%). The majority of positive tests for non-trigger offences were for cocaine only (67%; Figure 39).

**Figure 39: Southport Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The majority of negative drug test results at Southport custody suite were for trigger offences (89%; Figure 40).

Figure 40: Southport Negative Drug Test by Trigger versus Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)



## 5. ST HELENS

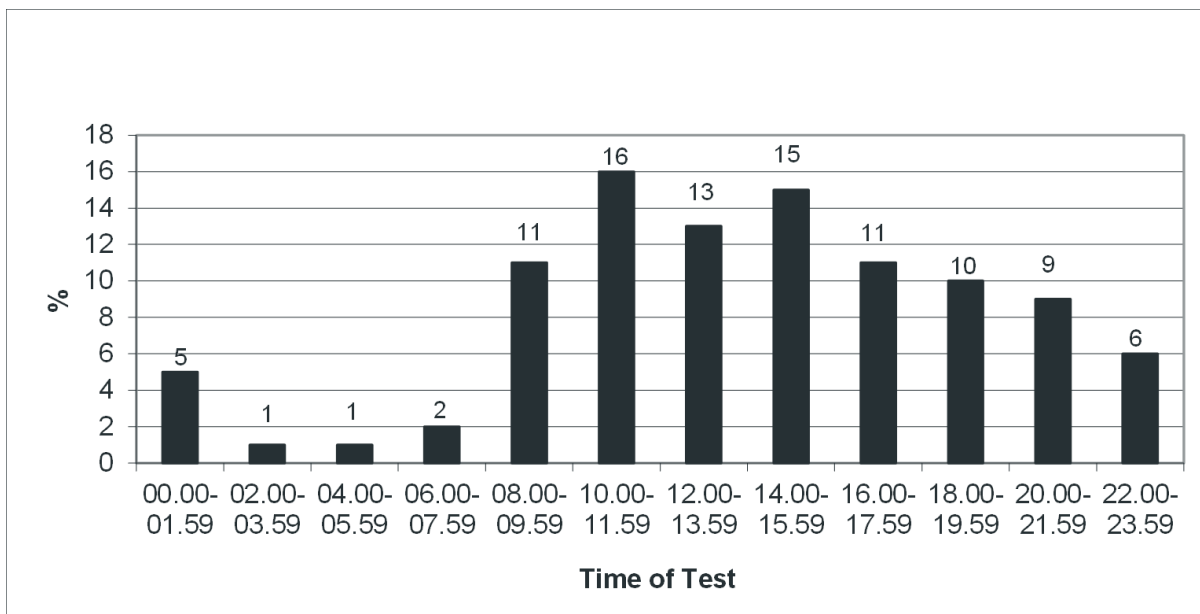
Drug tests in St Helens are mostly carried out on males aged between 18 -24 years of age who are resident in St Helens and are white European. These clients are mostly drug tested due to committing a trigger offence and the majority test positive for cocaine use.

**Table 4: Drug Testing Demographic across St Helens**

	St Helens Total
<b>No of Attempted Tests</b>	1923
<b>No of Successful Tests (%)</b>	1899 (98.8%)
<b>Age (%)</b>	
18 – 24	32.4%
25 – 29	19.0%
30 – 34	16.0%
35 – 39	11.0%
40 – 44	11.4%
45 – 49	4.3%
50+	6.0%
<b>Gender (%)</b>	
Male	83.2%
Female	16.8%
<b>Ethnicity (%)</b>	
White European	98.5%
Dark European	0.3%
Afro-Caribbean	0.6%
Other	0.2%
Unknown	0.4%
<b>D(A)AT of Residency (%)</b>	
Knowsley	12.2%
Liverpool	7.2%
Sefton	0.6%
St Helens	52.5%
Wirral	0.1%
Other	5.6%
Blank field	21.8%
<b>Test Results (%)</b>	
Negative	57.5%
Positive	42.5%
Cocaine	52.3%
Opiates	18.1%
Both (Cocaine and Opiates)	29.6%
<b>Offences (%)</b>	
Trigger	86.1%
Non-Trigger	13.9%

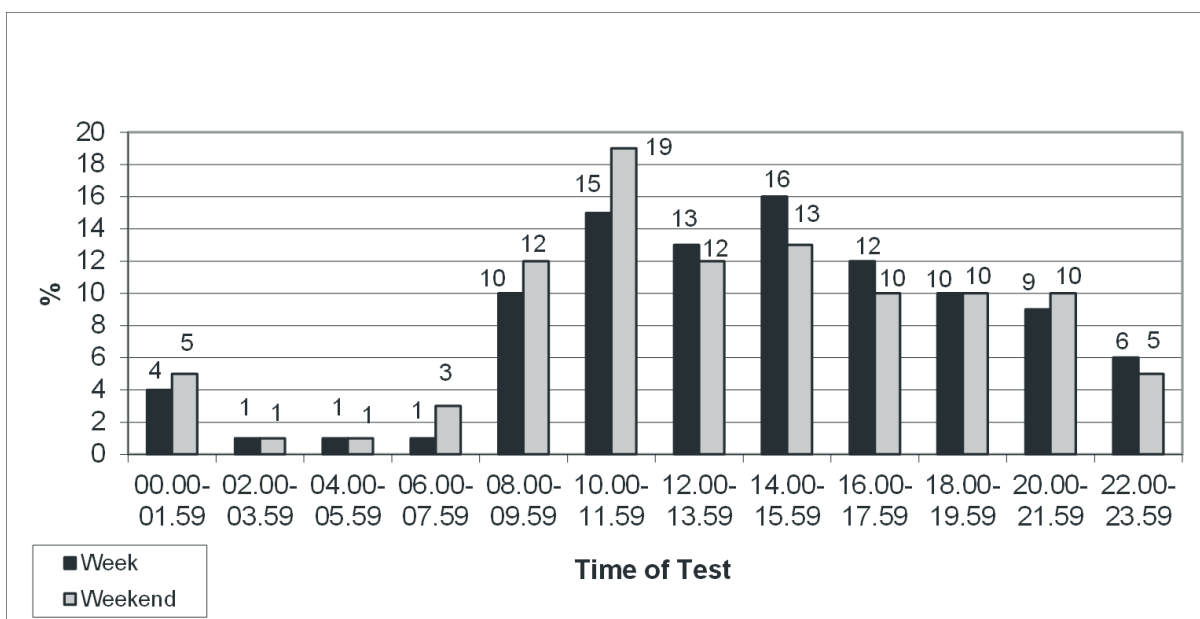
There were 1923 tests attempted at St Helens custody suite between April 2013 and March 2014. Of these, 1,899 were successfully completed (99%). Just over half of these tests (57%) took place between 9am and 5pm, the main staffed hours of the custody suite. Peak times for tests were between 8am and 4pm (55%; Figure 41).

**Figure 41: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of the 1898<sup>1</sup> tests, 1318 of them (69%) took place during the week. The trend in the time distribution of week and weekend tests was similar with peak times for weekday tests between 10am and 4pm (44%) and peak times for weekend tests between 10am and midday (19%; Figure 42).

**Figure 42: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



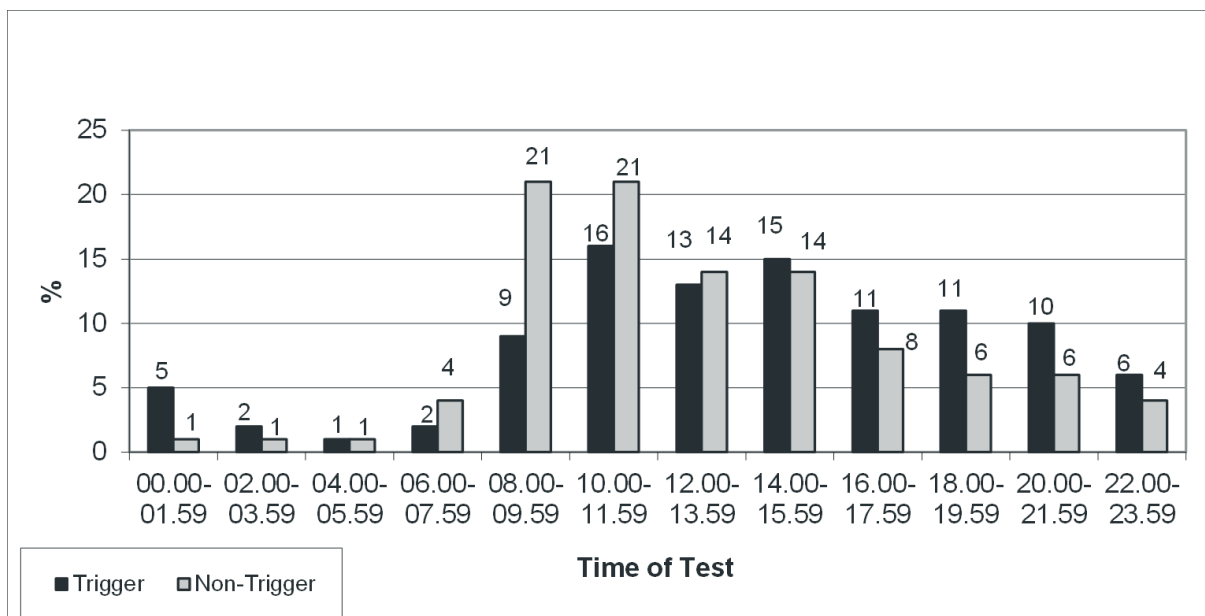
Of those who had a drug test completed, 14% were arrested for a non-trigger offence within the 12 month period. A higher proportion of tests for non-trigger offences occurred between 8am and midday (42%) compared to the

<sup>1</sup> One client did not have a time of test recorded against their drug test; therefore they were removed from all time related analysis.



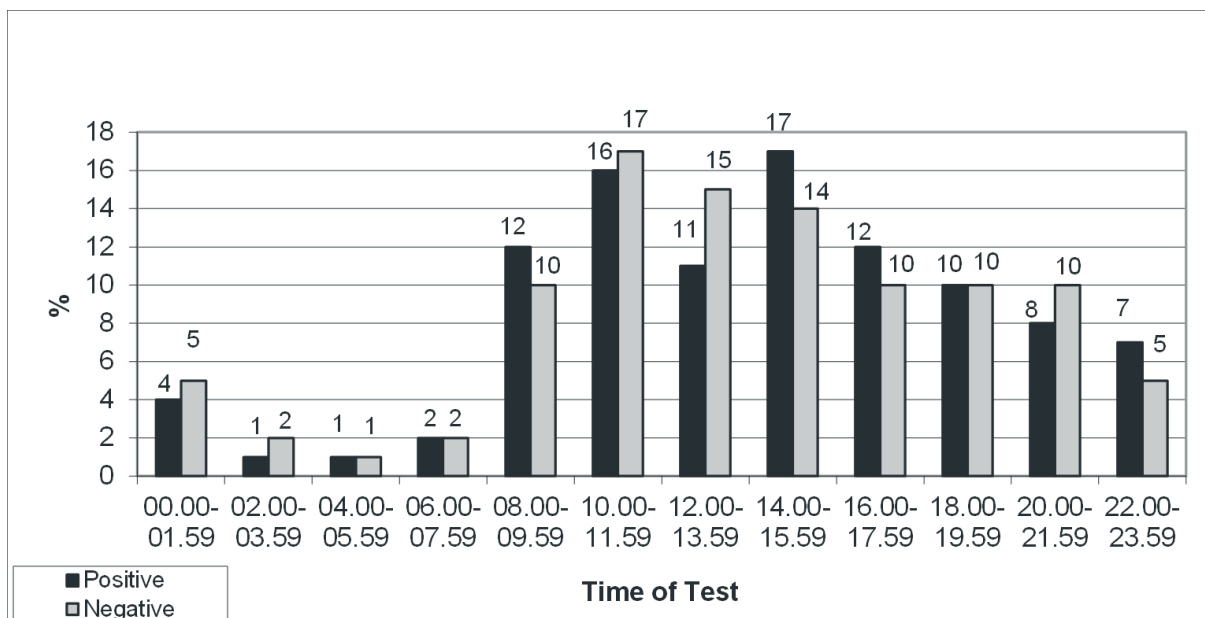
proportion of tests for trigger offences during the same time period (25%). In contrast to this, almost six in ten tests for trigger offences occurred between 2pm and 2am (58%), a higher proportion than that for non-trigger offences conducted within these times (39%; Figure 43).

**Figure 43: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of the 1898 successful tests, over four in ten were positive (43%). In general there was little difference in the time distribution of positive and negative tests. However the peak time for positive tests was between 2pm and 4pm (17%) while the peak time for negative tests was between 10am and midday (17%; Figure 44).

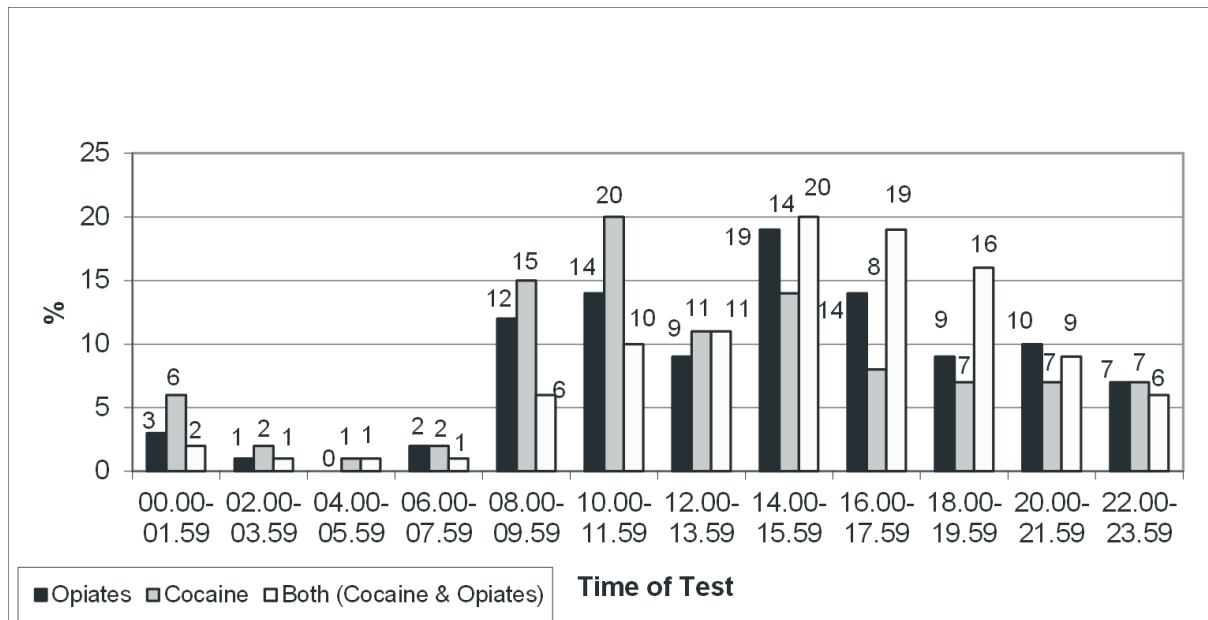
**Figure 44: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of those testing positive, just over half did so for cocaine only (52%), with 30% testing positive for both (cocaine & opiates) and the remaining 18% for opiates only. The peak times for cocaine only positive tests were between 8am and midday (35%), for both (cocaine & opiates) between 2pm and 6pm (39%) and for opiates only between 2pm and 4pm (19%). Positive tests for cocaine only were more likely to occur between 8am and midday (35%) than positive

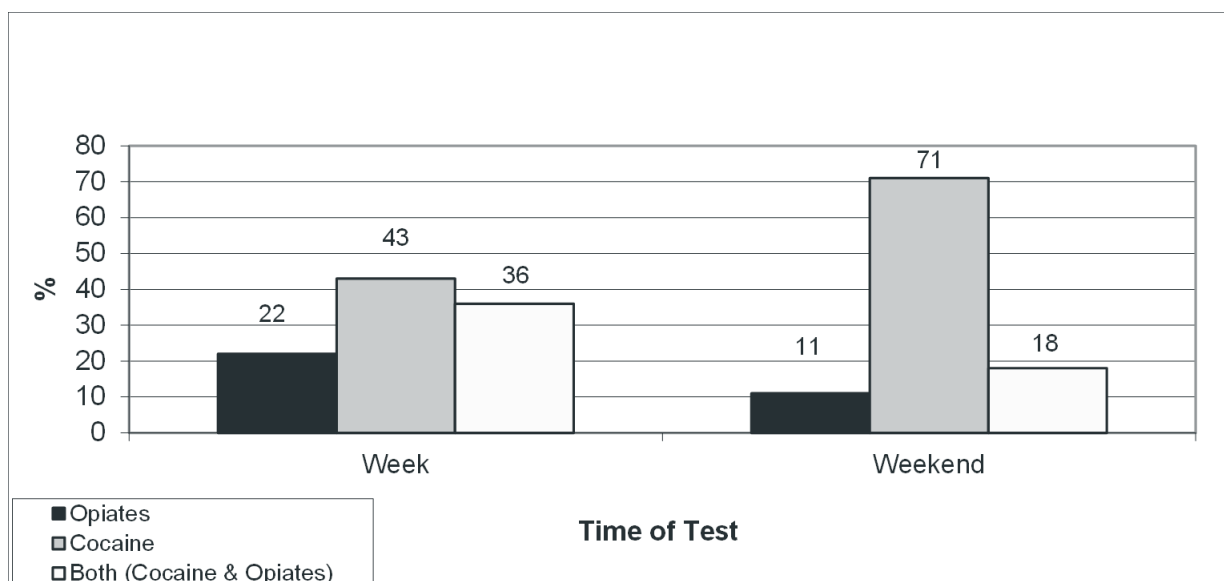
tests for opiates only (26%) or both (cocaine & opiates) (16%). In general positive tests for opiates only were as likely to occur as either of the other two drug groups across the different time distributions. Positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur between 4pm and 8pm (35%) than positive tests for cocaine only (15%) or opiates only (23%; Figure 45).

**Figure 45: Time of Drug Testing at St Helens Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



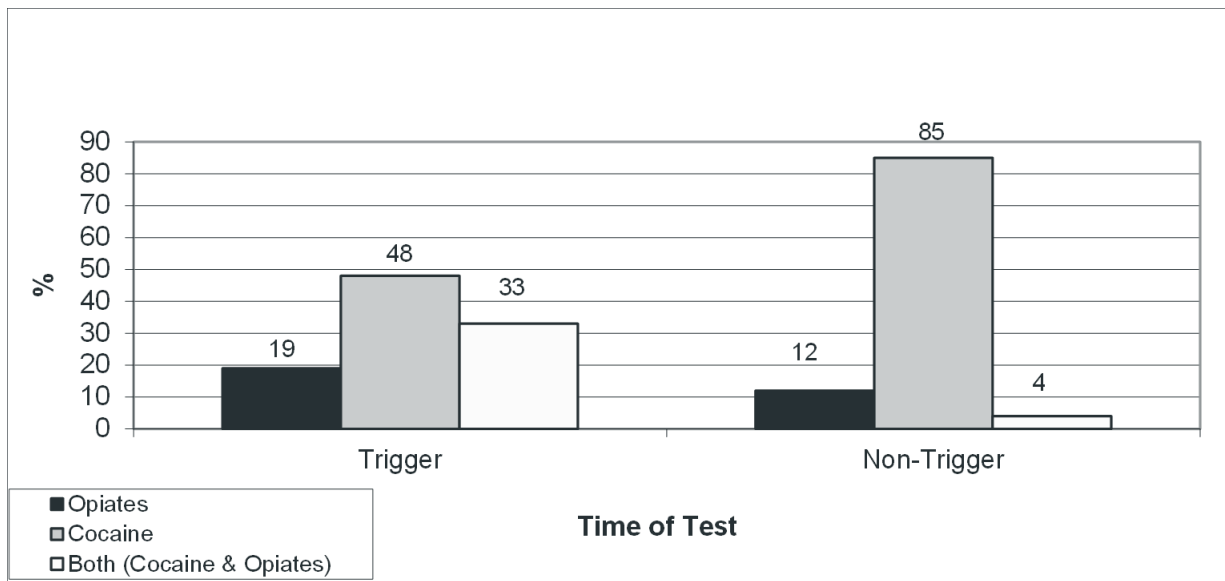
During the weekend cocaine was the most likely positive drug test result at St Helens custody suite (71%) as well as being the most likely to occur during the week (43%). Positive test results for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur during the week (36%) than during the weekend (18%) and positive test results for opiates only were twice as likely to occur during the week as at weekends (22% and 11% respectively; Figure 46).

**Figure 46: St Helens Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



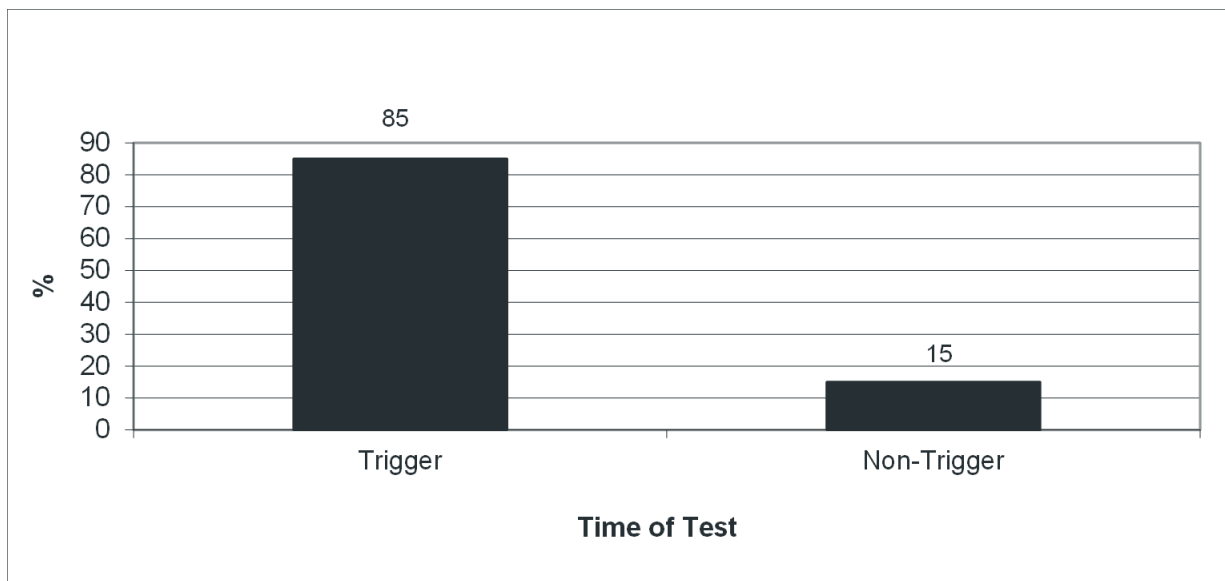
The most likely positive test result for a trigger offence was for cocaine only (48%). Positive tests results for both (cocaine & opiates) or opiates only were also likely to occur but at lower levels (33% and 19% respectively). The majority of positive tests for non-trigger offences were for cocaine only (85%; Figure 47).

**Figure 47: St Helens Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The majority of negative drug test results at St Helens custody suite were for trigger offences (85%; Figure 48).

**Figure 48: St Helens Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



## 6. WIRRAL

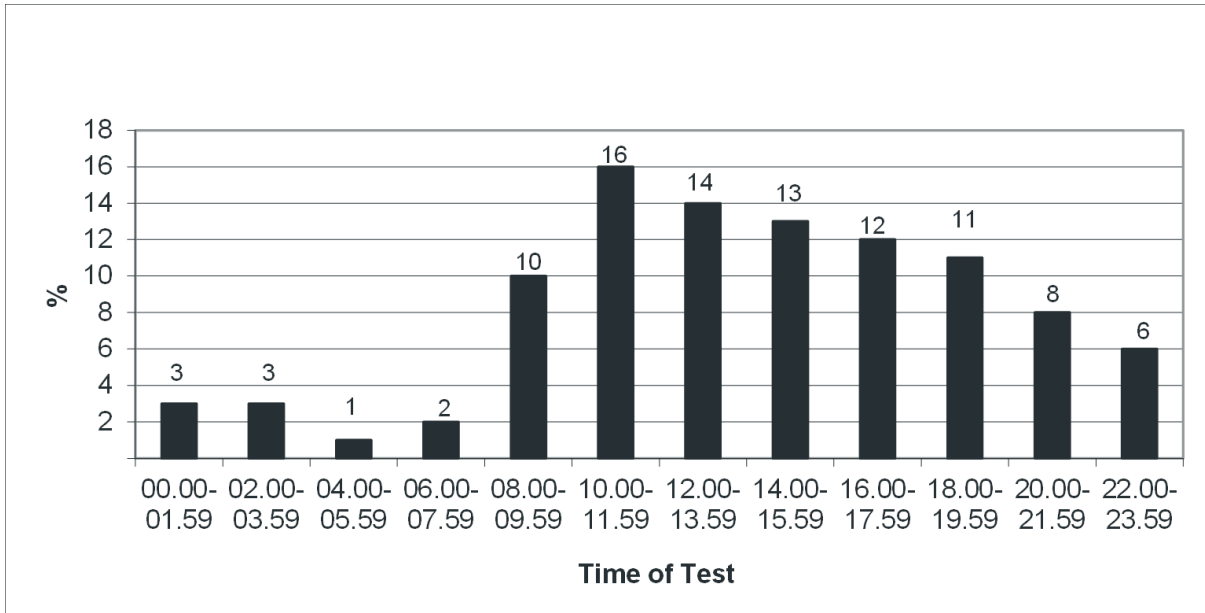
Drug tests in Wirral are mostly carried out on males aged between 18 -24 years of age who are resident in Wirral and are white European. These clients are mostly drug tested due to committing a trigger offence and the majority test positive for cocaine use.

**Table 5: Drug Testing Demographic across Wirral**

	Wirral Total
<b>No of Attempted Tests</b>	2395
<b>No of Successful Tests (%)</b>	2373 (99.1%)
<b>Age (%)</b>	
18 – 24	31.8%
25 – 29	16.1%
30 – 34	12.6%
35 – 39	12.3%
40 – 44	12.5%
45 – 49	8.3%
50+	6.4%
<b>Gender (%)</b>	
Male	82.1%
Female	17.9%
<b>Ethnicity (%)</b>	
White European	98.1%
Dark European	0.2%
Afro-Caribbean	0.8%
Other	0.5%
Unknown	0.4%
<b>D(A)AT of Residency (%)</b>	
Knowsley	0.4%
Liverpool	5.3%
Sefton	0.6%
St Helens	0
Wirral	73.5%
Other	2.4%
Blank field	17.7%
<b>Test Results (%)</b>	
Negative	61.9%
Positive	38.1%
Cocaine	48.2%
Opiates	20.1%
Both (Cocaine and Opiates)	31.7%
<b>Offences (%)</b>	
Trigger	86.8%
Non-Trigger	13.2%

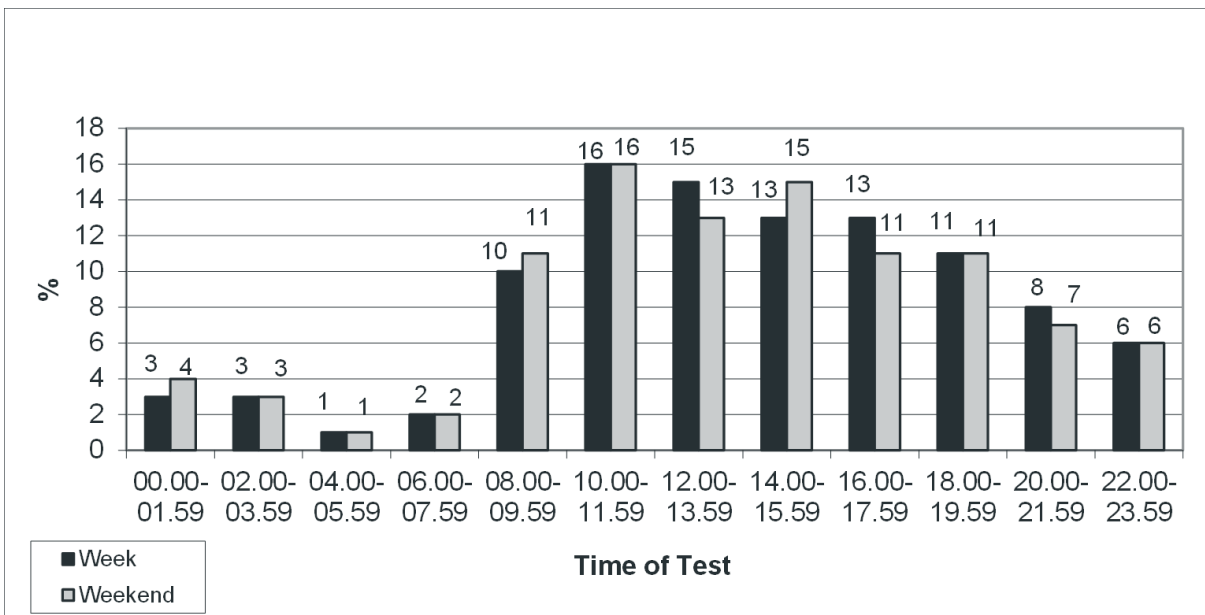
There were a total of 2395 tests attempted at Wirral custody suite between April 2013 and March 2014, of which 2373 (99%) were completed successfully. The majority of tests (84%) took place during the main staffed hours of between 8am and 10pm. Peak times for tests were between 10am and 2pm (30%; Figure 49).

**Figure 49: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



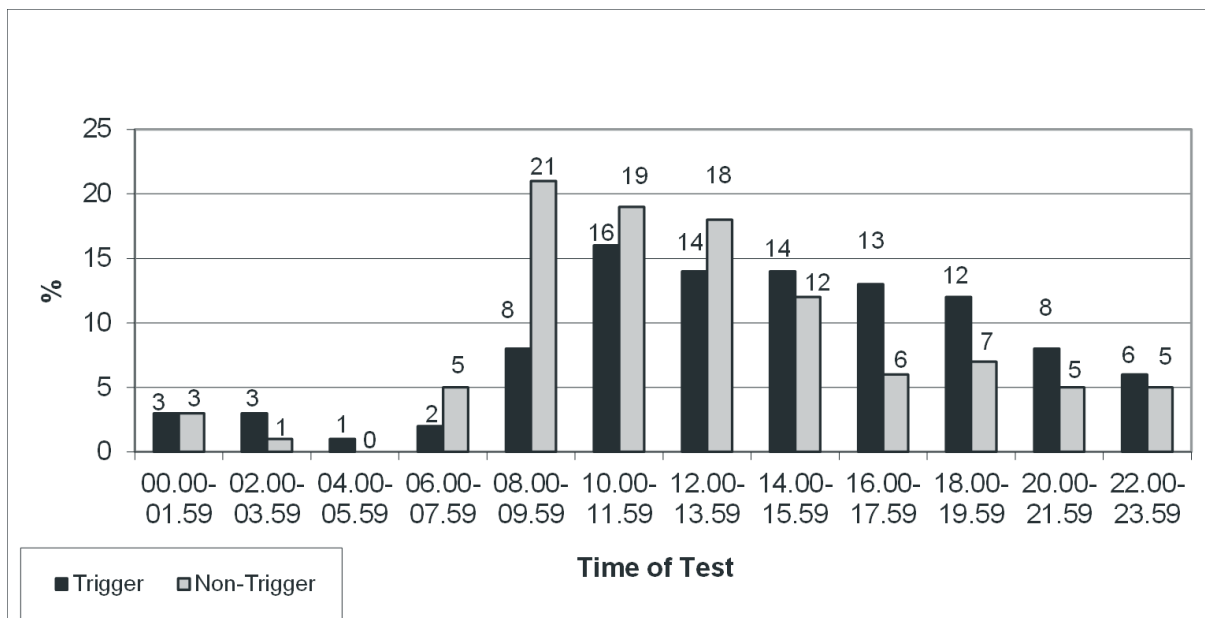
The majority of the 2373 tests that were completed (75%) took place during the week. There was little difference in the time distribution of weekday and weekend tests (Figure 50).

**Figure 50: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



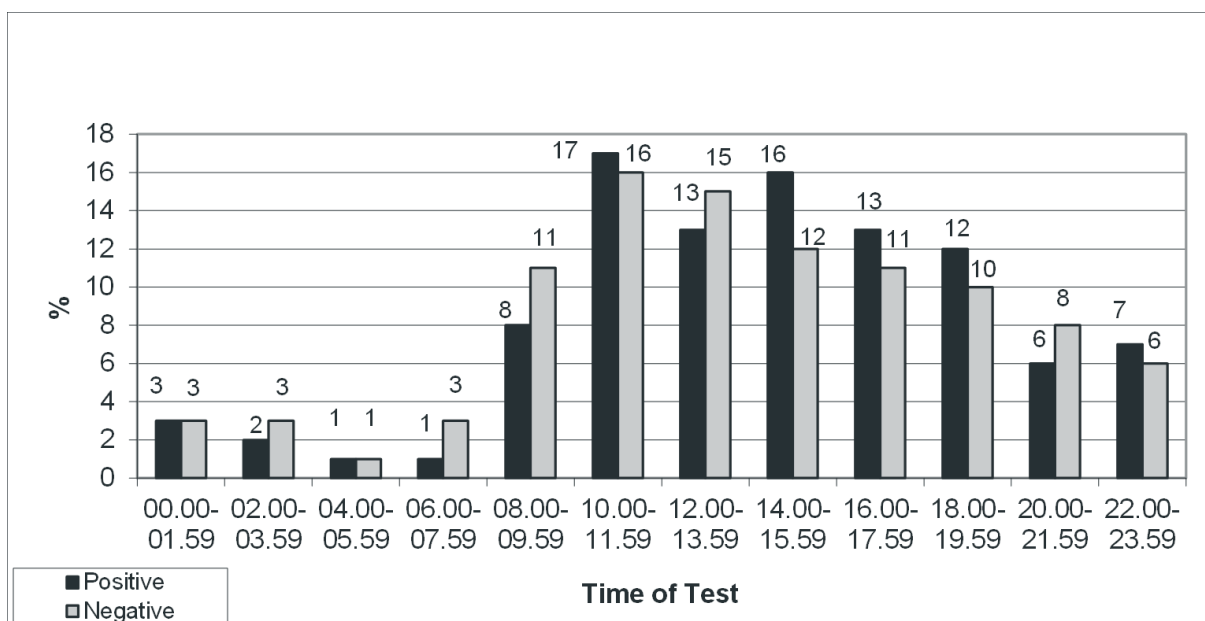
Of those who had a drug test completed, 13% were arrested for a non-trigger offence within the 12 month period. A far higher proportion of tests for non-trigger offences occurred between 8am and 2pm (58%) than trigger offences completed during the same time period (38%). In contrast to this, over half of all tests for trigger offences occurred between 2pm and midnight (53%), a far higher proportion than for tests conducted for non-trigger offences during these times (35%; Figure 51).

**Figure 51: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of the 2373 tests completed over the 12 month period, almost four in ten returned a positive test result (38%). The only marked differences in the patterns of test results were between 8am and 10 am, when a negative test was more likely to occur, and between 2pm and 4pm, when a positive test was more likely to occur (Figure 52).

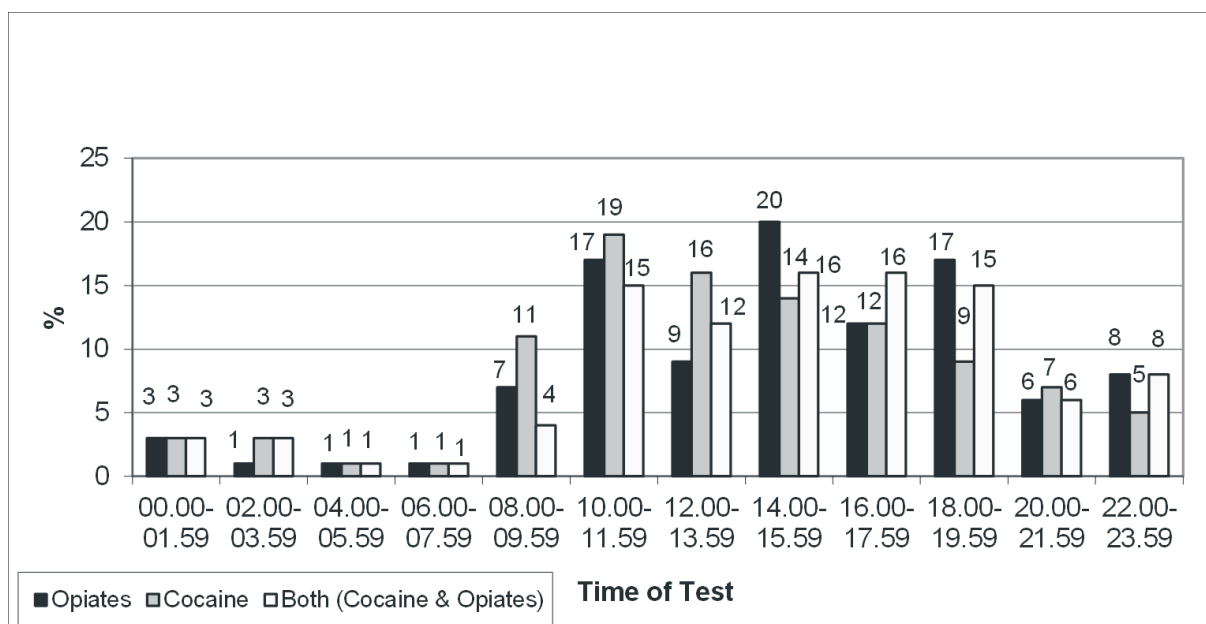
**Figure 52: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Of the 905 positive tests, 48% were for cocaine only with 32% for both (cocaine & opiates). The remainder of positive tests were for opiates only (20%). Peak times for positive tests for cocaine only were between 10am and

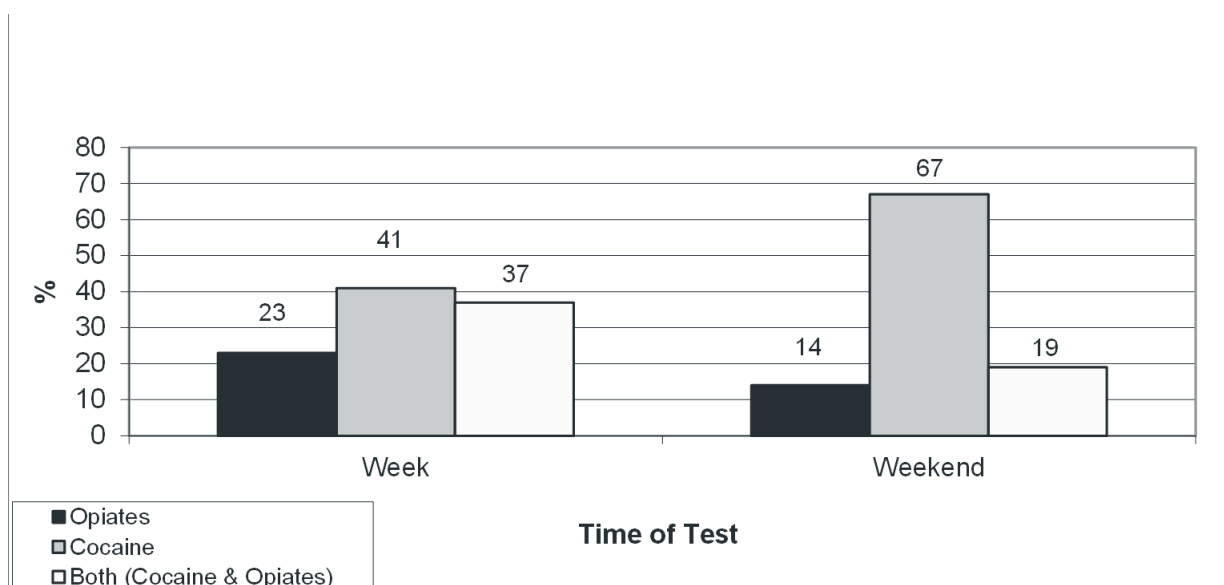
2pm (35%), for both (cocaine & opiates) between 10am and 8pm (74%) and for opiates only between 2pm and 8pm (49%). Positive tests for cocaine only were more likely to occur between 8am and 2pm (46%) than positive tests for opiates only (33%) or for both (cocaine & opiates) (31%) for the same time frame. Positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were slightly more likely to have occurred between 4pm and 6pm (16%) than positive tests for cocaine only or opiates only (12% respectively) in the same time frame. Positive tests for opiates only were more likely to have occurred between 2pm and 4pm (20%) than positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) (16%) or for cocaine only (14%) during the same time frame (Figure 53).

**Figure 53: Time of Drug Testing at Wirral Custody Suite by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



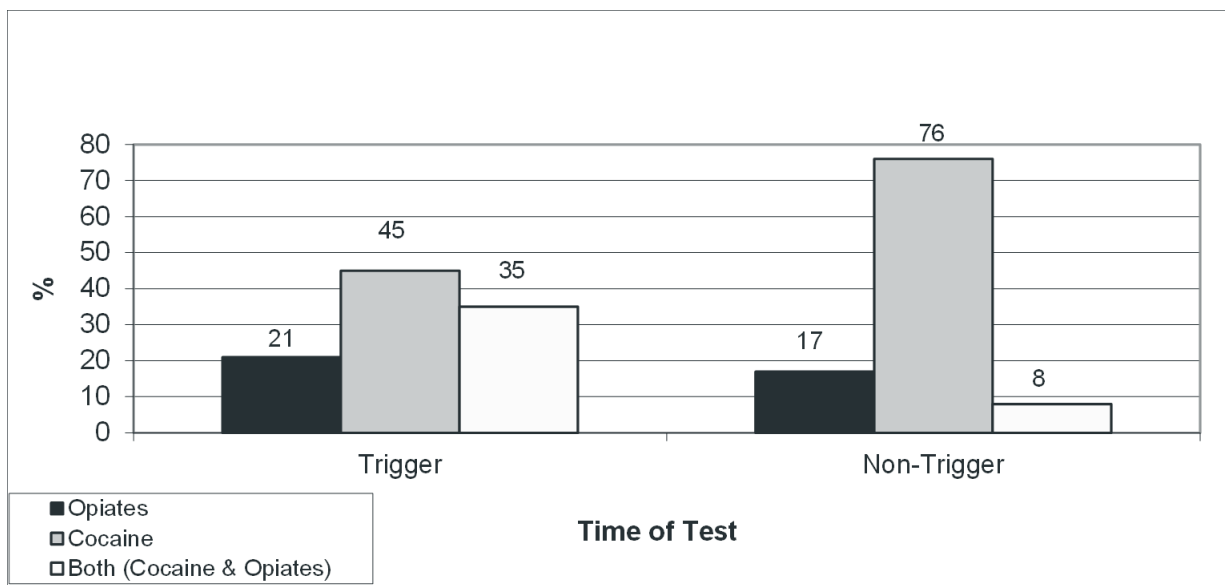
During the weekend cocaine was the most likely positive drug test result at Wirral custody suite (67%) as well as being quite likely to occur during the week (41%). Positive test results for both (cocaine & opiates) were more likely to occur during the week (37%) than during the weekend (19%) and positive test results for opiates only were more likely to occur during the week than at weekends (23% and 14% respectively; Figure 54).

**Figure 54: Wirral Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



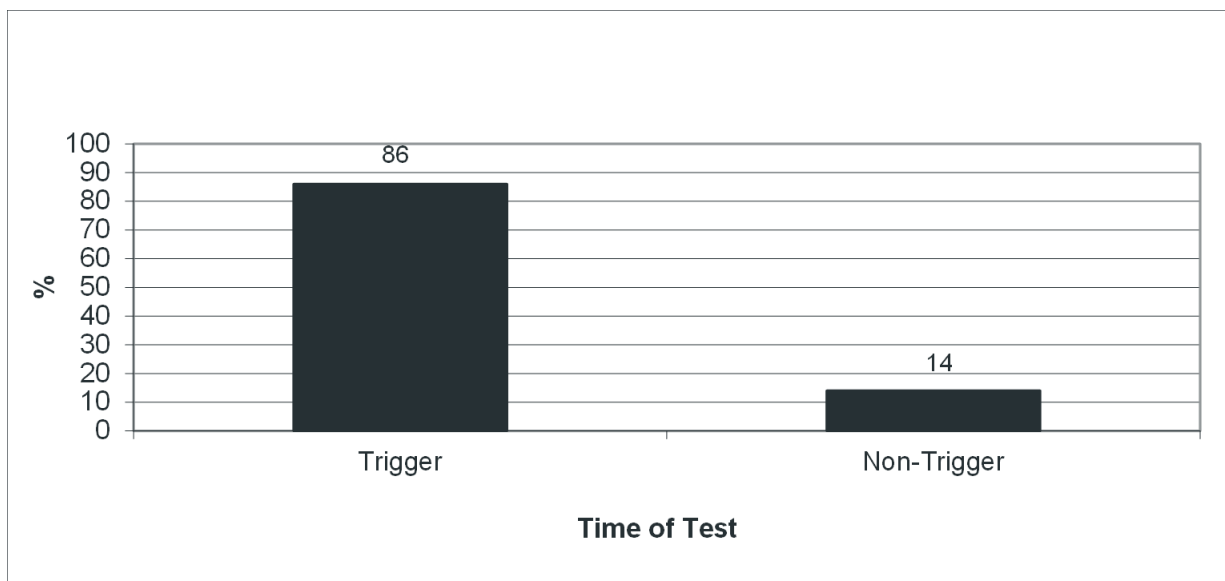
The most likely positive test result for a trigger offence was for cocaine only (45%). Positive tests results for both (cocaine & opiates) or opiates only were also likely to occur but at lower levels (35% and 21% respectively). The majority of positive tests for non-trigger offences were for cocaine only (76%; Figure 55).

**Figure 55: Wirral Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The majority of negative drug test results at Wirral custody suite were for trigger offences (86%; Figure 56).

**Figure 56: Wirral Negative Drug Test by Trigger versus Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**

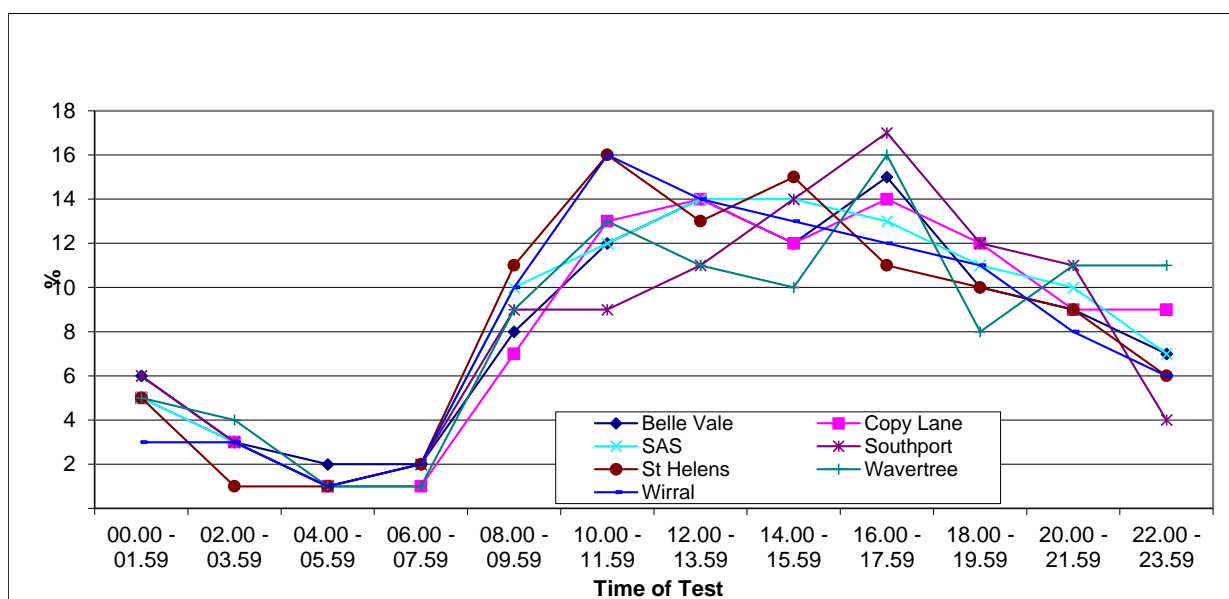




## 7. TRENDS ACROSS MERSEYSIDE

A total of 11835 drug tests were attempted in Merseyside between April 2013 and March 2014 of which 11632 were completed successfully (98%). Patterns for the time distribution of tests carried out in the seven suites were similar and tended to peak within staffed hours between 8am and 6pm, with the lowest proportion of tests attempted between 4am and 6am. The main differences between the time distribution of drug tests included a higher proportion of tests having occurred between midnight and 2am at Belle Vale and Southport custody suites than other suites and also a higher proportion of tests having occurred between 8am and midday at St Helens and Wirral custody suites than elsewhere. However all suites saw a steady decrease in the amount of tests carried out between 6pm and 8am compared to those carried out between 8am and 6pm (Figure 57).

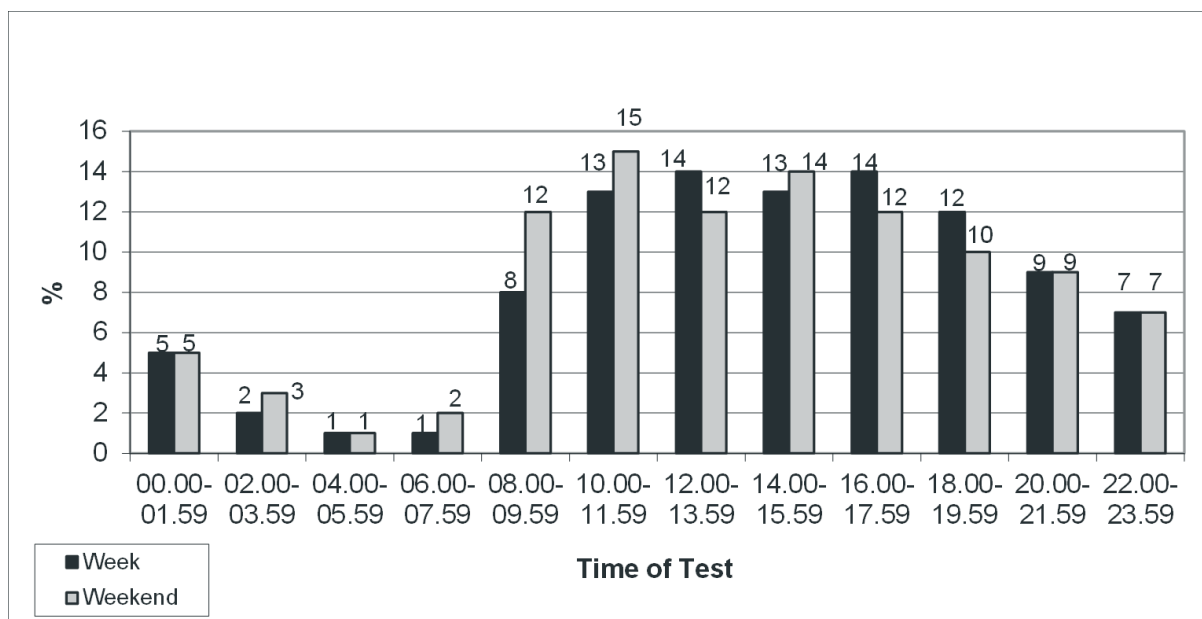
**Figure 57: Merseyside Time of Drug Testing by Custody Suite (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Note: 2 instances of no time of test provided in data were removed from this analysis

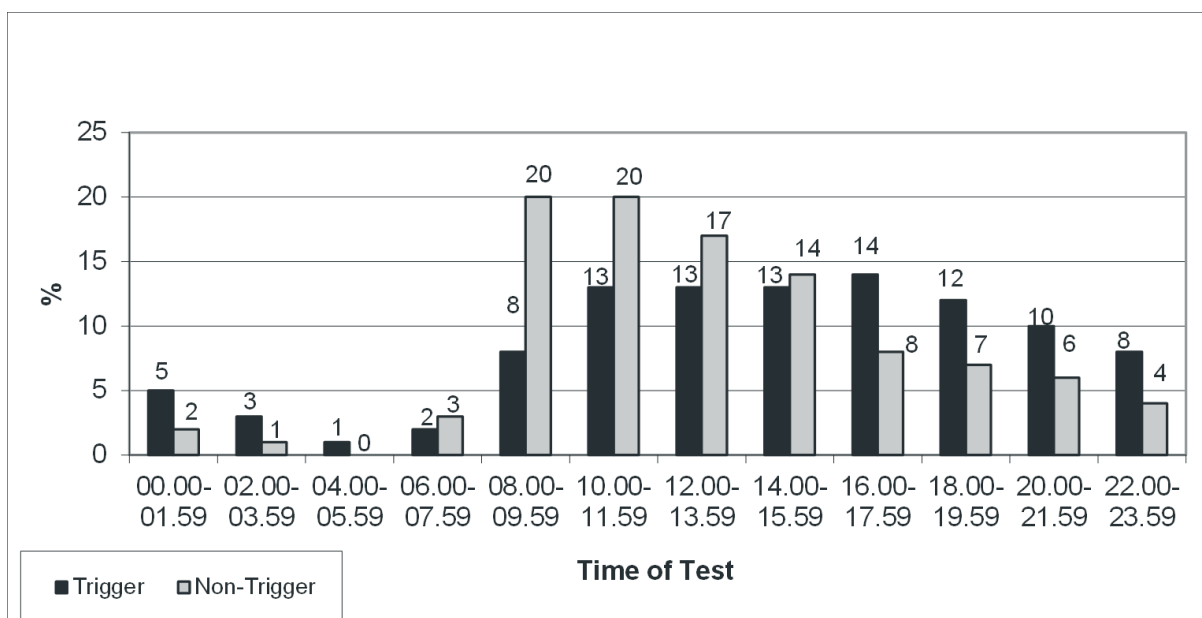
Of the 11630 tests completed throughout Merseyside in this period, 8258 (71%) took place during weekdays. The pattern of the times when drug testing occurred was similar during the week and at weekends. However, a slightly greater proportion of weekend tests occurred between 8am and midday (27%) than on weekdays over this time period (21%; Figure 58).

**Figure 58: Time of Drug Testing at Merseyside Custody Suites Week vs Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



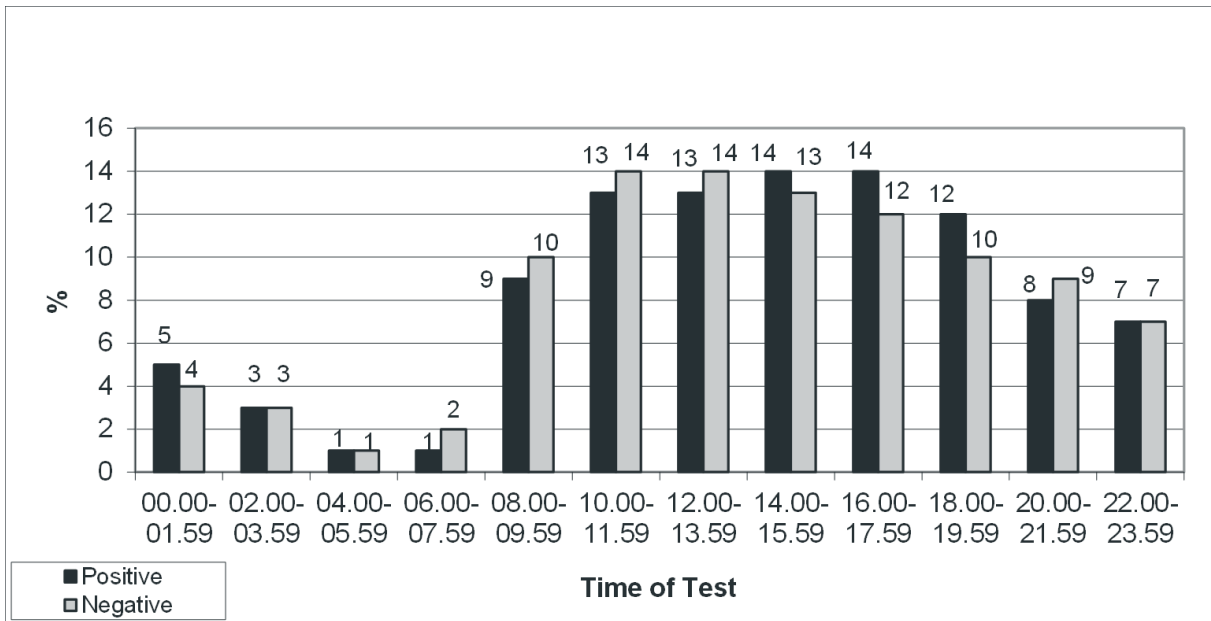
Overall just less than one in eight clients (12%), who had a drug test attempted, were arrested for a non-trigger offence in Merseyside between April 2013 and March 2014. A higher proportion of tests for non-trigger offences occurred between 8am and 4pm (71%) than those for trigger offences during the same time period (47%). In contrast to this, almost half of all tests for trigger offences occurred between 4pm and 2am (49%) compared to just 27% of tests for non-trigger offences during these times (Figure 59).

**Figure 59: Time of Drug Testing at Merseyside Custody Suites Trigger vs Non-Trigger Offence (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



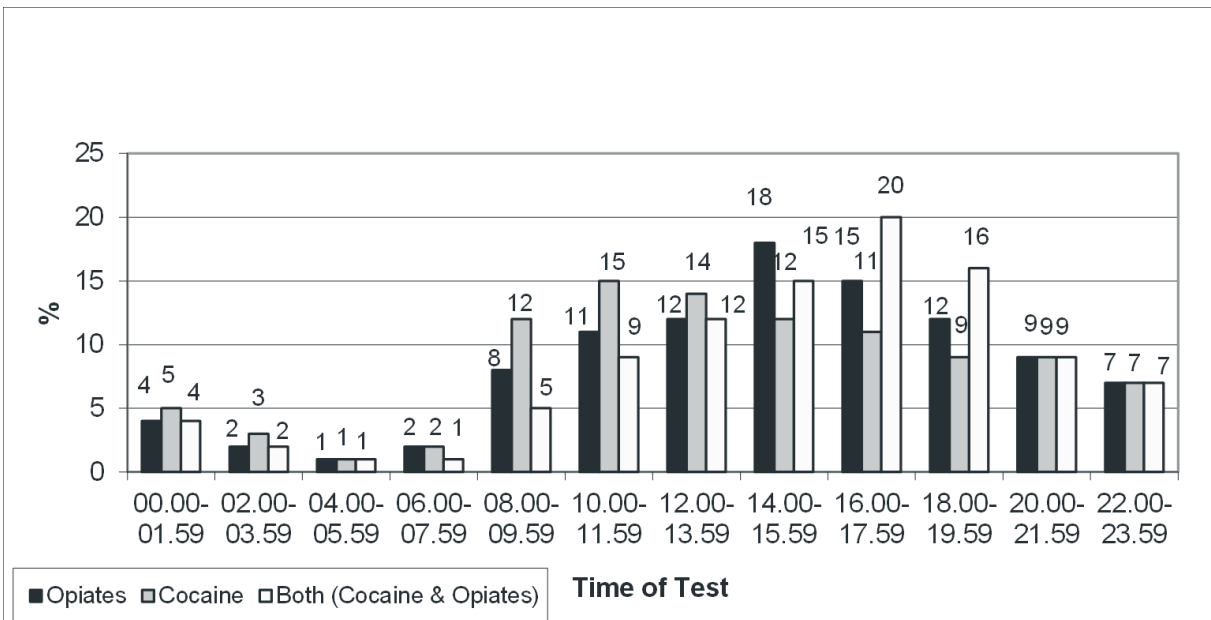
Over four in ten of the 11630 tests completed throughout Merseyside produced a positive result (43%). The distributions of positive and negative tests were similar throughout the day (Figure 60).

**Figure 60: Time of Drug Testing at Merseyside Custody Suites Positive vs Negative (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



Over half of the 4991 positive tests in Merseyside were for cocaine only (54%). The proportions of positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) (31%) and opiates only (15%) were much lower. The peak times of testing positive for cocaine only were between 8am and 2pm (41%), for opiates only between 2pm and 6pm (33%) and for both (cocaine & opiates) between 4pm and 8pm (36%). Positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) were also more likely to occur between 4pm and 8pm (36%) than positive tests for opiates only (27%) or for cocaine only (20%; Figure 61).

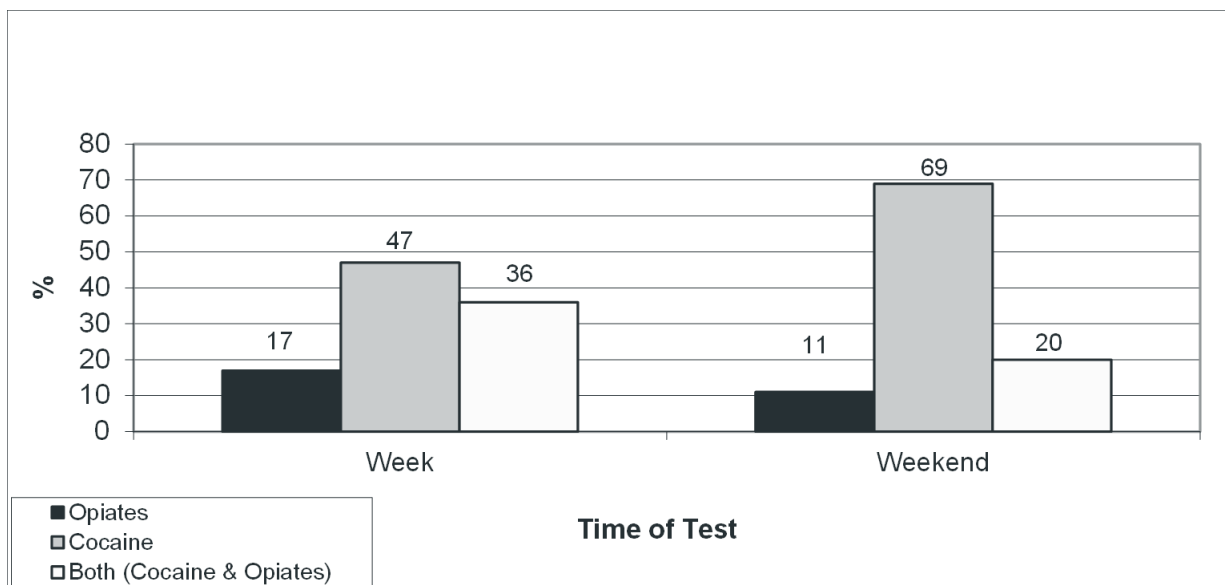
**Figure 61: Time of Drug Testing at Merseyside Custody Suites by Opiates, Cocaine and Both (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The proportion of positive tests for cocaine only was far higher than that for the other drug groups at the weekend, making up over two thirds of all weekend positive tests (69%). This was in contrast to the proportions of positive

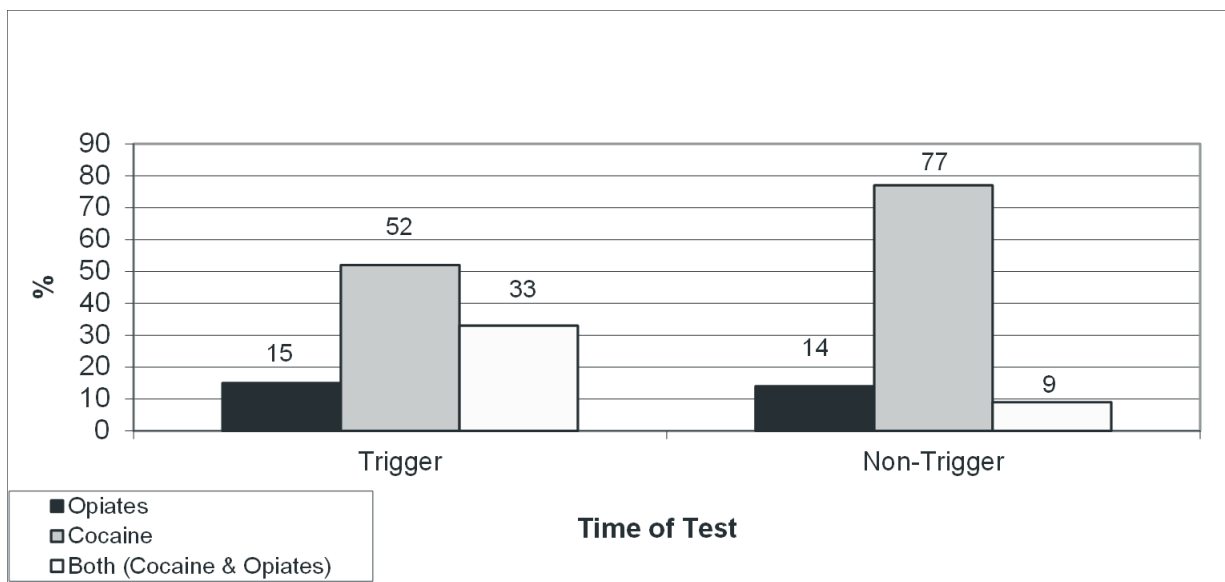
tests during weekdays when the difference between proportions for cocaine only (47%) both (cocaine & opiates) (36%) and opiates only (17%) were less pronounced (Figure 62).

**Figure 62: Merseyside Positive Drug Test by Drug and Week versus Weekend (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



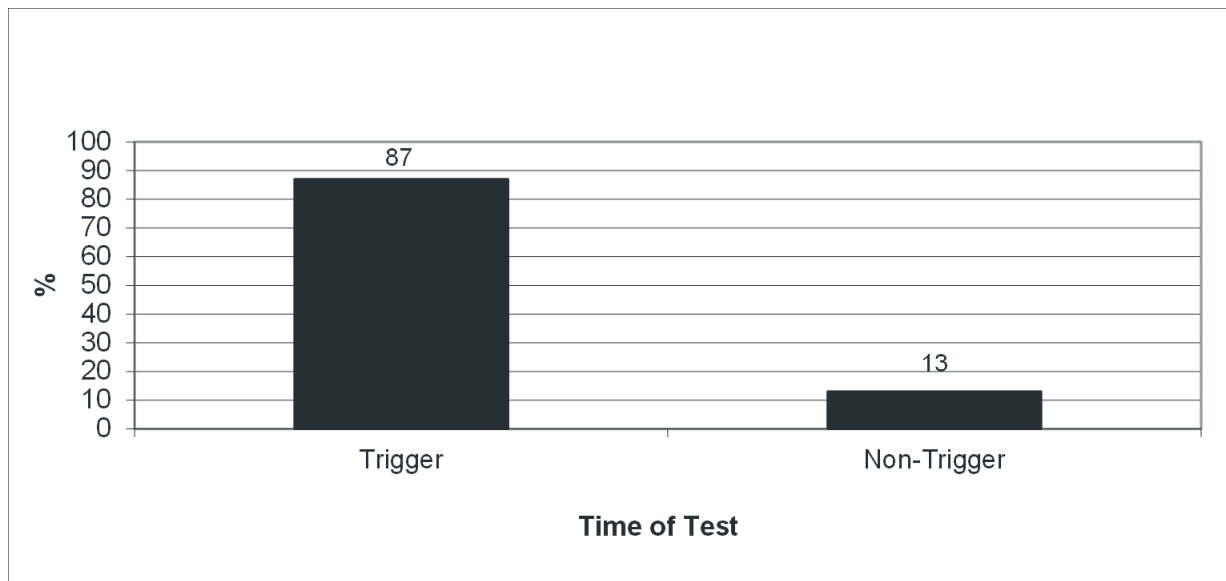
The most likely positive test result for a trigger offence was for cocaine only (52%). Positive tests results for both (cocaine & opiates) or opiates only were also likely to occur but at much lower levels (33% and 15% respectively). The majority of positive tests for non-trigger offences were for cocaine only (77%; Figure 63).

**Figure 63: Merseyside Positive Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)**



The majority of negative drug test results in Merseyside were for trigger offences (87%; Figure 64).

Figure 64: Merseyside Negative Drug Test by Trigger vs Non-trigger offences (Apr 13 - Mar 14)



## 9. SUMMARY

- A total of 11835 tests were attempted throughout the seven Merseyside custody suites between April 2013 and March 2014, of which 11632 were successfully completed (98%). Of the tests that occurred, 83% took place between 8am and 10pm, which were the staffed hours for four of the seven suites. The peak times of testing across all custody suites were 8am to 4pm with 63% of all tests being carried out during this time. Typically, the proportion of tests in all suites decreased steadily after 6pm through to 8am before increasing sharply between 8am and 10am.
- In general, successful drug tests were carried out on white European (95.6%) males (83.0%) aged between 18 – 24 years of age (31.5%). Drug tests tended to be carried out on the residents of that D(A)AT area (Wirral 73.5%; Liverpool 72.0%; Sefton 53.0% and St Helens 52.5%) while Knowsley residents presented for drug testing across all custody suites. However, it is worth noting that the residency field was blank for a proportion of data for each area (ranging from 21.8% in St Helens to 10.7% in Liverpool) which could result in these figures being under reported.
- Over seven in ten tests (71%) occurred during weekdays across Merseyside, the highest proportion taking place in Wirral (75%) and the lowest in St Helens (69%). The patterns for times of tests were similar for weekdays and weekends throughout the suites. However, during the weekend a slightly greater proportion of tests occurred between 8am and midday (27%) compared to tests conducted during the week (21%). This difference was particularly prominent at SAS custody suite where 29% of all tests at the weekend occurred during this time period compared to 18% of tests at this time during the week. SAS and Southport custody suites also peaked at weekends between 8am and 10am when 13% and 12% of tests respectively occurred compared to 7% and 6% respectively during the week. The exceptions to this pattern were St Helens and Wirral custody suites, which both saw a similar proportion of tests between midnight and 6am on both weekends and weekdays.
- The majority of tests attempted in Merseyside were for trigger offences (88%) with the peak times being between 10am and 8pm. The patterns of times of testing for trigger offences were generally similar across each of the five custody suites. The patterns of times of testing for non-trigger offences differed slightly between the various custody suites with the peak times for testing for these offences was generally between 8am and 2pm followed by a gradual decrease being recorded across the later time bands. The exceptions to this pattern were most evident in SAS and Southport custody suites. The peak time of testing for non-trigger offences at SAS custody suite was between 8am and 10am (21%) with an additional later peak between 2pm and 4pm (18%). A similar trend was seen in Southport as the peak time of testing for non-trigger offences was also between 8am and 10am (26%) with an additional later peak between 2pm and 4pm (20%).
- Almost six in ten of all completed tests carried out in the county were negative (57.1%). Patterns of the times of both positive and negative tests were generally similar across Merseyside custody suites.

- Of the 4991 positive tests throughout Merseyside, the highest proportion tested positive for cocaine only (54.1%). This was similar to data from previous reports on this topic which reported the proportions of positive tests for cocaine only to be 56% between October 2010 and March 2011 (Howarth and Duffy, 2011a) and 48% between April and September 2010 (Howarth et al, 2011b). Other previous work around both the impact of the Test on Arrest process (Dewa et al, 2007) and DIP clients who used powder cocaine (Howarth and Duffy, 2010, 2009) highlighted the high proportions of clients coming into contact with DIP who were using cocaine and this report supports such findings. The higher proportion of positive tests for cocaine only at weekends across Merseyside (69% compared to 47% during the week) also supports this research and suggests a link to the night-time economy. In addition to this it is worth noting that when comparing these figures to those of the previous reports (72% during the weekend compared to 48% during the week between October 2010 and March 2011; and 67% during the week compared to 36% during the week between April and September 2010) there has been a marked increase in the proportion of weekday positive tests for cocaine since 2010. Testing positive for cocaine only peaked in most areas between 10am and 2pm and there were also a higher proportion of positive tests in general for cocaine only between midnight and 6am when compared to positive tests for opiates alone or for both cocaine and opiates. This early morning peak was particularly prominent in St Helens custody suite where, between 2am and 4am, three-quarters (75%) of all positive tests were for cocaine only. Overall these figures re-affirm a continued pattern of a substantial group of cocaine users from the night time economy coming into contact with DIP and previous research has shown that the main offences this group are arrested for Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) offences (Howarth and Duffy, 2010, 2009). It should be noted, however, that drug tests fail to distinguish between powder cocaine and crack cocaine, and therefore it is impossible to draw definite conclusions.
- Numbers testing positive for opiates alone were at their lowest between midnight and 8am (9%) and this trend was evident across all custody suites. It may be important to note when interpreting figures relating to tests for opiates alone that this result only represented 14.9% of all positive tests.
- There were 1544 positive tests for both (opiates & cocaine) over the 12 month time period examined, equating to 30.9% of all positive tests. Peak times of testing for both cocaine and opiates varied across custody suites but generally peaked between 10am and 6pm.
- Numbers testing positive for cocaine only were more likely, than the other drug types, to have committed a non-trigger offence than a trigger offence (77% and 52% respectively). In contrast, numbers testing positive for both (opiates & cocaine) were more likely to have committed a trigger offence than a non-trigger offence (33% and 9% respectively).

- The majority of negative tests completed across Merseyside were on individuals arrested for trigger offences (87%).



## CONCLUSION

The aim of this report was to outline both the demographic profile of those arrested and successfully drug tested and also the times of drug testing in all seven Merseyside custody suites in order to provide up to date information on the times and outcomes of drug tests to help inform partnerships' resource allocation.

In general, the overall client demographic of those arrested and drug tested across Merseyside were male, aged between 18-24 years of age, of white European ethnicity, arrested for a trigger offence, as likely to test positive as negative, and slightly more likely to test positive for cocaine only than opiate metabolites. It is important to note however that all custody suites should still expect and cater for other client demographics presenting for drug testing, especially both females and also those who may not have been arrested or drug tested previously.

Overall, five of the seven Merseyside custody suites that were looked at in detail for this report, were staffed by a drugs worker during times when most drug tests occurred; this ranged between 57% and 85% coverage. This coverage also included the peak time for when positive tests for opiates and positive tests for both (cocaine & opiates) occurred. However such comprehensive coverage may not be necessary and teams could take the opportunity to review some of their coverage times and introduce shorter or alternative coverage options such as staff being on call during later times and/or during the weekend i.e. between 8pm – 10pm when few tests occur. This would only be effective if a robust out of hours system was put in place, a system which would include good communication between the police and the drug treatment agency after each positive drugs test. Although a high proportion of clients who are arrested and drug tested are resident in that D(A)AT area, residents from other areas are also regularly tested and transferred back to their D(A)AT of residence; therefore a clear understanding of the process and good communication skills are paramount given the different working priorities of the partners involved. Such an alteration in staffed hours in a custody suite could assist in the more effective targeting of resources which may be required in the current climate of diminishing funding. This would also continue to allow the identification of clients who test positive for cocaine only between midnight and 6am to occur. Although clients who test positive for cocaine only may not be the traditional priority of DIP, it remains the case that they are still consuming illegal substances and may benefit from a referral onto the stimulant pathway. This could in turn help reduce the likelihood of such clients representing at a later date.

Information on the pattern of drug tests can assist DIP teams to anticipate the types of drug use clients likely to present during the week or at weekends, in particular the peak in cocaine using clients after a weekend. As less than half of those arrested and drug tested in Sefton custody suites did so during current staffed hours, a review to increase the staff presence in these custody suites should take place to look at the high volume of clients who are not being seen by agency staff. As the peak times during the week and at the weekend continued until at least 6pm, a review of staff times should take this into account in the first instance.

In addition to this it is also useful for the residency field for each client in the drug testing data to be completed by Merseyside Police in all cases where possible. This would allow for more accurate analysis of the drug testing data to occur and assist treatment agencies to identify all clients who are arrested and tested outside their D(A)AT of residence. This is particularly useful for Knowsley residents as the lack of a custody suite with drug testing capabilities means that all clients need to be referred back to Knowsley from another area following their positive test result.

## 9. METHODOLOGY

The data used for this analysis were taken from drug testing data which had been provided to LJMU by Merseyside police. Analysis was initially carried out on data for all drug tests attempted from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 inclusive and filtered as required for the analysis.

These data were analysed using SPSS (frequencies, cross-tabs) as follows:

- Demographic data table – attempted tests, successful tests, age (in groups), gender, ethnicity, D(A)AT of residency, test results, offences
- Time of test - times of drug tests split into two hour bands (00.00 – 01.59, 02.00 – 03.59 etc.)
- Week and weekend tests – week includes tests carried out from 12.01am on Monday until midnight on Friday and weekend includes tests carried out from 12.01am on Saturday until midnight on Sunday
- Offence groups - trigger and non-trigger offences (Appendix A)
- Test results – split into positive and negative
- Positive test results – split into opiates, cocaine, and both (opiates and cocaine)
- Positive test results by offence groups
- Negative test result by offence groups

Data are presented for four of the five D(A)AT areas in Merseyside in separate chapters, with Knowsley not being included due to the lack of a custody suite for drug testing purposes. Each chapter reports on data from an area's own custody suites, totalling seven (Belle Vale, Copy Lane, Southport, St Anne's Street, St. Helens, Wavertree and Wirral). There is also an overall Merseyside chapter. Findings from this analysis are discussed, outlining the peak times of testing between suites as well as any trends across the county.

The times at which the seven custody suites should have been staffed by DIP workers are as follows:

Custody Suite		Coverage Times	
		Monday – Friday	Saturday - Sunday
<b>Liverpool</b>	Belle Vale/ SAS/ Wavertree	8am – 10pm	Midday – 10pm
<b>Sefton</b>	Copy Lane	8am – 4pm	8am – 4pm
	Southport	Closed (8am – 4pm when open)	Closed (8am – 4pm when open)
<b>St Helens</b>	St Helens	9am – 5pm	No Cover
<b>Wirral</b>	Wirral	8am – 10pm	8am – 10pm

Note: Copy lane custody suite was closed for 8weeks between 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 and during this time Southport custody suite was re-opened in its place.

**List of Trigger Offences** (with effect from 1 August 2007).

**1. Offences under the following provisions of the Theft Act 1968:**

section 1 (theft)

section 8 (robbery)

section 9 (burglary)

section 10 (aggravated burglary)

section 12 (taking motor vehicle or other conveyance without authority)

section 12A (aggravated vehicle-taking)

section 22 (handling stolen goods) \*

section 25 (going equipped for stealing, etc.)

**2. Offences under the following provisions of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, are trigger offences if committed in respect of a specified Class A drug:**

section 4 (restriction on production and supply of controlled drugs)

section 5(2) (possession of controlled drug)

section 5(3) (possession of controlled drug with intent to supply)

**3. Offences under the following provisions of the Fraud Act 2006\*\*:**

section 1 (fraud)

section 6 (possession etc. of articles for use in frauds)

section 7 (making or supplying articles for use in frauds)

**3A. An offence under section 1(1) of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981 is a trigger offence, if committed in respect of an offence under –**

*(a) any of the following provisions of the Theft Act 1968\*:*

section 1 (theft)

section 8 (robbery)

section 9 (burglary)

section 22 (handling stolen goods)

*(b) section 1 of the Fraud Act 2006 (fraud) \*\*\*:*

**4. Offences under the following provisions of the Vagrancy Act 1824 are trigger offences: \***

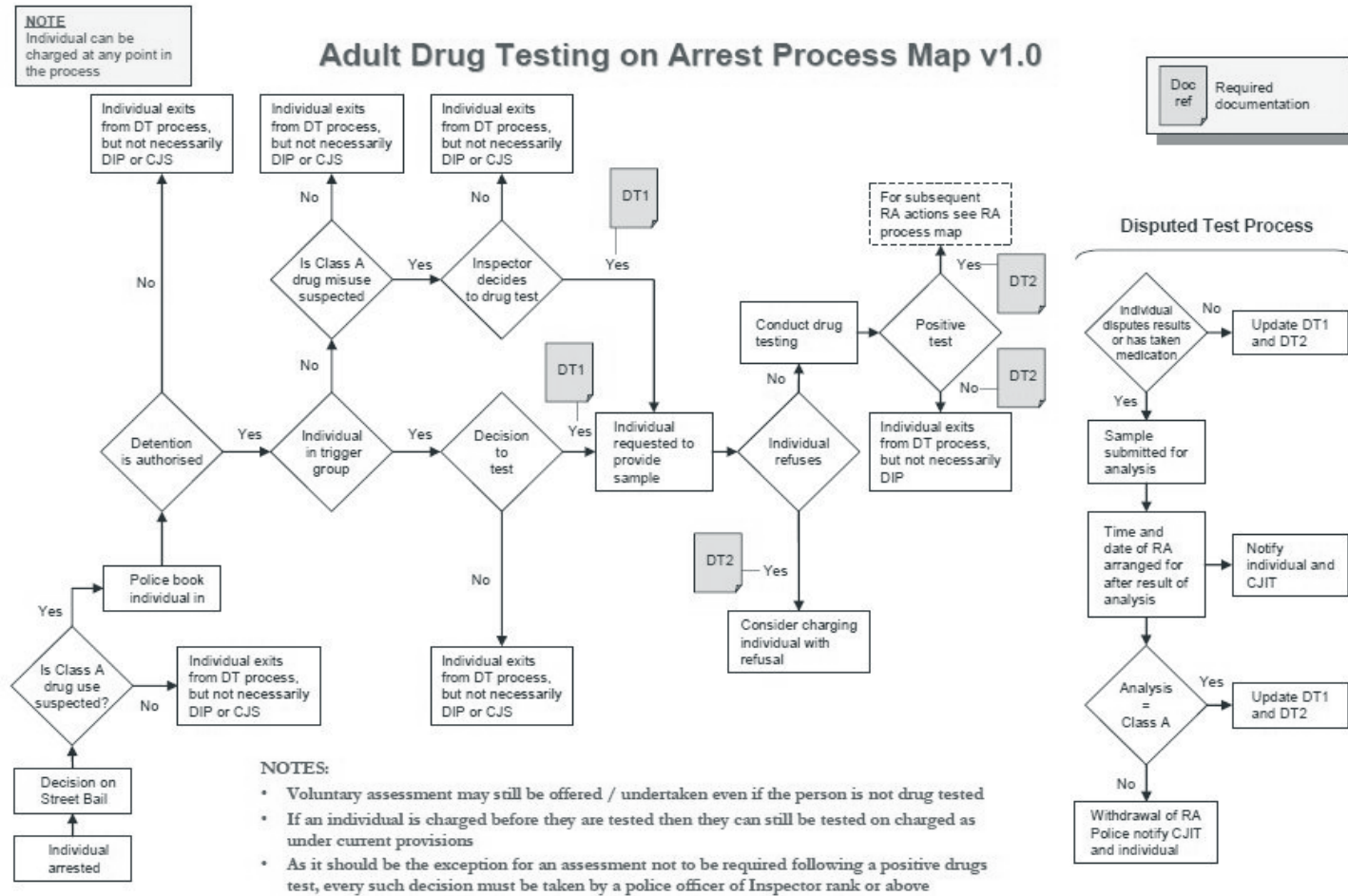
section 3 (begging)

section 4 (persistent begging)

\* Offences added to the trigger offences in Schedule 6 to the Criminal Justice and Court services Act 2000 by The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (Amendment) Order 2004, (S.I. 2004/1892), which came into force on 27th July 2004.

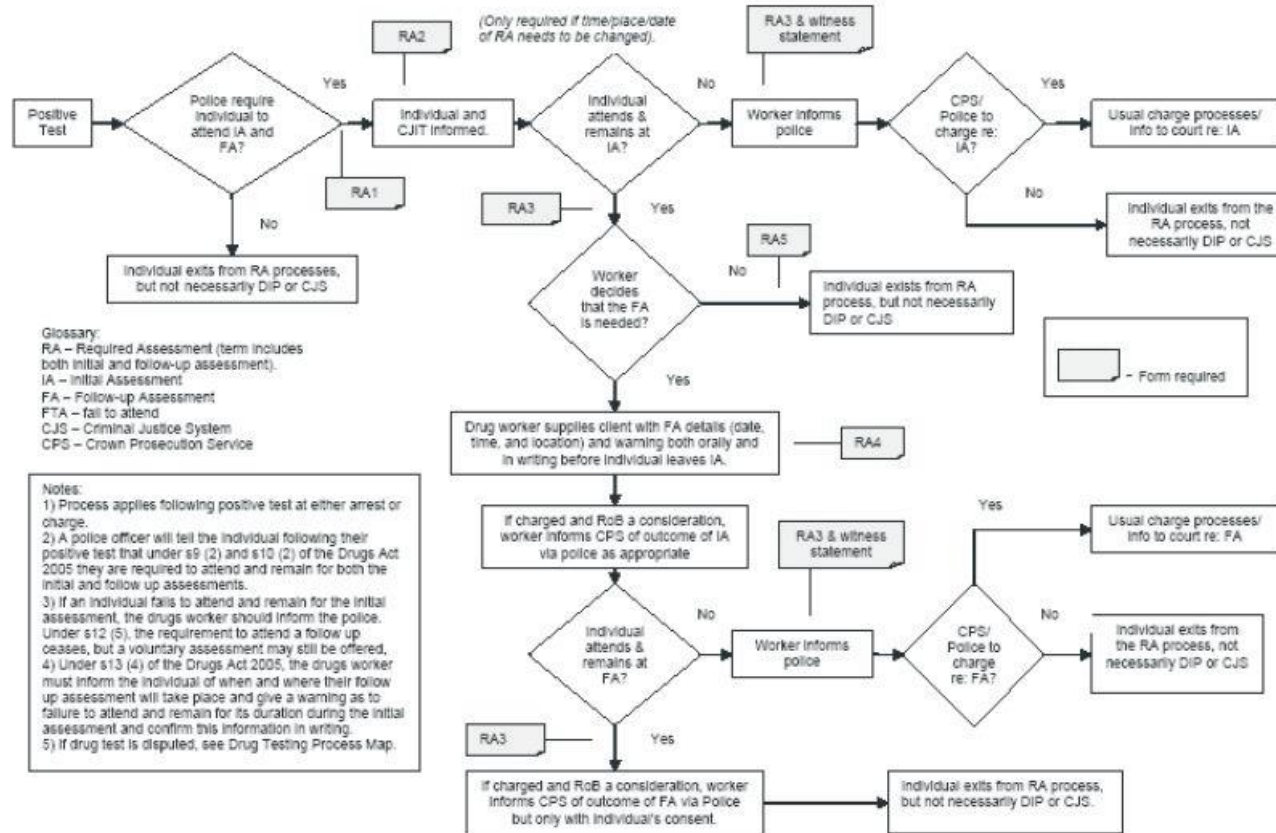
\*\* Offences added by the Fraud Act 2006, which came into force on 15 January 2007

\*\*\* Offences added by the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (Amendment) Order 2007 which came into force on 1 August 2007.



(Home Office, 2010)

Adult Required Assessment (initial and follow-up assessments) Process Map



(Home Office, 2010)

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