



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – October 2017

The following data is authorised for release by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and relates to the number of formal indictments (*Information*) filed in the High Courts of Fiji by the Director of Public Prosecutions throughout the month. This data is confined to incidents of serious sexual offences only.

There were 27 people charged with a total of 49 separate incidents in October. The offences were rape (33) and sexual assault (16).

Of the 27 people charged, four were under the age of 18 years. Two 15 year old boys were charged with one count of rape of a 13 year old girl, one 15 year old boy was charged with one count of rape and one count of sexual assault of his 10 year old cousin while another accused aged 14 years was charged with one count of rape of a 9 year old boy.

There were 23 victims of the 49 separate incidents of whom 19 victims were under the age of 18 years.

There was one incident where an 11 year old girl fell pregnant after she was allegedly raped by three men in the Northern division.

In another separate incident, a 28 year old man was charged with the sexual assault of a 12 year old boy.

There was one incident where a 22 year old man was charged with one count of rape of a 68 year old woman.

There were 13 incidents where the accused and the victims were related to each other.

In one incident a 28 year old is alleged to have raped and sexually assaulted his 8 year old biological daughter and in another incident a 33 year old man is alleged to have raped and sexually assaulted his 4 year old stepsister. There was one incident where a 57 year old is alleged to have raped his 10 year old granddaughter. There were five separate incidents where the accused persons have been charged for allegedly raping their nieces.

There were two separate incidents where the accused persons were also charged with assault causing actual bodily harm. (**NB: *The offences of assault causing actual bodily harm are recorded separately.***)

Five cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed. Of these five, three were withdrawn due to the inability to locate the accused persons; one was withdrawn after the death of the accused person while another case was withdrawn due to significant inconsistencies in the complainant's statements.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences October 2017* for a breakdown of these statistics.



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics October 2017

	Rape	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	33	0	0	16	49
Total No. of Victims	21	0	0	10	23*
No. of Victims under 18 years	17	0	0	10	19*
Total No. of Accused Persons	25	0	0	10	27*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	4	0	0	1	4*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	5	0	0	2	5*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	12	0	0	7	13*
No. of False Complaints	0	0	0	0	0

Source: ODPP Fiji

* Please note that a number of rape victims as well as victims under the age of 18 years and victims in domestic relationship were also victims of other serious sexual offences. Similarly, a number of accused persons were also charged with more than one offence.

1 November 2017.

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