



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – November 2018

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 14 people charged with a total of 28 counts of separate incidents in November. The offences were rape (20), attempted rape (1), indecent assault (1), and sexual assault (6).

There were 15 victims of the 28 counts of separate incidents of whom 12 victims were under the age of 18 years.

Of the 14 people charged, one was a juvenile who was charged with the rape of his 4-year-old and 6-year-old cousins.

There were 7 incidents where the victims and the accused persons were related to one another.

There was one incident where a 59-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 7-year-old granddaughter. In another incident, a 42-year-old man was charged with multiple counts of rape and sexual assault of his 14-year-old step daughter.

There were 3 separate incidents where uncles were charged with the rape of their nieces. In one incident, a 59-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 14-year-old niece, in another incident a 35-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 12-year-old niece while in another incident, a 49-year-old man was charged with the sexual assault of his 17-year-old niece.

In a separate incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 16-year-old cousin. He was also charged with one count of theft of a mobile phone. (***NB: The offence of theft is recorded separately***).

A 20-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 16-year-old girlfriend. The accused allegedly used a knife to intimidate the victim. He is also charged with criminal intimidation. (***NB: The offence of criminal intimidation is recorded separately***).

There was one incident where a 57-year-old man was charged with the attempted rape of a 35-year-old woman. The accused and victim were neighbours.

A 35-year-old man was charged for allegedly raping a 38-year-old woman at a drinking party.

There was one incident where a 25-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 23-year-old female tourist, however, this matter was withdrawn due to the unavailability of the complainant.

Three cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (Nolle Prosequi) were filed. One case was withdrawn due to the unavailability of the victim, another case was withdrawn after the victim refused to give evidence and one case was withdrawn due to the complainant admitting to making a false statement.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences November 2018* for a break-down of these statistics.



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics November 2018

	Rape	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	20	1	1	6	28
Total No. of Victims	15	1	1	4	15*
No. of Victims under 18 years	10	0	1	4	12*
Total No. of Accused Persons	11	1	1	4	14*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	1	0	0	0	1
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	0	1	0	3
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	6	0	0	3	7*
No. of False Complaints	1	0	0	0	1

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.**

3 December 2018.

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