



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – June 2019

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 24 people charged with a total of 45 counts of separate incidents in June. The offences were rape (30), abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge (9), indecent assault (1), defilement (3) and sexual assault (2).

There were 22 victims of whom 13 victims were under the age of 18 years.

Of the 24 people charged, 2 were juveniles and one was a police officer. A 13-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 3-year old niece, a 14-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 6-year-old cousin while a 24-year-old police officer was charged with the rape of a 34-year-old fellow female police officer.

There were 10 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 47-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 17-year-old daughter while in another incident a 29-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 6-year-old stepdaughter.

A 33-year-old man was charged with representative counts of rape of his 17-year-old niece who fell pregnant as a result.

There were two incidents where a 36-year-old man and a 26-year-old man were charged with the rape of their 15-year-old and 21-year-old cousins.

There were two incidents of marital rape. In one incident, a 56-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 45-year-old wife while in another incident, a 27-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 27-year-old wife, however, this matter was discontinued after the complainant left the country and could not be located.

There was one incident where a 26-year-old man was charged with three counts of rape of his 25-year-old de facto partner.

There was one incident where a 54-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 63-year-old woman. The accused and the victim met after the victim responded to the accused's 'lonely hearts' radio message.

A 29-year-old man was charged with two counts of abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge of a 16-year-old girl. The accused and victim were Facebook friends.

There was one incident where a 29-year-old man was charged with four counts of abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge, three counts of defilement and one count of rape of a 13-year-old girl.

A 19-year-old man was charged with the rape of an 11-year-old girl. The accused is alleged to have been part of a gang rape incident in 2012 where he with other accused persons allegedly raped the victim.

Four cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence, false complaints and inability to locate the complainants.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences June 2019* for a break-down of these statistics.



## ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics June 2019

	Rape	Abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge	Indecent assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	30	9	1	3	2	<b>45</b>
Total No. of Victims	19	5	1	1	2	<b>22*</b>
No. of Victims under 18 years	11	5	0	1	2	<b>13*</b>
Total No. of Accused Persons	21	5	1	1	2	<b>24*</b>
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	2	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	4	1	0	0	0	<b>4*</b>
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	10	0	0	0	1	<b>10*</b>
No. of False Complaints	1	1	0	0	0	<b>1*</b>

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 July 2019.

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