



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – September 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 30 people charged with a total of 70 counts of separate incidents in September. The offences were rape (42), abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge (2), assault with intent to commit rape (1), indecent assault (8), defilement (1) and sexual assault (16).

There were 28 victims of whom 22 victims were under the age of 18 years. There was 1 male victim and 27 female victims.

Of the 30 people charged, 4 were juveniles. A 17-year-old boy was charged with the rape and indecent assault of his 4-year-old cousin while a 15-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 10-year-old male cousin. A 14-year-old and a 16-year-old boy were charged with the rape of a 12-year-old and a 3-year-old girl.

There were 15 incidents where the accused and victims were related to one another.

There were three separate incidents where grandfathers were charged with the rape of their granddaughters. A 70-year-old man was charged with the rape and indecent assault of his 12-year-old granddaughter while a 57-year-old and a 49-year-old were charged with rape of their 14 and 8-year-old granddaughters.

A 36-year-old man was charged with the rape, sexual assault, and indecent assault of his 2-year-old stepdaughter.

In another incident, a 33-year-old man was charged with the rape, sexual assault and indecent assault of his 15-year-old stepdaughter. The accused was also charged with common assault. **(NB: *The offence of common assault is recorded separately*).**

There were three separate incidents where uncles were charged with the rape of their 8, 15 and 17-year-old nieces.

There were three separate incidents of marital rape. In one incident, a 27-year-old man was charged with the rape and assault occasioning actual bodily harm to his 26-year-old wife. **(NB: *The offence of assault occasioning actual bodily harm is recorded separately*).**

In another incident, a 47-year-old man was charged with multiple counts of rape of his 40-year-old wife. The accused was also charged with the breach of a DVRO. (NB: ***The offence of breach of DVRO is recorded separately***).

A 30-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 32-year-old wife.

There were two separate incidents where a 24-year-old and a 20-year-old man were charged with the rape and sexual assault of their 11 and 13-year-old cousins.

A 36-year-old man was charged with abduction with the intent to have carnal knowledge and defilement of a 15-year-old girl. The accused was also charged with escaping from lawful custody. (NB: ***The offence of escaping from lawful custody is recorded separately***).

In another incident, a 27-year-old man was charged with abduction with the intent to have carnal knowledge of a 16-year-old girl. However, this matter was discontinued after the death of the victim.

A 31-year-old man was charged with the indecent assault of a 28-year-old woman, however, this matter was withdrawn after the victim returned to the United States and could not be contacted.

There was one incident where a 27-year-old man was charged with the rape, assault with intent to commit rape and sexual assault of his 21-year-old former girlfriend who was pregnant with the accused's child at the time of the incident.

There was one incident where a 37-year-old man was charged with the rape of 16-year-old girl. The accused and the victim were Facebook friends.

Five cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence, death of the victim and inability to locate or contact the victim.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics September 2019

	Rape	Abduction with the intent to have carnal knowledge	Assault with the intent to commit rape	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	42	2	1	8	1	16	70
Total No. of Victims	25	2	1	6	1	8	28*
No. of Victims under 18 years	20	2	0	5	1	7	22*
Total No. of Accused Persons	27	2	1	5	1	7	30*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	3	1	0	1	0	0	5
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	15	0	0	5	0	5	15*
No. of False Complaints	0	0	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 October 2019.

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