



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – February 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 18 people charged with a total of 43 counts of separate incidents in February. The offences were rape (27), attempted rape (5), assault with intent to commit rape (2) abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge (1), indecent assault (1) and sexual assault (7).

There were 20 victims of the 43 separate incidents of whom 12 victims were under the age of 18 years. Of the 20 victims, 2 were male and 18 were female victims. A 28-year-old man was charged with rape, attempted rape and sexual assault of a 14-year-old and a 15-year-old boy.

There were 8 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 37-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 12-year-old stepdaughter.

There was one incident where a 27-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 19 and a 20 year-old. The accused is the uncle of one of the victims.

There were four separate incidents where the accused persons allegedly raped their cousins.

In one incident a 21-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 6-year-old cousin.

In two separate incidents, a 17-year-old boy and a 19-year-old man were charged with the rape of their 13-year-old cousins and in another incident, a 25-year-old man was charged with assault with the intent to commit rape and rape of his 18-year-old cousin.

There were two separate incidents of marital rape. In one incident, a 39-year-old was charged with rape and assault with intent to commit rape of his 34-year-old wife and in another incident, a 34-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 28-year-old wife.

There was one incident where a 74-year-old Australian man was charged with the rape of a 6-year-old girl. The accused was a family friend.

A 42-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 32-year-old woman. The accused and victim were neighbours.

There was one incident where a 20-year-old man was charged with multiple counts of rape, one count of indecent assault and one count of abduction with intent to have carnal

knowledge of a 14-year-old girl. The accused was working near the victim's barbeque stall when the alleged offences took place.

A 21-year-old man was charged with the attempted rape of a 35-year-old woman. The accused was also charged with the murder of the victim's father and one count of aggravated robbery. ***(NB: The offences of murder and aggravated robbery are recorded separately).***

Three cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed. One case was withdrawn after a 16-year-old complainant admitted to making a false complaint against the accused for attempted rape while two other cases were withdrawn due to insufficient evidence.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics February 2019

	Rape	Attempted Rape	Assault with intent to commit rape	Abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge	Indecent Assault	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	27	5	2	1	1	7	43
Total No. of Victims	18	4	2	1	1	5	20*
No. of Victims under 18 years	11	3	0	1	1	4	12*
Total No. of Accused Persons	16	4	2	1	1	5	18*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	8	0	2	0	0	1	8*
No. of False Complaints	0	1	0	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.

1 March 2019.

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