



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – December 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 11 people charged with a total of 21 counts of separate incidents in December. The offences were rape (16), abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge (1), indecent assault (1), and sexual assault (3).

Of the 11 accused persons, one was a juvenile and one was a police officer. The juvenile was charged with the rape, indecent assault and sexual assault of his 10-year-old cousin. A 27-year-old police officer was charged with abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge of a 17-year-old girl.

There were nine victims of whom seven victims were under the age of 18 years.

There were four matters where the accused persons and the victims were related to one another.

A 48-year-old man was charged with multiple counts of rape of his 14-year-old daughter.

There were two separate incidents where a 45-year-old man and a 35-year-old man were charged with the rape and sexual assault of their 13-year-old and 18-year old nieces.

There was one incident of gang rape where a 26-year-old man and two 28-year-old men were charged with the rape of a 14-year-old girl.

A 52-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 16-year-old girl. The accused was a friend of the victim's father.

A 23-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 25-year-old woman whom he met outside a nightclub.

One rape case was withdrawn after a discontinuance (*Nolle Prosequi*) was filed due to inconsistencies in the victim's statement.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics December 2019

	Rape	Abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge	Indecent Assault	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	16	1	1	3	21
Total No. of Victims	8	1	1	3	9*
No. of Victims under 18 years	6	1	1	2	7*
Total No. of Accused Persons	10	1	1	3	11*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	1	0	1	1	1*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	1	0	0	0	1
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	4	0	1	3	4*
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.**

3 January 2020.

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