



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – May 2020

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 12 people charged with a total of 17 counts of separate incidents in May. The offences were rape (16) and indecent assault (1).

Of the 12 people charged, two were juveniles. There were two separate incidents where a 14-year-old boy and a 15-year-old boy were charged with the rape of a 13-year-old girl and a 14-year-old girl from their respective schools.

There were 11 victims of whom seven victims were under the age of 18 years.

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

A 62-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 2-year-old daughter while a 28-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 2-year-old cousin.

A 25-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 18-year-old cousin while a 21-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 13-year-old stepsister.

There was one incident where a 48-year-old man was charged with four counts of rape and one count of indecent assault of his 17-year-old niece.

A 34-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 32-year-old wife. The accused was also charged with one count of assault causing actual bodily harm to his wife. **(NB: *The offence of assault causing actual bodily harm is recorded separately*).**

Two men were charged with the rape of a 21-year-old woman, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim admitted to making a false complaint.

In another incident, a 19-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 20-year-old woman, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim admitted that she consented to sex.

A 61-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 23-year-old mentally and physically disabled woman, however, this matter was discontinued due to the inability of the victim to give evidence.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences May 2020* for a break-down of these statistics.



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics May 2020

	Rape	Attempted Rape	Indecent Assault	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	16	0	1	0	17
Total No. of Victims	11	0	1	0	11*
No. of Victims under 18 years	7	0	1	0	7*
Total No. of Accused Persons	12	0	1	0	12*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	2	0	0	0	2
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	3	0	0	0	3
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	6	0	1	0	6*
No. of False Complaints	2	0	0	0	2

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 June 2020

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