



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – July 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 21 people charged with a total of 41 counts of separate incidents in July. The offences were rape (30), defilement (1) and sexual assault (10).

Of the 21 people charged, one was a juvenile. A 16-year-old boy was charged with the rape of a 6-year-old girl from his village.

There were 20 victims of whom 10 victims were under the age of 18 years. There were 19 female victims and 1 male victim.

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

A 59-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 4-year-old granddaughter.

There was one incident where a 21-year-old man and a 49-year-old man were charged with the rape of their 20-year-old sister and daughter. The 21-year-old man was also charged with one count of sexual assault.

In another incident, a 38-year-old man was charged with representative counts of rape and sexual assault of his 17-year-old daughter.

A 65-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 30-year-old sister-in-law while a 33-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 38-year-old sister-in-law.

There was one incident where a 35-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 15-year-old niece.

A 24-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 16-year-old stepsister.

A 43-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 26-year-old wife. The accused was also charged with one count of assault causing actual bodily harm. **(NB: *The offence of assault causing actual bodily harm is recorded separately*).**

There was one incident where a 30-year-old bus driver was charged for allegedly raping and defiling a 15-year-old girl in his bus.

A 28-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 60-year-old woman. The incident occurred whilst the accused was robbing the victim with another accused.

There was one incident where a 25-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 16-year-old girl during curfew hours. The accused was also charged with one count of breach of the curfew order. **(NB: *The offence of breach of the curfew order is not recorded in the statistics table*).**

A 39-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 10-year-old deaf and mute boy.

Two 21-year-old men were charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 22-year-old woman whom they met on Facebook. The victim was allegedly drugged and abused by the two men.

A 28-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of an 11-year-old girl from his village while in another incident an 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 17-year-old girl.

A 23-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 62-year-old Australian national at a resort. The accused was an employee of the resort while the victim was a tourist.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient and inconsistent evidence.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics July 2020

	Rape	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	30	0	1	10	41
Total No. of Victims	20	0	1	9	20*
No. of Victims under 18 years	10	0	1	5	10*
Total No. of Accused Persons	21	0	1	10	21*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	1	0	0	0	1
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	0	0	1	2*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	9	0	0	4	9*
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 August 2020

-End-