



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – September 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 27 people charged with a total of 78 counts of separate incidents in September. The offences were rape (60), attempted rape (2), abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge (1), and sexual assault (15).

Of the 27 people charged, two were juveniles. A 16-year-old boy was charged with four representative counts for the rape of an 8 and 9-year-old girls from his village while in another incident, a 17-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 15-year-old cousin.

There were 31 victims of whom 22 victims were under the age of 18 years.

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

An 83-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 5-year-old and two 6-year-old granddaughters.

A 64-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 19-year-old daughter, however, this matter was withdrawn due to insufficient evidence.

There were four separate incidents where stepfathers were charged with the rape of their stepdaughters.

In one incident, a 53-year-old man was charged with four representative counts of rape and two counts of sexual assault of his 15-year-old stepdaughter while a 30-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 12-year-old stepdaughter.

A 35-year-old man and a 40-year-old man were each charged with seven representative counts of rape and two counts of sexual assault of their 18 and 14-year-old stepdaughters.

A 21-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 8 and 10-year-old cousins while a 24-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 15-year-old cousin.

In another incident, a 26-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 14-year-old niece while a 55-year-old man was charged with six counts of rape and two counts of sexual assault of his 11-year-old niece.

A 39-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 11-year-old niece while a 34-year-old man was charged with three counts of rape of his 21-year-old niece.

There were two separate incidents of marital rape. A 24-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 26-year-old wife while in another incident, a 35-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 21-year-old wife, however, this case was withdrawn due to inconsistent evidence.

A 64-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 16-year-old mentally challenged girl. The accused and the victim are distantly related.

There was one incident where a 65-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 10-year-old girl while in another incident, a 23-year-old man was charged with the rape of an 11-year-old girl. The accused persons and victims were neighbours in both cases.

A 27-year-old man was charged with the rape of an 18-year-old woman from his village.

There was one incident where a 24-year-old male nurse was charged with the rape a 25-year-old pregnant patient. The accused allegedly obtained consent by false representation to conduct an examination when he committed the offence.

A 30-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 4-year-old girl while in another incident, a 31-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 15-year-old, however, this case was withdrawn due to insufficient evidence.

A 40-year-old man was charged with the rape, sexual assault, abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge and wrongful confinement of a 12-year-old girl, however this case was withdrawn after police were unable to locate the victim. **(NB: *The offence of wrongful confinement is recorded separately*).**

A 23-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 27-year-old woman, however, this matter was withdrawn due to insufficient evidence.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics September 2020

	Rape	Attempted rape	Abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	60	2	1	15	78
Total No. of Victims	31	1	1	12	31*
No. of Victims under 18 years	20	1	1	10	22*
Total No. of Accused Persons	27	1	1	11	27*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	2	0	0	0	2
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	5	0	1	1	5*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	15	0	1	7	15*
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.**

1 October 2020

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