



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – October 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 28 people charged with a total of 60 counts of separate incidents in October. The offences were rape (46), attempt to commit rape (1), abduction of a young person (1), indecent assault (2), defilement (2), and sexual assault (8).

Of the 28 people charged, five were juveniles. An 11-year-old boy and a 12-year old boy were charged with the rape of an 11-year-old girl from their village. Three 17-year-old boys were charged with the defilement of a 14-year-old girl from their village.

There were 26 victims of whom 14 victims were under the age of 18 years.

There were 11 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

An 81-year-old man was charged with the rape, sexual assault, attempt to commit rape and wrongful confinement of his 7-year-old granddaughter. **(NB: *The offence of wrongful confinement is recorded separately*).**

A 43-year-old man was charged with five representative counts of rape of his 18-year-old stepdaughter.

A 42-year-old man was charged with representative counts of rape of his 17-year-old niece while in another incident a 27-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 14-year-old cousin.

There were two incidents of marital rape. A 50-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 55-year-old wife while in another incident, a 57-year-old man was charged with multiple counts of rape of his 46-year-old wife, however, this matter was withdrawn after the death of the victim.

A 39-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 27-year-old and 31-year-old de facto partners.

In another incident, a 39-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 16-year-old girl. The accused was in a de facto relationship with the victim's cousin and was residing in the same house.

A 23-year-old man and an 18-year-old man were charged with the rape of a 17-year-old girl. The two men are brothers and one of them was in a de facto relationship with the victim's sister.

A 31-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 27-year-old sister-in-law while in another incident, a 26-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 17-year-old sister-in-law.

There was one incident where a 55-year-old pastor was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 14-year-old girl. The accused was looking after the victim after the death of her parents.

A 22-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 10-year-old mentally challenged girl.

A 26-year-old man was charged with three representative counts of rape of a 26-year-old woman and a 17-year-old girl. One of the victims was his girlfriend.

An 18-year-old man was charged with the abduction of a young person and defilement of a 15-year-old girl whom he met through Facebook while in another incident, an 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 17-year-old co-worker.

There was one incident where a 42-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 34-year-old woman while a 19-year-old man was charged with the rape and indecent assault of a 6-year-old girl.

A 23-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of an 18-year-old woman while in another incident, an 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 17-year-old girl. These two cases were withdrawn after the victims admitted to making false statements.

A 20-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 15-year-old girl, however, this matter was withdrawn after the victim left the country and could not be located.

A 41-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 30-year-old woman, however, this matter was withdrawn after the death of the accused person.

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



### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics October 2020

	Rape	Attempt to commit rape	Abduction of a young person	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	46	1	1	2	2	8	60
Total No. of Victims	24	1	1	2	2	4	26*
No. of Victims under 18 years	14	1	1	2	2	3	16*
Total No. of Accused Persons	24	1	1	2	4	4	28*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	2	0	0	0	3	0	5
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	4	0	0	0	0	1	4*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	11	1	0	0	0	2	11*
No. of False Complaints	2	0	0	0	0	1	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.**

**3 November 2020**

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