



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – November 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 22 people charged with a total of 48 counts of separate incidents in November. The offences were rape (24), attempted rape (1), aiding and abetting rape (2) abduction of a young person (1), indecent assault (1), defilement (2), and sexual assault (17).

Of the 22 people charged, one was a juvenile. A 12-year-old boy was charged with two counts of sexual assault of his 5-year-old half-brother.

There were 20 victims of whom 16 victims were under the age of 18 years.

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

A 67-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 12-year-old granddaughter.

A 43-year-old man was charged with multiple counts of sexual assault of his 15-year-old daughter while in another incident, a 35-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 15-year-old sister.

There was one incident where a 36-year-old man was charged with the indecent assault of his 17-year-old niece. The victim's parents and grandparents were also charged with the wrongful confinement of the victim for allegedly tying her up in chains and keeping her without food for three days. **(NB: *The offence of wrongful confinement is recorded separately*).**

In another incident, a 26-year-old man was charged with representative counts of sexual assault of his 11-year-old niece.

A 40-year-old man was charged with the rape and unlawful wounding of his 28-year-old de facto partner. **(NB: *The offence of unlawful wounding is recorded separately*).**

There was one incident where a 47-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 51-year-old aunt.

A 26-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 16-year-old and a 17-year-old girl, however, this matter was withdrawn after both victims admitted to making a false statement. The accused was in a de facto relationship with one of the victims.

There was one incident where a 35-year-old man and a 30-year-old woman were charged with representative counts of rape and aiding and abetting rape of a 12-year-old girl and a 16-year-old girl on different occasions. The accused persons are husband and wife and the victims are daughters of their house girl.

A 59-year-old pastor was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 31-year-old woman who attended his church.

There was one incident where a 40-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 12-year-old girl. The accused and the victim were neighbours.

A 19-year-old man was charged with the rape, attempted rape and sexual assault of a 12-year-old girl.

A 20-year-old man was charged with the defilement of a 14-year-old girl while in another incident, a 27-year-old man was charged with the defilement of a 15-year-old girl.

There was one incident where a 33-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 14-year-old girl.

A 20-year-old man and an 18-year-old man were charged with the rape and abduction of a 17-year-old girl.

A 33-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 40-year-old woman, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim was unable to verbalise what had happened to her in court.

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



### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics November 2020

	Rape	Attempted rape	Aiding and abetting rape	Abduction of a young person	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	24	1	2	1	1	2	17	48
Total No. of Victims	14	1	2	1	1	2	9	20*
No. of Victims under 18 years	10	1	2	1	1	2	7	16*
Total No. of Accused Persons	13	1	2	1	1	2	9	22*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	5	0	0	0	1	0	4	9*
No. of False Complaints	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

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 December 2020**

**-End-**