



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – December 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 16 people charged with a total of 28 counts of separate incidents in December. The offences were rape (19), attempted rape (1), abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge (1), assault with intent to commit rape (1), defilement (1), and sexual assault (5).

Of the 16 people charged, one was a police officer who was charged with the sexual assault of a 29-year-old woman after a drinking party.

There were 17 victims of whom 13 victims were under the age of 18 years.

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

A 56-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 17-year-old stepdaughter. The accused was also charged with one count of common assault. **(NB: *The offence of common assault is recorded separately*).**

There was one incident where a 35-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his two 8-year-old and 9-year-old nieces.

A 61-year-old man was charged with two counts of the sexual assault of his 5-year-old granddaughter, however this matter was discontinued due to mistaken identity. Another person is being investigated for the offence.

In another incident, a 35-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 14-year-old niece.

A 25-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 10-year-old cousin.

There was one incident of marital rape where a 39-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 30-year-old wife.

There was one incident where a 25-year-old man was charged with the rape and abduction with the intent to have carnal knowledge of a 16-year-old girl. The accused and victim were in a relationship at the time of the incident.

In another incident, a 45-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 20-year-old ex-girlfriend.

There was one incident where a 28-year-old man was charged with five counts of rape of an 11-year-old girl. The accused was previously charged with 24 counts of sexual assault which were upgraded to rape charges after a review of the evidence.

A 30-year-old man was charged with the attempted rape, assault with intent to have carnal knowledge and sexual assault of an 18-year-old woman.

An 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 12-year-old girl and in another incident a 27-year-old man was charged with the defilement of a 15-year-old girl.

A 39-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 15-year-old girl. The incident occurred after a drinking party.

An 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 16-year-old girl, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim admitted that she consented to sex.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics December 2020

	Rape	Attempted rape	Abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge	Assault with intent to have carnal knowledge	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	19	1	1	1	1	5	28
Total No. of Victims	13	1	1	1	1	4	17*
No. of Victims under 18 years	10	0	1	0	1	2	13*
Total No. of Accused Persons	12	1	1	1	1	4	16*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	5	0	0	0	0	1	6
No. of False Complaints	1	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.**

4 January 2021

-End-