



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence 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 crimes other than sexual violence offences which are recorded and published separately. This data also includes offences committed by police officers.

There were 46 people charged with a total of 46 counts of separate incidents in December. The offences were attempted murder (1), manslaughter (1), aggravated robbery (8), aggravated burglary (5), burglary (1), attempted burglary (1), theft (7), arson (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (9), act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm (1), unlawful wounding (2), unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs (2), unlawful possession of illicit drugs (2), attempted unlawful exportation of illicit drugs (1), threats at an airport (1), false information to a public servant (1), and damaging property (2).

Of the 46 accused persons, three were juveniles and two were police officers.

The juveniles were charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences.

A 38-year-old police officer and a 32-year-old police officer were charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to a 19-year-old and a 20-year-old suspect in an alleged illicit cultivation case.

There were 28 victims of the 46 counts of separate incidents.

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

A 32-year-old man was charged with the attempted murder of a 47-year-old man. The accused allegedly stabbed the victim multiple times with a kitchen knife.

There was one incident where a 27-year-old man, a 31-year-old man and a 32-year-old man were charged with the manslaughter of a 50-year-old man. The victim was assaulted after an altercation following a road accident.

There were two separate incidents where a 22-year-old man and a 26-year-old man were charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to their 18-year-old and 34-year-old wives.

A 53-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 8-year-old son.

A 37-year-old woman was charged with act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to her 46-year-old husband. The accused allegedly stabbed her husband before stabbing herself.

There was one incident where a village priest was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to a 16-year-old boy. The accused allegedly hit the boy with a bamboo stick for climbing a mango tree.

A 46-year-old woman was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to her 47-year-old neighbour.

There were two separate incidents of unlawful wounding. In one incident, a 25-year-old man allegedly cut his 26-year-old friend with a pen knife and in another incident, a 25-year-old man allegedly slashed his 35-year-old friend with a cane knife after an altercation.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$70 to \$6,130 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop and restaurant burglaries, taxi car jacks and daylight and night street robberies.

There were two separate incidents where a 40-year-old man and a 41-year-old man were charged with the unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs. They allegedly cultivated 74.6 kilograms and 101 kilograms of *cannabis sativa*.

A 26-year-old man and a 37-year-old man were charged with the unlawful possession of illicit drugs, however, this matter was discontinued due to inconsistent evidence.

A 28-year-old man and a 40-year-old man were charged with the attempted unlawful exportation of illicit drugs, however, this matter was discontinued after the exhibits went missing from the police station.

Five cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient and inconsistent evidence, lost exhibits and evidence of police abuse.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics December 2020* for a break-down of these statistics.



ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) December 2020

	Total No. of Counts	Total No. of accused persons	Total No. of victims	No. of Nolle Prosequi filed	Incidents involving domestic relations	No. of Police officers charged
Attempted murder	1	1	1	0	0	0
Manslaughter	1	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated robbery	8	10	7	3	0	0
Aggravated burglary	5	10	4	0	0	0
Burglary	1	1	1	1	0	0
Theft	7	11	5	2	0	0
Arson	1	1	1	0	0	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	9	8	8	0	3	2
Act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm	1	1	1	0	1	0
Common assault	1	1	1	0	1	0
Unlawful wounding	2	2	2	0	0	0
Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs	2	2	0	0	0	0
Unlawful possession of illicit drugs	2	2	0	1	0	0
Attempted unlawful exportation of illicit drugs	1	2	0	1	0	0
Threats at an airport	1	1	0	0	0	0
False information to a public servant	1	1	2	0	0	0
Damaging property	2	2	2	1	0	0
Total	46	46*	28*	5*	5	2

Source: ODPP FIJI

*** Please note that a number of accused persons may also have been charged with other serious offences. Similarly, a number of victims for one crime have also been victims of other serious crimes.**

*** Please also note that sexual violence offences are recorded and published separately.**

6 January 2020.

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