



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – January 2021

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 46 counts of separate incidents in January. The offences were rape (31), attempted rape (2), abduction of a young person (1), indecent assault (3) defilement (1), and sexual assault (8).

Of the 28 people charged, three were juveniles. An 11-year-old boy and a 12-year-old boy were charged with the rape and sexual assault of an 11-year-old girl from their village while in another incident, an 11-year-old boy was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 9-year-old girl.

There were 29 victims of whom 20 victims were under the age of 18 years. There were 28 female victims and one male victim.

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

An 83-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 6-year-old granddaughter, however, this matter was discontinued after the accused was convicted and sentenced for two other similar offences against the same victim.

A 60-year-old man was charged with the indecent assault of his 5-year-old and 8-year-old granddaughters.

A 48-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 14-year-old daughter while in another incident, a 69-year-old man was charged with the rape and attempted rape of his 25-year-old stepdaughter.

A 33-year-old man was charged with representative counts of rape and sexual assault of his 12-year-old stepdaughter while in another incident, a 44-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 16-year-old stepdaughter.

There was one incident where a 22-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 8-year-old and 12-year-old half-sisters.

There were two separate incidents where a 44-year-old man and a 32-year-old man were charged with the rape of their 28-year-old and 16-year-old nieces.

A 26-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 17-year-old sister-in-law, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim admitted to making a false complaint.

A 36-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 38-year-old de facto partner.

There was one incident where a 21-year-old man was charged with abduction of a young person, indecent assault and defilement of a 13-year-old girl.

A 29-year-old man was charged with the attempted rape of a 6-year-old girl. The accused was a family friend.

There were three separate incidents where a 26-year-old man, a 24-year-old man and a 36-year-old man were charged with the rape of a 15-year-old girl, a 19-year-old woman and a 20-year-old woman at a drinking party.

A 30-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 22-year-old woman whom he allegedly attacked whilst she was returning home.

A 41-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 17-year-old girl from his village.

A 39-year-old man was charged with the rape and indecent assault of a 16-year-old boy, however, this matter was discontinued after the complainant admitted to making a false complaint.

In another incident, a 26-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 19-year-old woman, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim admitted to making a false complaint.

Eight cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence, false complaints and inability to locate victims.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences January 2021* for a break-down of these statistics.



### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics January 2021

	Rape	Attempted rape	Abduction of a young person	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	31	2	1	3	1	8	46
Total No. of Victims	25	2	1	4	1	7	29*
No. of Victims under 18 years	16	1	1	4	1	6	20*
Total No. of Accused Persons	25	2	1	3	1	7	28*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	3	0	0	0	0	1	3*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	8	0	0	1	0	3	8*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	10	1	0	1	0	2	11*
No. of False Complaints	3	0	0	0	0	0	3

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 February 2021**

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