



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

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

There were 51 people charged with a total of 59 counts of separate incidents in January. The offences were aggravated robbery (6), robbery (1), aggravated burglary (14), theft (14), receiving stolen properties (3), assault causing actual bodily harm (3), act with intent to cause grievous harm (3), assault (1) unlawful wounding (2), unlawful possession of illicit drugs (3), unlawful use of illicit drugs (1), abuse of office (4), failure to comply with curfew orders (4).

Of the 51 accused persons, seven were juveniles and eight were police officers.

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

A 25-year-old police officer was charged with two counts of assault causing actual bodily harm to a 31-year-old man while in another incident a 24-year-old police officer was charged with the assault of his 29-year-old cousin.

A 21-year-old police officer was charged with the unlawful use of cannabis prior to coming on duty.

A 27-year-old police officer was charged with one count of abuse of office. The officer allegedly seized a stolen mobile phone and handed it to a friend without making a police report.

There was one incident where a 31-year-old, a 37-year-old and a 48-year-old police officer were charged with one count of abuse of office. It is alleged that the three officers obtained \$1,500 from the victim after they claimed they found methamphetamine at his office.

A 27-year-old police officer was charged with failure to comply with curfew orders.

There were 33 victims of the 59 counts of separate incidents.

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

A 23-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 20-year-old brother while in another incident, a 28-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous harm for allegedly strangling and beating his 52-year-old mother.

A 21-year-old woman was charged with the unlawful wounding of her 34-year-old de facto partner with a kitchen knife.

There was one incident where an 81-year-old man was charged with the unlawful wounding of a 21-year-old man and a 50-year-old woman, however, this matter was discontinued after the death of the accused person.

There was one incident where a 38-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous harm to his former de facto partner and her new partner with a kitchen knife.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$25 to \$28,435 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 three separate incidents where taxi drivers were allegedly robbed. A 30-year-old man was charged with aggravated robbery for allegedly robbing a 42-year-old taxi driver of \$700 worth of property.

In another incident, a 30-year-old man and a 34-year-old were charged with aggravated robbery of a 53-year-old man's taxi worth \$28,435 as well as mobile phones and cash while in another incident, a 22-year-old man was charged with aggravated robbery of a 32-year-old man's taxi worth \$27,000, mobile phones and cash.

There were two separate incidents where a 49-year-old man and a 36-year-old man were charged with the unlawful possession of illicit drugs. They allegedly had 982.6 grams of cocaine and 17 kilograms of *cannabis sativa* in their possession.

Three cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence, inability to contact victim after she returned to her country, and the death of the accused person.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics January 2021* for a break-down of these statistics.

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) January 2021**

	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
Aggravated robbery	6	7	6	1	0	0
Robbery	1	3	1	1	0	0
Aggravated burglary	14	25	14	0	0	0
Theft	14	25	14	0	0	0
Receiving stolen property	3	4	2	1	0	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	3	2	2	0	1	1
Act with intent to cause grievous harm	3	2	3	0	1	0
Assault	1	1	1	0	1	1
Unlawful wounding	2	2	3	1	1	0
Unlawful possession of illicit drugs	3	2	0	0	0	0
Unlawful use of illicit drugs	1	1	0	0	0	1
Abuse of office	4	4	2	0	0	4
Failure to comply with curfew orders	4	4	0	0	0	1
Total	59	51*	33*	3*	4	8

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.

2 February 2021.

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