



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics –February 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 50 people charged with a total of 64 counts of separate incidents in February. The offences were murder (1), aggravated robbery (9), robbery (1), aggravated burglary (9), burglary (2), theft (11), receiving stolen property (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (4), act with intent to cause grievous harm (6), assault with intent to commit felony (1), unlawful wounding (2), wrongful confinement (1), grievous harm (2), arson (2), damaging property (1), unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs (3), threats at an airport (1), breach of curfew (5), criminal trespass (1), and breach of bail conditions (1).

Of the 50 accused persons, three were juveniles and two were police officers.

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

A 52-year-old police officer was charged with one of assault causing actual bodily harm to a 48-year-old man while in another incident a 23-year-old police officer was charged with the assault causing actual bodily harm to a 16-year-old boy.

There were 38 victims of the 64 counts of separate incidents.

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

A 38-year-old man was charged with the murder of a 19-year-old woman, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

A 38-year-old man was charged with act intended to cause grievous harm to his 35-year-old de facto partner with an iron rod.

There were two separate incidents of arson. In one incident, a 46-year-old man was charged with arson for allegedly setting their home on fire after separating from his wife, while in another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with arson for allegedly setting fire to his neighbour's home. The 20-year-old man was also charged with criminal trespass, breach of bail conditions and breach of curfew.

There was one incident where two 34-year-old men and a 28-year-old man were charged with assault causing actual bodily harm, damaging property and breach of curfew. It is alleged that the accused persons assaulted a taxi driver and set fire to his taxi.

A 30-year-old woman was charged with act intended to cause grievous harm to a 44-year-old woman after a drinking party.

A 37-year-old man was charged with act intended to cause grievous harm to a 28-year-old man with a cane knife. The victim was a labourer at the accused's cane farm.

Two 27-year-old men were charged with act intended to cause grievous harm to three of their flatmates.

A 39-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm, grievous harm and unlawful wounding to a 20-year-old man, a 28-year-old man and a 30-year-old man with a cane knife whilst drunk.

A 30-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to a 19-year-old with a mug.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$50 to \$19,000 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.

A 33-year-old man was charged with three counts unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs. He allegedly cultivated 227 plants of *cannabis sativa*.

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

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

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) February 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
Murder	1	1	1	1	0	0
Aggravated robbery	9	11	7	3	0	0
Robbery	1	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated burglary	9	15	8	1	1	0
Burglary	2	2	2	1	0	0
Theft	11	17	10	2	0	0
Receiving stolen property	1	1	1	0	0	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	4	6	4	0	1	2
Act intended to cause grievous harm	6	4	5	1	0	0
Assault with intent to commit felony	1	1	2	0	0	0
Unlawful wounding	2	2	2	0	0	0
Wrongful confinement	1	1	1	0	0	0
Grievous harm	2	2	4	0	0	0
Arson	2	2	2	0	1	0
Damaging property	1	3	1	0	0	0
Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs	3	1	0	0	0	0
Threats at an airport	1	1	0	0	0	0
Breach of curfew	5	5	0	0	0	0
Criminal trespass	1	1	1	0	0	0

Breach of bail conditions	1	1	0	0	0	0
Total	64	50*	38*	6*	3	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.**

3 March 2021.

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