



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – March 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 38 people charged with a total of 75 counts of separate incidents in March. The offences were rape (55), attempt to commit rape (1), abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge (2), aiding and abetting rape (4) and sexual assault (13).

Of the 38 people charged, 13 were juveniles. There was one incident where 8 juveniles were charged with the rape of a 14-year-old girl from their school while a 17-year-old girl was charged for aiding and abetting rape.

A 16-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 9-year-old niece.

A 12-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy were charged with the rape of a 12-year-old girl from their village on separate occasions.

In another incident, a 17-year-old boy was charged with the rape of a 12-year-old girl from his village.

There were 28 victims of whom 18 victims were under the age of 18 years. There were 26 female victims and two male victims.

There were 14 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 61-year-old man was charged with two counts of rape and one count of attempt to commit the rape of his 30-year-old daughter while in another incident, a 47-year-old man was charged with two counts of rape and three counts of sexual assault of his 14-year-old daughter.

A 50-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 11-year-old granddaughter while in another incident, a 43-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 15-year-old grandson.

There was one incident where a 61-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 18-year-old stepdaughter. The accused was also charged with two counts of indecently annoying a person. **(NB: The offence of indecently annoying is not recorded in the statistics table).**

A 58-year-old man was charged with three counts of rape and three counts of sexual assault of his 15-year-old stepdaughter while in another incident, a 50-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 19-year-old stepdaughter.

In another incident, a 35-year-old man was charged with three representative counts of rape of his 15-year-old stepdaughter.

A 74-year-old man was charged with two counts of rape and three counts of sexual assault of his 14-year-old niece while in another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 10-year-old niece.

A 25-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 14-year-old niece while a 31-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 27-year-old sister-in-law.

A 24-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 51-year-old de facto partner, however, this matter was withdrawn after the victim admitted making a false complaint.

There was one incident where a 61-year-old man was charged with the rape of an 11-year-old girl. The accused and the victim were neighbours at the time of the incident.

There was one incident where a 42-year-old taxi driver was charged with the rape of a 36-year-old woman. The accused allegedly took the victim to a motel and raped her after threatening her with a steel rod.

A 23-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 24-year-old woman. The accused and the victim were colleagues and the incident allegedly occurred whilst the victim was unconscious after a party.

A 39-year-old man was recharged with the rape, sexual assault, abduction with intent to commit rape and wrongful confinement of a 12-year-old girl. The accused was also charged with one count of wrongful confinement. The accused was earlier discharged after a discontinuance was filed when the complainant went missing. **(NB: *The offence of wrongful confinement is recorded separately*).**

Five cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence, death of the accused, false complaint and inability to locate the complainant.

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



## ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics March 2021

	Rape	Attempt to commit rape	Abduction with intent to commit rape	Aiding and abetting rape	Sexual assault	Total
No. of Counts	55	1	2	4	13	75
Total No. of Victims	28	1	2	1	7	28*
No. of Victims under 18 years	18	0	2	1	4	18*
Total No. of Accused Persons	37	1	2	1	7	38*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	12	0	0	1	0	13
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	5	0	1	0	0	5*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	14	1	0	0	5	14*
No. of False Complaints	1	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.

1 April 2021

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