



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – April 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 35 people charged with a total of 44 counts of separate incidents in April. The offences were aggravated robbery (8), aggravated burglary (8), theft (7), assault causing actual bodily harm (5), act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm (1), unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs (3), unlawful importation of illicit drugs (1), personation (1), obtaining property by deception (1), unlawful wounding (1), abduction with intent to confine (1), damaging property (2), criminal intimidation (2) and breach of curfew orders (3).

Of the 35 accused persons, 7 were juveniles and 2 were police officers. The juveniles were charged with aggravated burglary, theft, damaging property and breach of curfew orders.

A 35-year-old police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 7-year-old son. The police officer allegedly assaulted his son with a belt buckle.

In another incident, a 42-year-old police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm and criminal intimidation. The police officer allegedly assaulted and threatened his 58-year-old aunt with a knife.

There were 17 victims of the 44 counts of separate incidents. Of the 17, there were four incidents where the accused and victim were related to one another.

A 26-year-old woman was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to her 22-year-old sister-in-law.

In another incident, a 43-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm and abduction with intent to confine his former partner and her son. The accused was also charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary, theft, damaging property, criminal intimidation and sexual assault. **(NB: *The offence of sexual assault was recorded separately*).**

A 54-year-old man was charged with acting with intent to cause grievous harm to a 21-year-old man with the use of an iron rod while in another incident, a 24-year-old man was charged with unlawful wounding and assault causing actual bodily harm to a 57-year-old man with a kitchen knife.

There were two separate incidents where a 40-year-old man and a 51-year-old man were charged with the unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs however, these matters were discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

In another incident, a 56-year-old man was charged with the unlawful importation of 382.1 grams of methamphetamine, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

There was one incident where a 40-year-old man and a 47-year-old man were charged with personation and obtaining property by deception. The two accused persons allegedly stole \$6,306 worth of goods from a 53-year-old woman whilst pretending to be police officers conducting a search.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$40 to \$10,526 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop, restaurant break-ins and daylight and night street robberies.

Seven cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence, death of an accused person and complainants returning to their countries and could not be contacted.

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

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) April 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	8	8	7	4	0	0
Aggravated burglary	8	18	5	0	0	0
Theft	7	15	5	0	0	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	5	5	5	0	4	2
Act with intent to cause grievous harm	1	1	1	0	0	0
Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs	3	2	0	2	0	0
Unlawful importation of illicit drugs	1	1	0	1	0	0
Personation	1	2	1	0	0	0
Obtaining property by deception	1	2	1	0	0	0
Unlawful wounding	1	1	1	0	0	0
Abduction with intent to confine	1	1	2	0	1	0
Damaging property	2	2	2	0	0	0
Criminal intimidation	2	2	2	0	1	1
Breach of curfew orders	3	3	0	0	0	0
Total	44	35*	17*	7	4*	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.

4 May 2021

-End-