



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – May 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 39 people charged with a total of 52 counts of separate incidents in May. The offences were aggravated robbery (7), aggravated burglary (16), burglary (1), theft (16), attempted theft (1), arson (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (2), act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm (1), dangerous driving (1) and breach of curfew orders (6).

Of the 39 accused persons, 16 were juveniles and one was a police officer.

A 23-year-old police officer was charged with dangerous driving. The police officer allegedly lost control of his vehicle which resulted in minor injuries to five passengers.

There were five separate incidents where juveniles were charged with serious offences.

Two 13-year-old boys and a 15-year-old boy were charged with aggravated burglary, theft and attempted theft of approximately \$54,000 worth of assorted goods from a shop.

In another incident, two 13-year-old boys and a 15-year-old boy were charged with aggravated burglary and theft of assorted items worth \$300 and \$1,555 cash from a shop. The juveniles were also charged with breach of curfew orders.

A 13-year-old and a 15-year-old boy were charged with aggravated burglary and theft of assorted items worth \$1,100 from a shopping complex. The juveniles were also charged with breach of curfew orders.

In another incident, a 16-year-old boy and a 17-year-old boy alongside a 19-year-old man were charged with aggravated burglary and theft of a packet of cigarettes and \$700 cash from a canteen.

Three 17-year-old boys were charged with aggravated burglary and theft of a brush cutter while in another incident, a 17-year-old boy was charged with aggravated robbery of \$545 worth of assorted items from a 21-year-old man during a street mugging.

A 15-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy were charged with aggravated burglary and theft of assorted items worth \$1,398.50 from a construction site.

There were 24 victims of the 52 counts of separate incidents. Of the 24, there were three incidents where the accused and victim were related to one another.

A 35-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 38-year-old de facto partner.

In another incident, a 30-year-old man and a 32-year-old woman were charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to their 21-year-old sister.

There was one incident where a 37-year-old man was charged with act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 31-year-old wife. The accused allegedly struck his wife on the head with a hammer.

A 44-year-old man was charged with arson for allegedly setting his neighbour's house on fire.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$50 to \$54,000 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop break-ins and daylight and night street robberies.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence.

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

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) May 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	7	10	9	2	0	0
Aggravated burglary	16	23	6	0	0	0
Burglary	1	2	1	0	0	0
Theft	16	23	6	0	0	0
Attempted theft	1	3	1	0	0	0
Arson	1	1	1	0	0	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	2	3	2	0	2	0
Act with intent to cause grievous harm	1	1	1	0	1	0
Dangerous driving	1	1	5	0	0	1
Breach of curfew orders	6	6	0	0	0	0
Total	52	39*	24*	2	3	1

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 June 2021

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