



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – October 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 26 people charged with a total of 53 counts of separate incidents in October. The offences were rape (40), abduction with the intent to have carnal knowledge (2), aiding and abetting rape (1), indecent assault (2), and sexual assault (8).

There were 25 victims of whom 17 victims were under the age of 18 years. Of the 25 accused persons, four were juveniles and three were police officers.

A 17-year-old boy and a 12-year-old boy were charged with representative counts of rape of a 5-year-old girl. The 17-year-old boy is the cousin of the victim.

In another incident, a 14-year-old boy was charged with the rape of an 8-year-old girl from his village.

There was one incident where a 17-year-old boy was charged with three counts of rape and two counts of sexual assault of a 16-year-old girl. The accused was also charged with one count of robbery. **(NB: The offence of robbery is recorded separately).**

A 25-year-old police officer was charged with the rape of a 19-year-old police officer, while in another incident, a 42-year-old police officer was charged with two counts of indecent assault of a 34-year-old police officer.

There was one incident where a 45-year-old police officer was charged with abduction with the intent to have carnal knowledge of a 16-year-old girl, however, this matter was withdrawn due to insufficient evidence.

There were nine incidents where the victim and the accused were related to one another.

A 58-year-old man was charged with representative counts of rape of his 4-year-old granddaughter while in another incident, a 68-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his two 7-year-old granddaughters.

There was one incident where a 54-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 12-year-old girl and a 10-year-old girl. The accused is the stepfather and step uncle of the victims.

In another incident, a 37-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 17-year-old stepdaughter, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

There were two separate incidents where a 45-year-old man and a 36-year-old man were charged with the rape and sexual assault of their 12-year-old and 26-year-old stepdaughters.

A 39-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 11-year-old niece while in another incident, a 22-year-old man was charged with five counts of rape of his 15-year-old cousin.

There was one incident where a 22-year-old man was charged with three counts of rape, one count of sexual assault and one count of abduction with the intent to have carnal knowledge of his 16-year-old girlfriend.

An 18-year-old man was charged with rape and assault causing actual bodily harm to a 35-year-old woman from his village. **(NB: The offence of assault causing actual bodily harm is recorded separately).**

A 22-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 15-year-old girl from his village, while in another incident, a 22-year-old man and a 26-year-old man were charged with the rape of a 29-year-old woman after a drinking party.

There was one incident where a 23-year-old man and a 17-year-old boy were charged with rape and aiding and abetting rape, however, this matter was discontinued due to inconsistent evidence.

A 23-year-old man was charged with the rape of an 18-year-old woman, however, this matter was withdrawn due to inconsistent evidence.

There were two separate incidents where a 35-year-old man and a 21-year-old man were charged with the rape of a 22-year-old woman and a 17-year-old girl, however, these matters were withdrawn after the victims admitted to making false complaints.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics October 2021

	Rape	Abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge	Aiding and abetting rape	Indecent assault	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	40	2	1	2	8	53
Total No. of Victims	23	2	1	1	7	25*
No. of Victims under 18 years	15	2	1	0	5	17*
Total No. of Accused Persons	24	2	2	1	6	26*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	4	0	0	0	1	4*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	5	1	1	0	0	6*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	9	0	0	0	4	9*
No. of False Complaints	2	0	0	0	0	2

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 November 2021

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