



## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – December 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 22 people charged with a total of 60 counts of separate incidents in December. The offences were rape (41), attempted rape (2), indecent assault (2), defilement (1) and sexual assault (14).

There were 21 victims of whom 18 victims were under the age of 18 years. There were 18 female victims and three male victims.

Of the 22 accused persons, six were juveniles.

A 17-year-old boy was charged with the rape, sexual assault and indecent assault of a 9-year-old girl, two 10-year-old girls and an 11-year-old girl. The accused is the uncle of two of the victims. He was also charged with two counts of indecently annoying. **(NB: The offence of indecently annoying is recorded separately).**

A 15-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 6-year-old niece.

There was one incident where a 16-year-old boy was charged with the rape of a 14-year-old girl from his village.

There were two separate incidents where two 15-year-old boys were charged with the rape of a 9-year-old boy and a 7-year-old girl from their village. The DPP has sanctioned the charges for the same and the file has been sent to police to formally charge the juveniles.

There was one incident where a 17-year-old boy was charged with burglary and attempted rape. The accused allegedly broke into a house and attempted to rape a 3-year-old girl. **(NB: The offence of burglary is recorded separately).**

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

A 61-year-old man was charged with five representative counts of rape and three counts of sexual assault of his 14-year-old stepdaughter. The accused allegedly started raping his stepdaughter when she was 10-years-old.

In another incident, a 37-year-old man was charged with four counts of rape and four counts of sexual assault of his 15-year-old stepdaughter.

A 53-year-old man was charged with four counts of rape, one count of attempted rape and two counts of sexual assault of his 18-year-old niece.

There was one incident of gang rape where two 19-year-old men, one 18-year-old man, a 21-year-old man and a 24-year-old man were charged with the rape of a 24-year-old woman. One of the accused was the uncle while the others were the victim's cousins.

A 32-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 13-year-old girl. The accused was the security guard at the victim's family home.

There was one incident where a 21-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 14-year-old girl while in another incident a 21-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 29-year-old woman from his village.

An 18-year-old man was charged with the defilement of a 14-year-old girl after a drinking party.

A 50-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 13-year-old boy from his village.

A 39-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of an 11-year-old boy, however, this matter was discontinued after the death of the accused.

A 47-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 16-year-old girl, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim admitted to making a false complaint.

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



### ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics December 2021

	Rape	Attempted rape	Indecent assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	41	2	2	1	14	60
Total No. of Victims	19	2	2	1	7	21*
No. of Victims under 18 years	14	1	2	1	6	18*
Total No. of Accused Persons	20	2	1	1	7	22*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	5	1	1	0	1	5*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	0	0	0	0	2*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	6	1	1	0	4	6*
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.

4 January 2022

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