



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics – May 2022

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 73 people charged with a total of 80 counts of separate incidents in May. The offences were aggravated robbery (14), attempted aggravated robbery (2), aggravated burglary (17), burglary (2), theft (20), arson (2), assault causing actual bodily harm (8), act with intent to cause grievous harm (3), grievous harm (1), unlawful wounding (1), dangerous driving (2), driving with excess blood alcohol (1), abuse of office (2), criminal trespass (1), criminal intimidation (1), damaging property (2) and unlawful use of illicit drugs (1).

There were 52 victims of the 80 counts of separate incidents. There were six incidents where the accused and the victims were related to one another.

Of the 73 accused persons, 10 were juvenile and 13 were police officers.

The juveniles were charged with aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences.

A 37-year-old police officer was charged with four counts of assault causing actual bodily harm and one count of act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 37-year-old wife. The accused allegedly assaulted his wife with a cane knife and an extension cord.

A 26-year-old police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 25-year-old wife.

In another incident, a 36-year-old police officer was charged with one count of assault causing actual bodily harm, one count of criminal trespass and one count of damaging property. The accused allegedly assaulted his 36-year-old former de facto partner.

There was one incident where a 35-year-old police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm and damaging property. The accused allegedly assaulted a taxi driver and damaged his taxi.

A 29-year-old police officer was charged with dangerous driving while in another incident, a 37-year-old police officer was charged with driving with excess blood alcohol.

A 41-year-old police officer was charged with dangerous driving, however, this matter was withdrawn due to insufficient evidence.

There was one incident where a 54-year-old police officer was charged with the theft of \$3,600 which were exhibits from a drug raid.

A 34-year-old, a 37-year-old and a 47-year-old police officer were charged with one count of abuse of office. The three officers allegedly tried to cover up a serious road accident. The DPP has sanctioned the charges and the file has been sent to police to formally charge these officers.

A 27-year-old police officer was charged with one count of abuse of office. The DPP has sanctioned the charges and the file has been sent to police to formally charge these officers.

There was one incident where a 21-year-old police officer was charged with the unlawful use of illicit drugs.

A 33-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 37-year-old brother with a kitchen knife.

There was one incident where a 35-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 29-year-old cousin. The accused allegedly hit the victim with a chair for being drunk and not observing "taboo" following the death of her grandfather.

In another incident, a 27-year-old woman was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm. The accused allegedly stabbed her 29-year-old flatmate on the back and arm with a chopper.

A 24-year-old man was charged with the unlawful wounding of a 32-year-old woman. The accused allegedly used a cane knife to wound his neighbour during an argument.

In another incident, a 38-year-old man was charged with grievous harm. The accused allegedly assaulted a 28-year-old man with a kitchen knife after a drinking party.

A 40-year-old man was charged with arson while in another incident, a 27-year-old man was charged with arson of the village chiefly bure.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$20 to \$28,000 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop burglaries, vehicle thefts, daylight and night street robberies.

Five 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 2022* for a break-down of these statistics.

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) May 2022**

	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	14	21	15	2	0	0
Attempted aggravated robbery	2	2	2	0	0	0
Aggravated burglary	17	26	16	1	0	0
Burglary	2	2	2	1	0	0
Theft	20	29	18	1	0	1
Arson	2	2	2	0	0	0
Assault causing grievous bodily harm	8	5	6	0	4	4
Acts with intent to cause grievous harm	3	3	3	0	1	1
Grievous harm	1	1	1	0	0	0
Unlawful wounding	1	1	1	0	0	0
Dangerous driving	2	2	0	1	0	2
Driving with excess alcohol	1	1	0	0	0	1
Abuse of office	2	4	0	0	0	4
Criminal trespass	1	1	1	0	1	1
Criminal intimidation	1	1	1	0	1	0
Damaging property	2	2	2	0	1	2
Unlawful use of illicit drugs	1	1	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	80	73*	52*	5*	6*	13*

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.

3 June 2022

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