



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – August 2023

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 33 people charged with a total of 73 counts of sexual offences in August. The counts for sexual offences were rape (56), abduction with intent to commit rape (1), indecent assault (5) and sexual assault (11).

Of the 33 accused persons, four were juveniles.

There were 32 victims of whom 19 victims were under the age of 18 years. There was one male victim and 31 female victims.

There were 20 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 15-year-old boy was charged with the rape of a 12-year-old girl from his village.

In another incident, a 12-year-old boy and two 17-year-old boys were charged with the rape of their 10-year-old niece.

There was one incident where a 76-year-old man was charged with the rape and indecent assault of his 8-year-old granddaughter, however, this matter was discontinued after the death of the accused person.

In another incident, a 60-year-old man was charged with the rape, indecent assault and sexual assault of his 16-year-old granddaughter, however, this matter was discontinued due to inconsistent evidence.

A 54-year-old man was charged with three counts of rape of his 15-year-old granddaughter, while in another incident, a 75-year-old man was charged with the rape, indecent assault and sexual assault of his 12-year-old grandniece.

In another incident, a 49-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 5-year-old grandniece.

A 41-year-old man was charged with six counts of rape of his 12-year-old stepdaughter.

An 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 23-year-old stepsister while in another incident, an 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 16-year-old cousin.

There was one incident where a 58-year-old man was charged with the rape, indecent assault and sexual assault of his 16-year-old niece.

A 32-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 14-year-old niece while in another incident, a 52-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 21-year-old niece.

A 42-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 16-year-old cousin while in another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 24-year-old cousin.

There was one incident where a 30-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 19-year-old cousin. The accused was also charged with one count of wrongful confinement. ***(NB: The offence of wrongful confinement is recorded separately).***

A 62-year-old was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 43-year-old wife, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

A 44-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 33-year-old wife while in another incident, a 35-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 43-year-old de facto partner.

In another incident, a 23-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 20-year-old girlfriend.

A 23-year-old man was charged with the rape and abduction with intent to commit rape of a 15-year-old girl.

There was one incident where a 27-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 17-year-old boy. The victim had taken a shortcut route to walk to school when he was allegedly grabbed and sexually assaulted by the accused person who was drinking along the area.

Nine cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to false complaints, insufficient and inconsistent evidence and the death of an accused person.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences August 2023* for a break-down of these statistics.



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics August 2023

	Rape	Abduction with intent to commit rape	Indecent Assault	Sexual assault	Total
No. of Counts	56	1	5	11	73
Total No. of Victims	32	1	4	9	32*
No. of Victims under 18 years	19	1	4	5	19*
Total No. of Accused Persons	33	1	4	9	33*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	4	0	0	0	4
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	9	0	2	2	9*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	20	0	4	6	20*
No. of False Complaints	2	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.**

4 September 2023

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