



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence 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 crimes other than sexual violence offences which are recorded and published separately. This data also includes offences committed by police officers.

There were 56 people charged with a total of 67 counts of serious offences in August. The counts for serious crimes were murder (2), attempted murder (1), manslaughter (1), manslaughter arising from breach of duty (2), aggravated robbery (7), aggravated burglary (11), burglary (3), theft (17), arson (1), attempted arson (1), assault causing actual bodily harm (7), acts with intent to cause grievous harm (5), grievous harm (1), common assault (1), serious assault (1), unlawful cultivation (2), wrongful confinement (1), careless driving (1), breach of bail conditions (1) and breach of suspended sentence (1).

There were 38 victims of the 67 counts of serious offences. There were 10 incidents where the accused and the victim were related to one another.

Of the 56 accused person, three were police officers.

A 41-year-old police officer was charged with one count of careless driving.

A 25-year-old police officer was charged with one count of common assault while in another incident, a 55-year-old police officer was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his wife, however, both these cases were discontinued due to inconsistent and insufficient evidence.

There was one incident where a 28-year-old man and a 23-year-old man were charged with the murder of a 37-year-old man, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

In another incident, a 25-year-old man was charged with the attempted murder of his 59-year-old father.

There was one incident where five men were charged with the manslaughter of a 27-year-old man. The accused persons allegedly assaulted the victim which resulted in his death.

A 34-year-old man and a 35-year-old woman were charged with one count of manslaughter arising from breach of duty which resulted in the death of their 2-year-old daughter. The parents allegedly failed to take their daughter to the hospital on time after the child suffered severe burn from boiling water.

In another incident, a 28-year-old man was charged with one count of manslaughter arising from breach of duty. The accused was charged for the alleged death of his 8 month old niece, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

A 33-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and assault causing actual bodily harm to his 33-year-old wife. The accused was also charged with one count of breach of his bail conditions. The accused allegedly beat his wife with a piece of wood and burnt her feet with a hair straightener.

In another incident, a 34-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and assault causing actual bodily harm to his 32-year-old de facto partner. The accused allegedly punched and kicked the victim.

A 30-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to his 22-year-old de facto partner with a kitchen knife.

There was one incident where a 49-year-old man was charged with an attempted arson. The accused allegedly tried to burn the house of his 44-year-old de facto partner.

A 37-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to a 52-year-old man with a cane knife while in another incident, a 36-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to a 28-year-old man with a kitchen knife.


Cash and assorted items ranging from \$20 to \$12, 110 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, shop and garage burglaries, carjacking, day and night street robberies.

There was one incident where 22-year-old man was with arson for allegedly setting fire to a 59-year-old man's house. The accused was also charged with one count of burglary and theft for stealing assorted items from the victim's house.

A 20-year-old man was charged with the unlawful cultivation of 23 plants of *cannabis sativa* while in another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with the unlawful cultivation of 131 plants of *cannabis sativa*.

Seven cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to inconsistent and insufficient evidence and the inability to locate or contact the victims.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics August 2023* for a break-down of these statistics.

	ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) August 2023					
	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
Murder	2	2	1	1	0	0
Attempted Murder	1	1	1	0	1	0
Manslaughter	1	5	1	0	0	0
Manslaughter arising from breach of duty	2	3	2	1	2	0
Aggravated robbery	7	12	7	3	0	0
Aggravated burglary	11	19	9	0	0	0
Burglary	3	3	6	0	0	0
Theft	17	20	15	0	0	0
Arson	1	1	1	0	0	0
Attempted arson	1	1	1	0	1	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	7	5	5	1	3	1
Act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm	5	5	5	0	3	0
Grievous harm	1	1	1	0	0	0
Common assault	1	1	1	1	1	1
Serious assault	1	1	1	0	0	0
Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs	2	2	0	0	0	0
Wrongful confinement	1	1	1	0	1	0
Careless driving	1	1	0	0	0	1
Breach of bail conditions	1	1	1	0	0	0
Breach of suspended sentence	1	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	67	56*	38*	7	10*	3
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. Statistics on Sexual violence offences are recorded and published separately.**

6 September 2023.

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