



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – September 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 16 people charged with a total of 43 counts of sexual offences in September. The counts for sexual offences were rape (27), indecent assault (5) and sexual assault (11).

Of the 16 accused persons, three were juveniles.

There were 17 victims of whom 11 victims were under the age of 18 years. There was one male victim and 16 female victims

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

A 14-year-old boy was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 4-year-old girl from his village while in another incident, a 16-year-old boy was charged with the rape of a 7-year-old girl.

A 15-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 9-year-old niece.

There was one incident where a 56-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 14-year-old grandson.

In another incident, a 47-year-old man was charged with the rape, sexual assault, indecent assault and common assault of his 18-year-old daughter. **(NB: *The offence of common assault is recorded separately*).**

A 37-year-old man was charged with multiple counts of rape and sexual assault of his 11-year-old niece while in another incident, a 43-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 14-year-old niece.

A 46-year-old man was charged with the representative counts of rape of his 10-year-old niece and two representative counts of rape and indecent assault of his 13-year-old niece.

There was one incident where a 46-year-old man was charged with the sexual assault of his 22-year-old niece.

A 52-year-old man was charged with the rape and indecent assault of a 5-year-girl from his village.

A 37-year-old man was charged with the aggravated robbery and indecent assault of a 46-year-old woman. **(NB: *The offence of aggravated robbery is recorded separately*).**

There was one incident where a 23-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 18-year-old girlfriend, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim could not be contacted or located.

A 32-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 23-year-old woman during a drinking party while in another incident, a 49-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 15-year-old girl from his village.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient evidence and the inability to contact or locate the victim.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics September 2023

	Rape	Indecent Assault	Defilement	Sexual assault	Total
No. of Counts	27	5	0	11	43
Total No. of Victims	15	4	0	7	17*
No. of Victims under 18 years	11	2	0	3	11*
Total No. of Accused Persons	14	4	0	7	16*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	3	0	0	1	3*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	0	0	1	2*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	8	2	0	4	9*
No. of False Complaints	0	0	0	0	0
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.**

12 October 2023

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