



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

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

There were 42 people charged with a total of 48 counts of serious offences in September. The counts for serious crimes were murder (1), attempted murder (1), manslaughter (3), aggravated robbery (4), aggravated burglary (11), theft (11), assault causing actual bodily harm (1), acts with intent to cause grievous harm (4), common assault (1), unlawful wounding (1), attempted arson (1), dangerous driving causing death (1), dangerous driving causing grievous harm (1), driving without driver's license (1), driving without third party policy (1), failure to report an accident (1), unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs (1), unlawful possession of illicit drugs (1), and breach of suspended sentence (1).

There were 26 victims of the 48 counts of serious offences. There were five incidents where the accused and the victim were related to one another.

Of the 42 accused person, eight were juveniles.

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

A 40-year-old man was charged with the murder of his 2-years 6month old nephew. The accused allegedly stabbed the child with a knife which resulted in his death. He was also charged with the attempted murder of another, however, this matter was discontinued due to the death (unrelated) of the victim.

There was one incident where a 46-year-old man, a 22-year-old man and a 20-year-old man were charged with one count of manslaughter. The accused persons allegedly assaulted a bus driver which resulted in his death.

In another incident, a 19-year-old man was charged with one count of manslaughter. The accused allegedly assaulted a 25-year-old man outside a night club which resulted in his death.

There was one incident where a 35-year-old man was charged with one count of manslaughter, one count of driving without a driver's license and one count of driving without a third party policy. The accused allegedly drove a motor vehicle in a reckless manner which resulted in the death of a 24-year-old man.

In another incident, a 28-year-old man was charged with one count of dangerous driving causing death. The accused allegedly drove a motor vehicle in a dangerous manner which caused resulted in the death of a 32-year-old man. The accused was also charged with dangerous driving causing grievous harm to a bystander at the time of the accident and failing to report an accident.

A 73-year-old man was charged with an assault causing actual bodily harm to his 34-year-old daughter. The accused allegedly assaulted his daughter with a cane knife.

In another incident, a 47-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient and inconsistent evidence.

There was one incident where a 31-year-old woman was charged with two counts of act with intent to cause grievous harm to her 34-year-old husband. The accused allegedly wounded the victim with a kitchen knife and a cement block.

In another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm and one count of attempted arson. The accused allegedly wounded a 24-year-old woman with a beer bottle and attempted to set her house on fire after an altercation.

Cash and assorted items ranging from \$20 to \$30,790 were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences which consisted of home invasions, supermarket and hardware shop burglaries, carjacking, day and night street robberies.

Five cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to inconsistent and insufficient evidence.

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



ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) September 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	1	1	1	0	1	0
Attempted Murder	1	1	1	1	1	0
Manslaughter	3	5	3	0	0	0
Aggravated robbery	4	5	4	1	0	0
Aggravated burglary	11	22	11	1	0	0
Theft	11	22	11	1	0	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	1	1	1	0	1	0
Act with intent to cause grievous bodily harm	4	3	3	1	2	0
Common assault	1	1	1	0	1	0
Unlawful wounding	1	1	1	1	0	0
Attempted arson	1	1	1	0	0	0
Dangerous driving occasioning death	1	1	1	0	0	0
Dangerous driving causing grievous harm	1	1	1	0	0	0
Driving without driver's license	1	1	0	0	0	0
Driving without third party policy	1	1	0	0	0	0
Failure to report after an accident	1	1	0	0	0	0
Unlawful cultivation of illicit drugs	1	3	0	0	0	0
Unlawful possession of illicit drugs	1	3	0	0	0	0
Breach of suspended sentence	2	2	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	48	42*	26*	5*	5*	0

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.**

16 October 2023.

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