

ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics - August 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 sexual offences only.

There were 41 people charged with a total of 78 counts of separate incidents in August. The offences were rape (45) attempted rape (2), abduction with intent to commit rape (1), aiding and abetting rape (2), indecent assault (3), and sexual assault (25).

Of the 41 people charged, nine were juveniles and one was a police officer.

There were 36 victims of whom 24 victims were under the age of 18 years. Of the 36 victims, one was a male victim and 35 were female victims.

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

A 51-year-old police officer was charged with two counts of sexual assault of a 32-year-old police officer.

There was one incident where a 16-year-old boy was charged with two counts of rape, one count of sexual assault and one count of indecently annoying his 9-year-old cousin.

In another incident, a 15-year-old boy was charged with one representative count of rape of his 5-year-old niece while in another incident, a 15-year-old boy was charged with one representative count of rape of an 8-year-old girl from his village.

There was one incident of gang rape. A 16-year-old boy, two 17-year-old boys and two 18-year-old men were charged with the rape of a 19-year-old woman. One of the accused persons was also charged with aiding and abetting rape.

In another incident, a 14-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy were charged with two counts of rape of a 14-year-old girl from their village. One of the juveniles was also charged with aiding and abetting rape.

A 14-year-old boy was charged with four counts of sexual assault of a 10-year-old girl. The accused and the victim were neighbours at the time of the incident.

A 38-year-old man was charged with one representative count of rape of his 8-year-old stepdaughter while in another incident, a 36-year-old man was charged with one count of rape, four counts of sexual assault and one count of indecently annoying his 14-year-old stepdaughter.

In another incident, a 40-year-old man was charged with three counts of rape, one count of attempted rape, one count of indecent assault and one count of indecently annoying his 11-year-old stepdaughter while in another incident, a 45-year-old man was charged with the rape, attempted rape, sexual assault and indecent annoying his 21-year-old stepdaughter.

There was one incident where a 65-year-old man was charged with the rape, sexual assault and indecent assault of his 16-year-old granddaughter, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim went overseas and could not be contacted.

There was one incident of marital rape where a 39-year-old man was charged with two counts of rape of his 33-year-old wife.

A 29-year-old man was charged with two counts of rape and one count of sexual assault of his 12-year-old sister.

There was one incident where a 21-year-old man was charged with the rape and abduction with intent to commit rape of his 16-year-old niece while in another incident, a 23-year-old man was charged with the sexual assault of his nephew and in another incident a 21-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 12-year-old niece.

A 52-year-old man was charged with one representative count of rape of his 13-year-old niece while in another incident, a 49-year-old man was charged with one representative count of rape of his 10-year-old niece.

In another incident, a 19-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 16-year-old cousin while a 30-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 28-year-old cousin.

A 47-year-old man was charged with one representative count of rape and sexual assault of his 19-year-old niece while in another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with the rape and indecent assault of his 12-year-old sister-in-law.

In another incident a 26-year-old man was charged with two counts of rape and four counts of sexual assault of his 21-year-old sister-in-law.

A 25-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 7-year-old girl from his village while in another incident, a 32-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 17-year-old girl from his village.

A 47-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 5-year-old girl while in another incident, a 21-year-old man was charged with the rape and assault causing actual bodily harm to his 17-year-old girlfriend. (NB: *The offence of assault causing actual bodily harm is recorded separately*).

There was one incident where a 27-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 52-year-old employee.

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

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences August 2022* for a break-down of these statistics.



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics August 2022

	Rape	Attempted rape	Abduction with intent to have carnal knowledge	Aiding and Abetting rape	Indecent assault	Sexual assault	Total
No. of Counts	45	2	1	2	3	25	78
Total No. of Victims	32	2	1	2	3	13	36*
No. of Victims under 18 years	22	1	1	1	3	8	24*
Total No. of Accused Persons	37	2	1	2	3	13	41*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	9	0	0	2	0	3	9*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	6	0	0	0	1	1	6*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	19	2	1	0	3	8	20*
No. of False Complaints	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
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.

1 September 2022