



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – June 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 55 counts of sexual offences in June. The counts for sexual offences were rape (41), attempted rape (1), assault with intent to commit rape (1), aiding and abetting rape (4) indecent assault (1) and sexual assault (7).

Of the 16 accused persons, one was a police officer.

There were 16 victims of whom 10 victims were under the age of 18 years.

There were 8 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 41-year-old police officer was charged with the rape, attempted rape and assault with intent to commit rape of his 18-year-old sister-in-law.

A 67-year-old man was charged with 12 counts of rape of his 10-year-old granddaughter while in another incident a 38-year-old man was charged with four counts of rape, one count of indecent assault and one count of sexual assault of his 12-year-old daughter.

There was one incident where a 28-year-old man was charged with four counts of rape and three counts of sexual assault of his 18-year-old and 15-year-old stepdaughters. The accused person allegedly started committing the offence in 2017 when the elder stepdaughter was 12-years old.

In another incident, a 46-year-old man was charged with three counts of rape of his 19-year-old stepdaughter.

There was one incident where a 20-year-old woman was charged with three counts of aiding and abetting rape of her 10-year-old niece. The accused allegedly aided her husband who was formerly charged of raping her niece.

A 41-year-old man was charged with the sexual assault of his 13-year-old niece while in another incident, an 18-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 14-year-old cousin.

There was one incident where a 31-year old man was charged with the rape and assault causing actual bodily harm to his 21-year-old girlfriend. ***(NB: The offence of assault causing actual bodily harm is recorded separately).***

A 21-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 14-year-old girl from his village while in another incident, a 25-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 15-year-old girl from his village.

There was one incident where a 32-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 22-year-old woman. The accused person was a friend of the victim's husband.

A 26-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 14-year-old girl, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim admitted to making a false complaint.

In another incident, a 24-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 22-year-old woman, however, this matter was discontinued to insufficient evidence.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics June 2023

| | Rape | Attempted Rape | Assault with intent to commit rape | Aiding and Abetting rape | Indecent Assault | Sexual assault | Total |
|--|------|----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|-------|
| No. of Counts | 41 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 55 |
| Total No. of Victims | 14 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 16* |
| No. of Victims under 18 years | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 10* |
| Total No. of Accused Persons | 13 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 16* |
| No. of Accused Persons under 18 years | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 8* |
| 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.**

5 July 2023

-End-