



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – March 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 24 people charged with a total of 48 counts of sexual offences in March. The offences were rape (30), attempted rape (2), defilement (4), indecently annoying (1) and sexual assault (11).

Of the 24 accused persons, two were juveniles

There were 21 victims of whom 14 victims were under the age of 18 years. There were two male victims and 19 female victims.

There were 13 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 13-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 6-year-old nephew while in another incident, a 17-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 9-year-old niece.

A 38-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 3-year-old stepdaughter while in another incident, a 40-year-old man was charged with four counts of rape and one count of sexual assault of his 14-year-old stepdaughter.

There was one incident where a 70-year-old man was charged with three counts of rape and one count of sexual assault of his 23-year-old daughter-in-law.

There was one incident where a 42-year-old man and a 19-year-old man were charged with the rape of a 22-year-old woman. The accused persons are the uncle and cousin of the victim. The accused persons allegedly raped the victim after making her unconscious with glue.

A 24-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 16-year-old sister-in-law.

A 40-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 9-year-old niece while in another incident, 20-year-old man was charged with rape and indecently annoying his 8-year-old nephew.

There were two incidents of marital rape. A 33-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 31 year-old wife while in another incident, a 35-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 29-year-old wife, however, this matter was withdrawn due to a false complaint.

A 47-year-old man was charged with five counts of rape and three counts of sexual assault of his 14-year-old cousin while in another incident, a 25-year-old man was charged with the defilement of his 16-year-old niece.

A 19-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 27-year-old woman. The accused and the victim were neighbours at the time of the incident.

There was one incident where a 26-year-old man and a 62-year-old man were charged with the rape of a 19-year-old woman. The accused persons allegedly committed the offence whilst the victim was sleeping.

There was one incident where an 18-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 9-year-old girl. The accused person is the landlord's son who allegedly raped his tenant's daughter.

A 37-year-old taxi driver was charged with the rape, attempted rape and sexual assault of an 18-year-old woman who was a passenger in his taxi.

A 21-year-old man was charged with the defilement of a 14-year-old girl while in another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with the defilement of a 15-year-old girl.

In another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with the defilement of a 15-year-girl from his village.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to false complaints.

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



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics March 2023

	Rape	Attempted rape	Defilement	Indecently annoying	Sexual assault	Total
No. of Counts	30	2	4	1	11	48
Total No. of Victims	17	2	4	1	7	21*
No. of Victims under 18 years	10	0	4	1	5	14*
Total No. of Accused Persons	19	3	4	1	7*	24*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	2	0	0	0	0	2
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	2	0	0	0	0	2
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	12	1	1	1	4	13*
No. of False Complaints	2	0	0	0	0	2

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.**

4 April 2023

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