



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – May 2024

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 39 people charged with a total of 113 counts of sexual offences in May. The counts for sexual offences consist of rape (78), attempted rape (1), indecent assault (5), defilement (1), and sexual assault (28).

Of the 39 accused persons, six were juveniles.

There were 38 victims of whom 22 victims were under the age of 18 years. There were six male victims and 32 female victims.

There were 21 incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 12-year-old boy was charged with the rape of a 7-year-old girl while in another incident, a 16-year-old boy was charged with the rape of a 7-year-old girl.

A 17-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 6-year-old stepsister while in another incident a 17-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 9-year-old stepsister and 11-year-old cousin.

There was one incident where a 16-year-old boy with three other accused persons were charged with the rape of a 21-year-old woman and a 38-year-old woman, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

A 16-year-old boy was charged with the defilement of a 13-year-old girl.

A 39-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 16-year-old daughter while in another incident, a 51-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 15-year-old stepdaughter.

In another incident, a 41-year-old man was charged with four counts of rape and five counts of sexual assault of his 12-year-old stepdaughter.

A 61-year-old man was charged with the rape, indecent assault and sexual assault of his 16-year-old stepdaughter while in another incident a 34-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 12-year-old stepdaughter.

A 31-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 29-year-old wife while in another incident, a 36-year-old man was charged with the rape and assault causing actual bodily harm to his 36-year-old wife. **(NB: The offence of assault causing actual bodily harm is recorded separately).**

A 42-year-old man was charged with three representative counts of rape of his 43-year-old de facto partner while in another incident, a 44-year-old man was charged with the rape, assault causing actual bodily harm and criminal intimidation of his 25-year-old de facto partner. ***(NB: The offence of assault causing actual bodily harm and criminal intimidation is recorded separately).***

In another incident, a 22-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 24-year-old de facto partner.

There was one incident where a 64-year-old man was charged with the rape, indecent assault and sexual assault of his 6-year-old niece.

In another incident, a 31-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 17-year-old niece.

There was one incident where a 23-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 16-year-old cousin, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

A 26-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 21-year-old sister-in-law, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

In another incident, a 50-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 17-year-old cousin, however, this matter was discontinued due to a false complaint.

A 49-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 23-year-old cousin while in another incident, an 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 14-year-old cousins. These matters were discontinued after the victims could not be located or contacted.

There was one incident where a 48-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 13-year-old cousin however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

A 25-year-old teacher of a prominent school was charged with the rape of a 15-year-old and two 17-year-old boys from his school on three separate occasions.

In another incident, a 57-year-old man was charged with the rape and sexual assault of a 16-year-old boy and an 18-year-old man from his village.

A 22-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 13-year-old boy. The accused person was also charged with one count of criminal intimidation whereby he allegedly threatened to kill the boy if he spoke of the incident. ***(NB: The offence of criminal intimidation is recorded separately).***

There was one incident where a 42-year-old man was charged with rape, sexual assault, criminal intimidation and wrongful confinement of a 22-year-old woman. ***(NB: The offence of criminal intimidation and wrongful confinement is recorded separately).***

Nine cases were discontinued after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to insufficient and inconsistent evidence, false complaint and victims could not be contacted or located.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences May 2024* for a break-down of these statistics.



ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics May 2024

	Rape	Attempted Rape	Indecent assault	Defilement	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	78	1	5	1	28	113
Total No. of Victims	37	1	5	1	14	38*
No. of Victims under 18 years	21	0	4	1	13	22*
Total No. of Accused Persons	38	1	4	1	13	39*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	5	0	1	1	3	6*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	9	1	0	0	4	9*
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	21	0	3	0	9	21*
No. of False Complaints	1	0	0	0	1	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.**

6 June 2024

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