



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

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

There were 65 people charged with a total of 70 counts of non-sexual violence offences in May. The counts for non-sexual violence offences consist of murder (3), robbery (1), attempted aggravated robbery (2), aggravated robbery (11), burglary (1), aggravated burglary (11), theft (16), attempted theft (1), receiving (1), attempt to commit arson (2), assault causing actual bodily harm (2), act with intent to cause grievous harm (4), unlawful wounding (1), serious assault (1), criminal intimidation (5), unlawful possession of illicit drugs (2), conspiracy to pervert the course of justice (1), conspiracy to knowingly and maliciously accuse any person falsely of crime (1), interfering with evidence (1), breach of bail (1), breach of suspended sentence (1), and damaging property (1).

Of the 65 people charged, 22 were juveniles and four were police officers. The juveniles were charged with the aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences.

The four police officers are charged with conspiracy to pervert the course of justice and conspiracy to knowingly and maliciously accuse any person falsely of crime. Additionally one of the police officer is charged with the unlawful possession of illicit drugs and another police officer is charged for interfering with evidence.

There were 42 victims of the 70 counts of non-sexual violence offences.

There were seven incidents where the accused and the victim were related to one another.

A 52-year-old man was charged with the murder of his 40-year-old de facto partner, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

In another incident, a 24-year-old man was charged with the murder of a 24-year-old man. The accused person allegedly struck the victim's head with a steel pipe which resulted in the victim's death.

A 44-year-old man was charged with the assault causing actual bodily harm and criminally intimidating his 25-year-old de facto partner while in another incident, a 36-year-old man was charged with assault causing actual bodily harm to his 36-year-old wife.

A 31-year-old man was charged for criminally intimidating his 17-year-old niece.

A 61-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 39-year-old wife.

In another incident, a 38-year-old man was charged with an act with intent to cause grievous harm to his 38-year-old wife. The accused was also charged for breaching a suspended sentence for a similar offence.

A 42-year-old man was charged with attempt to commit arson. The accused person allegedly attempted to set fire to his 62-year-old mother's house by setting fire to a tarpaulin situated in the house.

In another incident, a 14-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy were charged with attempt to commit arson. The accused persons allegedly attempted to set fire to a vacant house.

Cash and assorted items were stolen during the alleged aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary and theft offences which consisted of house and shop break-ins as well as post office and school burglaries, and day and night street muggings.

There was one incident where a 15-year-old boy, a 16-year-old and a 17-year-old boy were charged with aggravated burglary and theft. The juveniles allegedly broke into a retail store and stole mobile recharge cards, cigarettes and \$1400 cash.

Two 16-year-old boys and a 17-year-old boy were charged with aggravated burglary and theft. The juveniles allegedly broke into a Post Office and stole assorted fizzy drinks and chewing gums.

In another incident, a 17-year-old boy alongside a 19-year-old man and a 27-year-old man were charged with one count of aggravated robbery. The accused persons allegedly robbed a 60-year-old man of 5pack noodles and \$70 cash while the victim was returning home from a convenience store.

Two 17-year-old boys were charged with aggravated burglary and theft. The accused persons allegedly broke into a Wine and Dine restaurant and stole assorted liquor and mobile phones.

There was one incident where three 17-year-old boys were charged with aggravated burglary and theft. The juveniles allegedly broke into a school and allegedly stole 5 laptops and a speaker system.

In another incident, a 13-year-old boy, a 14-year-old boy, a 17-year-old with a 24-year-old man and a 52-year-old man were charged with aggravated burglary and theft. The accused person allegedly broke into a house and stole mobile phones, pocket wifi and assorted groceries.

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

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Serious Crime (Non-Sexual Violence Offences) Statistics May 2024* for a break-down of these statistics.

**ODPP Serious Crime (Non- Sexual Violence Offences) May 2024**

	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	3	3	3	2	1	0
Robbery	1	1	1	0	0	0
Attempted aggravated robbery	2	2	3	0	0	0
Aggravated robbery	11	14	10	1	0	0
Burglary	1	1	1	0	0	0
Aggravated burglary	11	25	12	0	0	0
Theft	16	27	13	0	0	0
Receiving stolen property	1	1	1	0	0	0
Attempt to commit arson	2	2	2	0	1	0
Assault causing actual bodily harm	2	2	2	0	2	0
Act with intent to cause grievous harm	4	4	4	0	2	0
Unlawful wounding	1	1	1	0	0	0
Serious assault	1	1	1	0	0	0
Unlawful possession of illicit drugs	2	2	0	0	0	1
Conspiracy to pervert the course of justice	1	4	1	0	0	4
Conspiracy to maliciously and knowingly accuse any person falsely of a crime	1	4	1	0	0	4
Interfering with evidence	1	1	1	0	0	1
Breach of bail	1	1	0	0	0	0
Breach of suspended sentence	1	1	1	0	0	0
Damaging property	1	1	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	70	65*	42*	3	7*	4*

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.**

7 June 2024.

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