

## ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

## ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics - December 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 12 people charged with a total of 26 counts of sexual offences in December. The counts of sexual offences include rape (17), attempted rape (1), abduction with intent to commit rape (2), indecent assault (1), and sexual assault (5).

Of the 12 accused persons, three were juveniles and one was a police officer.

There were 11 victims of whom 8 victims were under the age of 18 years. There was one male victim and 10 female victims.

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

A 16-year-old boy was charged with the rape of his 13-year-old cousin while in another incident, a 15-year-old boy was charged with the rape of a 10-year-old girl from his village.

There was one incident where a 13-year-old boy was charged with the sexual assault of a 6-year-old girl, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

A 29-year-old police officer was charged with the rape of his 28-year-old wife.

There was one incident where a 56-year-old man was charged with four counts of rape, one count of indecent assault and one count of sexual assault of his 16-year-old year-old stepdaughter.

An 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 9-year-old stepsister while in another incident, a 20-year-old man was charged with five counts of rape and two counts of sexual assault of his 14-year-old stepsister.

There was one incident where a 34-year-old man and a 27-year-old man were charged with the rape and abduction with intent to commit rape of a 21-year-old girl. The accused persons were the victim's uncle and cousin, however, this matter was discontinued due to insufficient evidence.

A 45-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 19-year-old sister-in-law.

There was one incident where a 47-year-old man was charged with the attempted rape and sexual assault of an 11-year-old boy.

A 22-year-old man was charged with the abduction with intent to commit rape of a 17-year-old girl. The accused and the victim were boyfriend and girlfriend at the time of the incident.

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (*Nolle Prosequi*) were filed due to inconsistent and insufficient evidence.

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



## **ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics December 2024**

	Rape	Attempted rape	Abduction with intent to commit rape	Indecent Assault	Sexual Assault	Total
No. of Counts	17	1	2	1	5	26
Total No. of Victims	8	1	2	1	4	11*
No. of Victims under 18 years	5	1	1	1	4	8*
Total No. of Accused Persons	9	1	3	1	4	12*
No. of Accused Persons under 18 years	2	0	0	0	1	3
No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives	7	1	1	1	2	7*
No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed	1	0	0	0	1	2
No. of False Complaints	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	1	1	1	Sou	ırce: ODPP Fiji

<sup>\*</sup> 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 January 2025