

CATCA



Internet trade of primates in Latin America

Report 2011

Research done and Report prepared by Campaigns Against the Cruelty to Animals



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Introduction

Currently, in this modern era, anyone with access to a computer can buy virtually anything online. Unfortunately, animals, and in this specific case primates, are not exempt from the Internet trade.

The last two Latin American e-commerce monitorings conducted by CATCA in 2009-2010, “Internet trade of elephant ivory in Latin America”⁽¹⁾ and “Internet trade of CITES species of animals in Ecuador”⁽²⁾, showed quite an alarming rate of e-commerce on CITES protected animal species. This trade is a growing problem, specifically because it is difficult to pinpoint the seller or sellers whose identities are hidden behind a monitor screen and then further disguised with a listing of false names and fake addresses.

Due to the interesting and controversial results we obtained from our prior research, CATCA decided to conduct a comprehensive monitoring of the Internet trade of primates in Latin America. As in the past, we conducted this investigation with the purpose of exposing new technological markets in this part of the world, which haven’t been widely investigated.

This research was carried out with the objective of being better able to assess the real extent of the problem, to expose the trade and to help reduce its quantity before it increase. Our monitoring exposes this specific kind of trade in a way that has not previously been done in Latin America.

Results obtained from this research will be delivered to the respective enforcement and management authorities of Latin America, the CITES Secretariat, Interpol, Internet service providers, institutions and experts involved in the monitoring and the management of the trade of primates. Also, we will deliver some reports to some university libraries.



The monitoring was done by the CATCA team, who speak both Spanish and English. © E. Ceballos

Methods

This investigation was done as a follow-up of our report on the e-commerce of elephant ivory in Latin America and the report on the e-commerce of protected CITES animal species in Ecuador.

With this specific study we focused specifically on the e-commerce trade of primates. The methodology we used to research the Latin American Internet trade of primates is quite different from the one created by Dr Andrzej Kepel from PTOPI Salamandra, Poland which we used for the e-commerce monitoring in Ecuador.

Our preliminary monitoring of the e-commerce of animals in Latin America showed a demand for the purchase of primates. Therefore, in the present research we narrowed our focus to live primates: simians (monkeys and apes) and prosimians.

Another major difference between the previous studies is the geographical scope of the monitoring. We chose five prominent Latin American countries to conduct this research: Mexico in North America, Guatemala in Central America and three countries in South America, with different geographic locations, economy, ethnicity and demography: Argentina, Ecuador and Uruguay. These countries have very different levels of Internet trade, and as such, the results were assumed to be quite varied.

The CATCA team conducted the research with the objective of identifying and locating website services offering the sale of primates in the countries mentioned above. We based our investigations on two dominant search engines, Google and Yahoo, and we searched for offers in both Spanish and English languages.

As in the prior investigations, we tried to assess the legal origin of the specimens for sale. When one ad didn't provide enough information to allow us to assess the offer, we tried to contact the seller(s) to ask questions about the specimen's species and origin.

Over the course of the ten-month study period (from June 2010 to March 2011), the Internet monitoring was repeated twice in each one of the 5 countries chosen for this investigation. The time frame of investigation for each country was variable because of the different scale of the trade.

If the same offer was found twice during the repetition of the monitoring, for the purpose of the analysis of the results it was counted only once.



Results

During the timeframe of our Internet investigation in the five chosen Latin American countries, CATCA found a widespread amount of primate offers on the Internet. In total 579 primate offers were found online. As we expected, significant differences in results between the countries covered by the monitoring were observed (fig. 1).

Argentina had a total of 131 offers which were 23% of the total detected advertisements. CATCA identified 18 primate species and 1 hybrid being offered for sale. We also noticed a website where there were more advertisements of people requesting to buy primates than the actual ads of people selling them.

Guatemala had 28 offers. This was a 5% of all detected ads. In this country we found the offers were comprised to 9 primate species.

Ecuador had the lowest amount of advertisements. CATCA identified 18 offers of primates for sale which accounted for 3% of all detected advertisements in our investigation. We identified 8 primate species being offered for sale in this country.

Mexico had 286 detected offers, which clearly puts it as the dominating Latin American country contributing to the trade of primates, with an alarming 49% of all the online offers found during this monitoring. In this country, our team found 24 primate species and 1 primate hybrid being offered for sale.

Uruguay had 116 advertisements of primates sales located online, which is 20% of all the detected ads found within our study. We found 14 primate species offered for sale in this country.

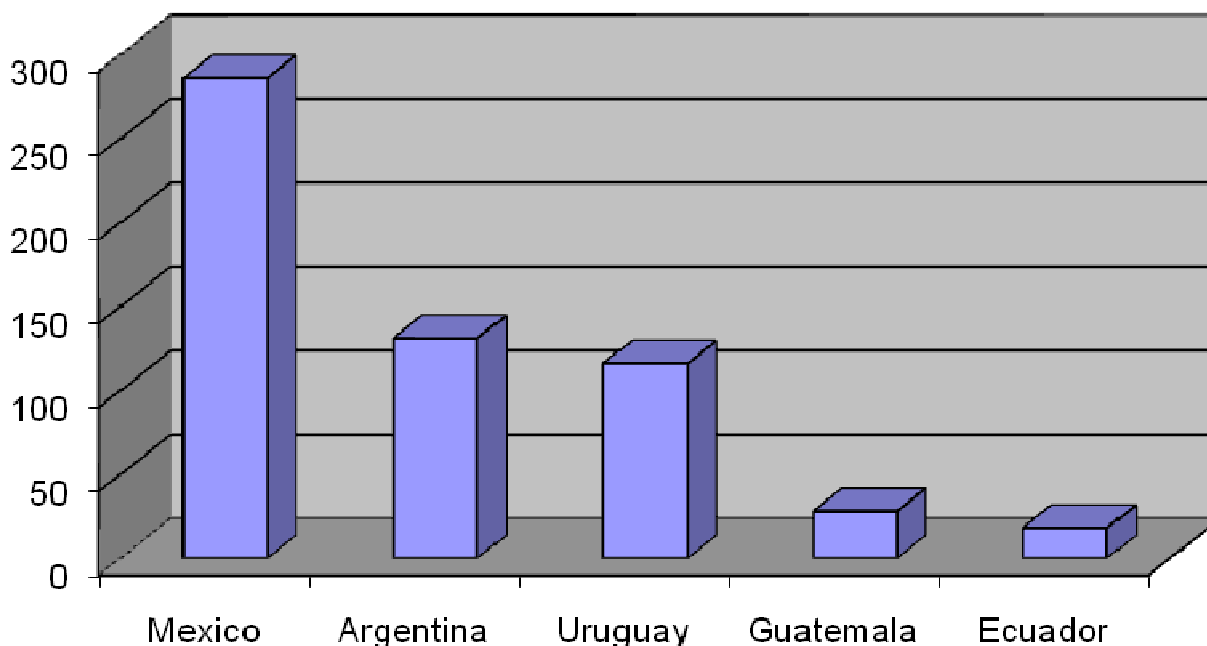


Figure 1. Number of detected offers of primates for sale in five monitored countries

In offers detected during the monitoring, primates belonging to at least 29 species plus 2 hybrids were offered for sale. They belonged to 14 genera and 7 families (tab. 1).

At least 6 primates species, which we found in trade, are listed on CITES Appendix I. There was 50 offers of these animals. 23 species and 1 hybrid are listed in APPX II. There were at least 346 offers of specimens from these taxa. In 183 offers we were not able to assess in which CITES appendices the listed animals offered for sale were classified, as there was not sufficient information provided in the adds, nor in additional information provided by the sellers after contacting them, that could help us to evaluate the species of the primates.

According to our estimation, at least 1,146 animals were being offered for sale on these detected ads. However, this number is quite uncertain, as in many offers there was no information provided about the exact number of specimens for sale.

Table 1. Number of offers with different species, detected in monitored countries

Name of the species or other taxon		CITES Appendix	Number of offers					Total
English	Scientific		Argentina	Ecuador	Guatemala	Mexico	Uruguay	
NEW WORLD PRIMATES								
Atelidae								
Guatemalan howler	<i>Alouatta pigra</i>	I	1			1	3	5
howler monkey (species unidentified)	<i>Alouatta</i> spp.	I/II	1			1		2
long-haired spider monkey	<i>Ateles belzebuth</i>	II				1		1
red-faced black spider monkey	<i>Ateles paniscus</i>	II				1		1
spider monkey (species unidentified)	<i>Ateles</i> spp.	I/II	2					2
atelid monkey (genus unidentified)	Atelinae sp.	I/II	1					1
Callitrichidae								
silvery marmoset	<i>Callithrix argentata</i>	II				1		1
white-fronted capuchin	<i>Callithrix geoffroyi</i>	II	1		3			4
black-crowned dwarf marmoset	<i>Callithrix (Callibella) humilis</i>	II	2			3	2	7
common marmoset	<i>Callithrix jacchus</i>	II	1		1	6	1	9
black-pencilled marmoset	<i>Callithrix penicillata</i>	II	2	1		4		7
pygmy marmoset	<i>Callithrix pygmaea</i>	II				7	2	9
Eastern pygmy marmoset	<i>Callithrix pygmaea niveiventris</i>	II	1					1
Western pygmy marmoset	<i>Callithrix pygmaea pygmaea</i>	II	7			4	2	13
Atlantic marmoset	<i>Callithrix</i> spp.	I/II	4			10	9	23
Rio Maués marmoset	<i>Mico mauesi</i>	II				1		1
Geoffroy's tamarin	<i>Saguinus geoffroyi</i>	I				3		3
white-mantled tamarin	<i>Saguinus melanoleucus</i>	II	1					1
cotton-top tamarin	<i>Saguinus oedipus</i>	I	2			1		3
callitrichid monkey (genus unidentified)	Callitrichidae spp.	I/II	13		3	23	3	42
callitrichid monkey hybrid (genus unidentified)	Callitrichidae x sp.	I/II	2					2
Cebidae								
white-fronted capuchin	<i>Cebus albifrons</i>	II	2	1	3	21	9	36
Ecuadorian white-fronted capuchin	<i>Cebus albifrons aequatorialis</i>	II				2		2
tufted capuchin	<i>Cebus apella</i>	II	2	1	3	12	4	22
white-faced capuchin	<i>Cebus capucinus</i>	II	8	1	2	29		40
Kaapori capuchin	<i>Cebus kaapori</i>	II		1			1	2
weeper capuchin	<i>Cebus olivaceus</i>	II	3			1		4
golden-bellied tufted capuchin	<i>Cebus xanthosternos</i>	II				1		1
capuchin (species unidentified)	<i>Cebus</i> spp.	II	37	4	2	38	17	98
capuchin hybrid (species unidentified)	<i>Cebus</i> x sp.	II				1		1
common squirrel monkey	<i>Saimiri sciureus</i>	II	2		2	14	2	20
golden-backed squirrel monkey	<i>Saimiri ustus</i>	II		2		1		3
squirrel monkey (species unidentified)	<i>Saimiri</i> spp.	I/II	5	1	1	15	5	27

Name of the species or other taxon		CITES Appendix	Number of offers					Total
English	scientific		Argentina	Ecuador	Guatemala	Mexico	Uruguay	
OLD WORLD PRIMATES								
Cercopithecidae								
grivet monkey	<i>Chlorocebus aethiops</i>	II	1				1	
green (vervet) monkey (species unidentified)	<i>Chlorocebus spp.</i>	I/II	1	1		5	3	10
crab-eating macaque	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	II	8	2	2	24	15	51
pig-tailed macaque	<i>Macaca nemestrina</i>	II				2	2	4
macaque (species unidentified)	<i>Macaca spp.</i>	I/II	13	2	3	31	14	63
Southern talapoin	<i>Miopithecus talapoin</i>	II	2			2	2	6
baboon (species unidentified)	<i>Papio sp.</i>	II					1	1
Hominidae								
common chimpanzee	<i>Pan troglodytes</i>	I	4		2	13	12	31
Hylobatidae								
white-handed gibbon	<i>Hylobates lar</i>	I				3	1	4
Lemuridae								
ring-tailed lemur	<i>Lemur catta</i>	I	1			2		3
lemur (species unidentified)	Lemuridae sp.	I			1			1
PRIMATES OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN								
primate (simian – family unidentified)	Primates spp.	I/II	1	1		8		10

New World monkey families^(3, 4)

Platyrrhini parvorder (**Ceboidea** superfamily) – New World monkeys

- **Aotidae** family: night or owl monkeys (douroucoulis)
- **Atelidae** family: howler, spider and woolly monkeys
- **Callitrichidae** family: marmosets and tamarins
- **Cebidae** family: capuchins and squirrel monkeys
- **Pitheciidae** family: titis, sakis and uakaris

The majority of the pictures on the advertisements, shows infant primates ridiculously dressed as human children, in order to attract potential buyers that find them “cute” as humanoid live babies.



As it was expected, the majority of the primates for sale in the monitored countries are native for Latin America (at least 68% of the detected ads). The most common new world primates found were the capuchin monkeys *Cebus* spp. (with over half of the offers of the new world primates and 36% of the total number of offers), followed by marmosets *Callithrix* spp. and squirrel monkeys *Saimiri* spp. All these genera were represented by the numbers of the species (fig. 2 and 3, tab. 2-4).

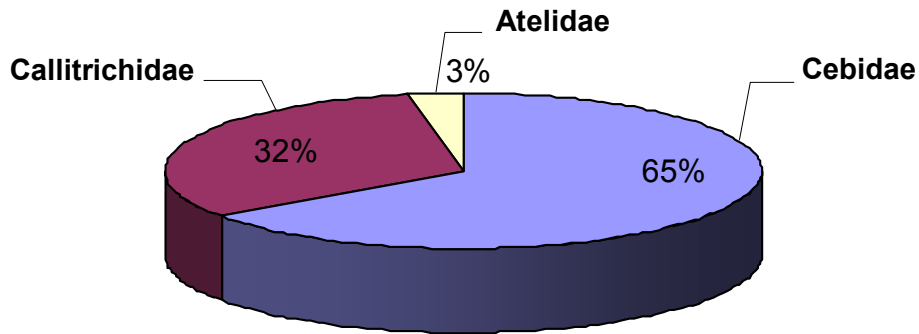


Figure 2. Percentage of families of New World primates in detected offers

Table 2. Percentage of genera of new world primates in detected offers

Genera of New World primates	Number of detected offers	% of all offers	% of New World primates offers
<i>Cebus</i>	206	36	52
<i>Callithrix</i>	74	13	19
<i>Saimiri</i>	50	9	13
unidentified Callitrichidae genera	44	8	11
<i>Alouatta</i>	7	1	2
<i>Saguinus</i>	7	1	2
other genera	6	1	2

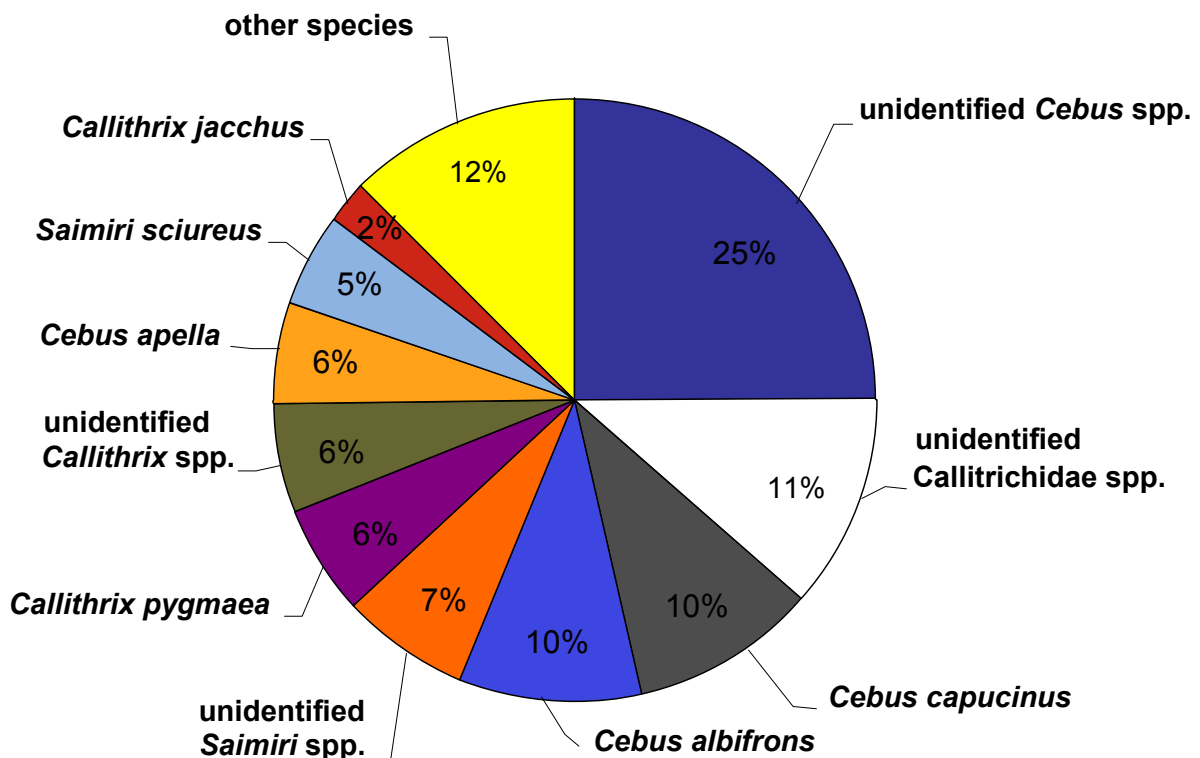


Figure 3. Percentage of New World primate species found for sale

Table 3. Percentage of species from family Cebidae in detected offers

Species of Cebidae family	% of all offers	% of Cebidae family
<i>unidentified Cebus</i> spp.	17	39
<i>Cebus capucinus</i>	7	16
<i>Cebus albifrons</i>	7	15
<i>Saimiri</i> spp.	5	11
<i>Cebus apella</i>	4	9
<i>Saimiri sciureus</i>	3	8
other species	2	4

Table 4. Percentage of species from family Callitrichidae in detected offers

Species of Callitrichidae family	% of all offers	% of Callitrichidae family
unidentified Callitrichidae spp.	8	35
<i>Callithrix pygmaea</i>	4	18
unidentified <i>Callithrix</i> spp.	4	18
<i>Callithrix jacchus</i>	2	7
other species	5	21

Unexpectedly, many offers of the old world monkeys were also found in this investigation, with a high number of macaques *Macaca* spp. (tab. 3). Several chimpanzees *Pan troglodytes* were also detected on the online market. Other interesting old world primates found were Southern talapoin *Miopithecus talapoin*, white-handed gibbons *Hylobates lar*, monkeys from genus *Chlorocebus* and some lemurs Lemuridae spp. (fig. 4 and 5, tab. 5 and 6)

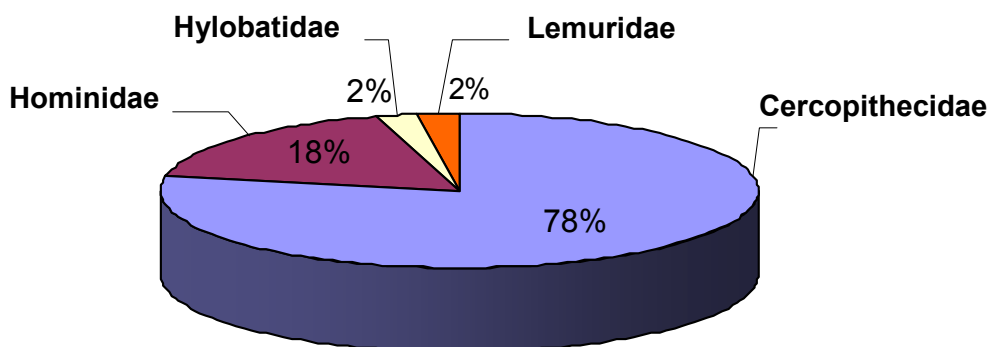


Figure 4. Percentage of families of Old World primates in detected offers

Table 5. Percentage of genera of Old World primates in detected offers

Genera of Old World primates	Number of detected offers	% of all offers	% of Old World primates offers
<i>Macaca</i>	118	20	67
<i>Pan</i>	31	5	18
<i>Chlorocebus</i>	11	2	6
<i>Miopithecus</i>	6	1	3
other genera	9	2	5

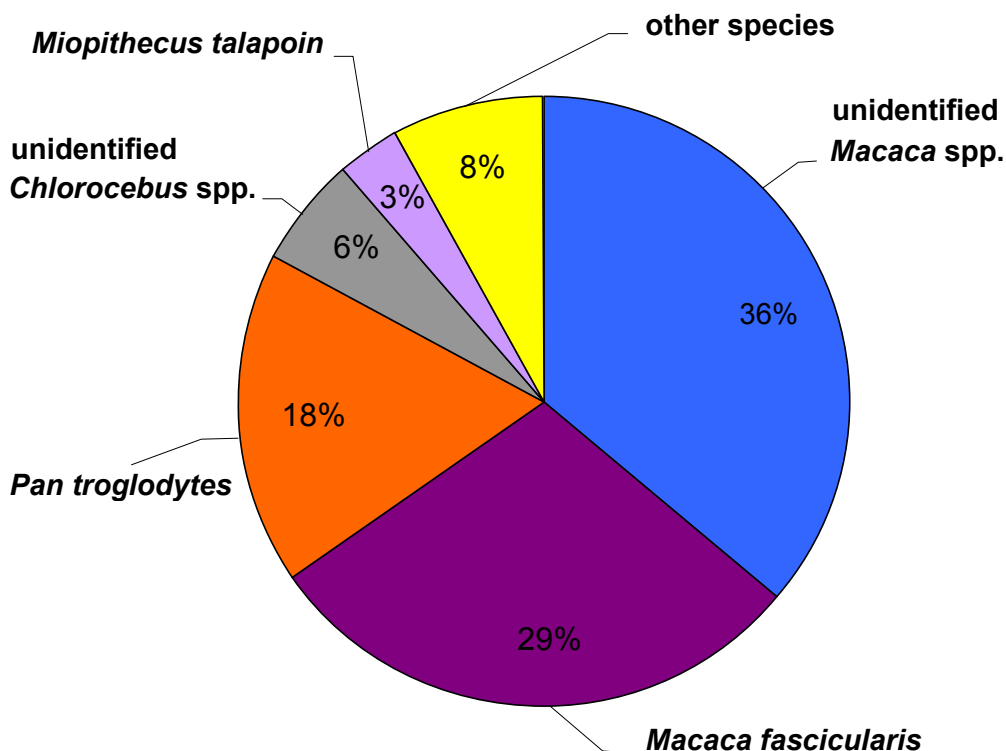


Figure 5. Percentage of Old World primate species found for sale

Table 6. Percentage of species from family Cercopithecoidea in detected offers

Species of Cercopithecoidea family	% of all offers	% of Cercopithecoidea family
unidentified <i>Macaca</i> spp.	11	46
<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	9	38
unidentified <i>Chlorocebus</i> spp.	2	7
<i>Miopithecus talapoin</i>	1	4
other species	1	4



All offers of primates for sale were found on 31 Internet services (some services are divided in separate web pages for different countries or cities). Almost ¼ of the detected ads were published on Mercattel.com. Together with 7 other services they cover almost 75% of the market (fig. 6). Only about 25% of offers are scattered among smaller advertisement services and private web pages.

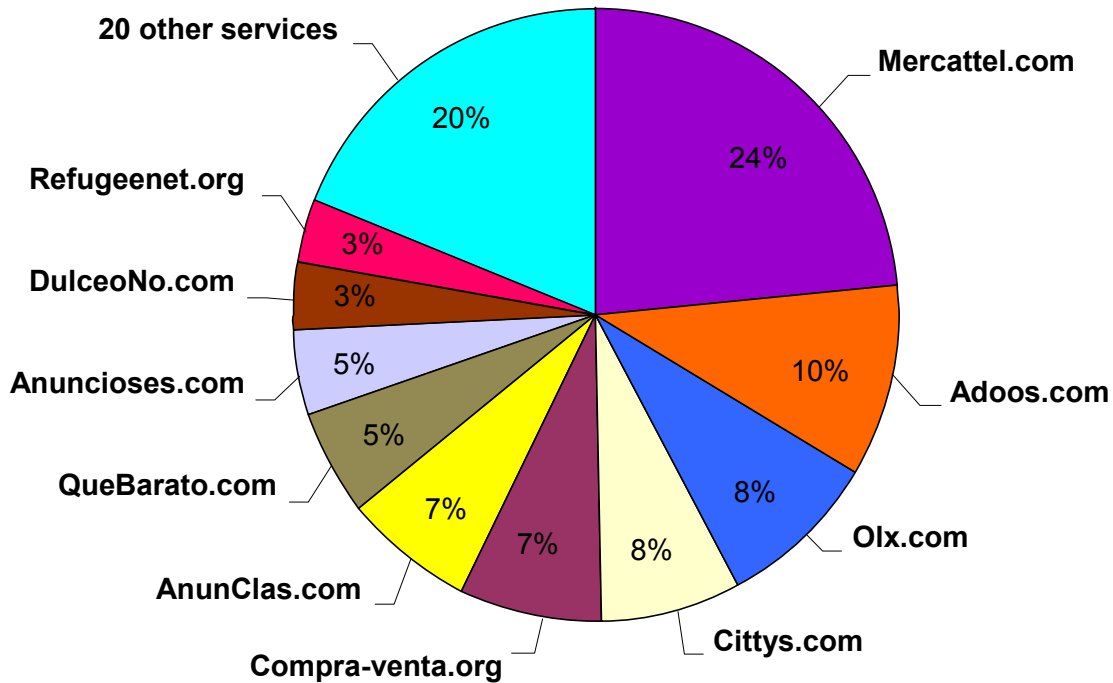


Figure 6. Percentage of primates for sale offers, found in Internet services

The number of offers we found, where the sellers didn't speak Spanish (offer in English or containing many basic language mistakes in the Spanish text) was quite high: 199. Our assessment of these advertisements has led us to believe that some of these offers are false or just a "hoax." This conclusion is based on the brief exchanges of e-mails with some of these sellers, the advertisement's text, and experiences with similar offers in other countries (look at the false advertisements section on next page for more information).

Table 7. Number of offers from other countries, found in monitored services

Other countries, from where the offers were published	Number of offers
Cameroon	15
Spain	9
Italy	8
Canada	5
Brazil	4
US	3
Germany	2
Slovakia	2
France	1
Portugal	1
Serbia	1

False advertisements

Many advertisements are just a hoax or scam, targeting people who search online to buy primates.

It was quite strange to find a large number of macaque species for sale in Latin America. The macaques shown on the pictures in the offers were often named “capuchin monkeys” or even “titis”. Many of these classifieds are suspicious (these ads are often from Cameroon and our research on this issue, showed that often advertisements from Nigeria and some other African countries are quite doubtful too). These classifieds are often written in very poor Spanish. Other sellers state that they are giving away the primates for free,

but the buyer has to send money to the owner that lives in another country and has the monkeys somewhere else, where the seller will then arrange to ship the primate(s) by a company of the seller's choice (e.g. the seller claims to be in the UK, the primate/s in Italy and the shipping company is apparently in a country in Africa or Asia). Typically, these are cases of false advertisements. Fraudulent sellers frequently have no primate(s) within their possession.

CATCA found that some people in Latin America claim to have been defrauded after sending money for the transportation of one or two primates. When no shipment is received, the buyer reports call after call from the seller stating that the monkey(s) got sick and urgently needed medical care or that there has been some problems with quarantine, and the buyer needs to send money for the extra time and expenses. Some people has reported that they have sent up to 3 times the original purchase price for the transport and the other so-called “urgent issues,” but that they never received the monkey(s) they bought online.

In several classified websites we found warnings about false advertisements to potential buyers of primates and other animals, and some even advise not to contact the sellers because the ad could be false or it may be illegal to buy the advertised animal(s).

These are the signs that show that the advertisements may be false:

1. The primates are not located where they are listed.
2. The Spanish language skills of the seller range from basic to bad (most probably the text is translated automatically by Word or Google).
3. They ask to wire money or send a money order.
4. Cameroon, Nigeria and other African countries appear to be the origin of where the seller or the primates are.
5. Often the offers mention that the primates are being given away for free, so the buyer only has to pay for the S&H transport company of the seller's choice.
6. Seller has the same pictures of the primate(s) that are all over in other scam advertisements.
7. The seller refuses to provide their phone number, or the number provided doesn't exist.
8. Often the name of the monkey species mentioned in the offer doesn't match to the picture attached (which usually shows a young macaque or other Old World monkey).
9. Using Google or Yahoo one can usually find many copies of the same or very similar offer in many services in many countries.



Adorable y bebés monos negros para la venta (Coahuila) adorable monos negros para venta bebés monos negros para la venta Tenemos machos y hembras bebés mono capuchino listo para go.they están registrados, vet comprobado y muy saludable, que están al día en todas sus vacunas y tener todos los registro y salud papers.they son muy dulces, les encanta jugar con los niños. los bebés vendr...

bien entrene al bebé capuchine listo para la adopción (Chiapas) bien entrene capuchine listo para adopci emos bien al bebé de tren capuchin mono y mono de ardilla listo ahora para la adopción ser allí es vacunado control y registro ellos vendrían con todos sus papeles de veterano y una garantía de certificado médico queremos presentarlos a cualquier preocupación y cariño a casa de estar interesado het ...

Publicar Anuncios	Listado de anuncios por fecha	Localidad	Especie	Genero	Edad
Categorías Inmuebles Motos Bicicletas Deportes Mascotas Venta de perros Venta de gatos Venta de caballos Venta de roedores Venta de pájaros Venta de reptiles Venta de peces Venta de arácnidos Venta exóticos Veterinarios Refugios Hoteles Tiendas Criaderos Gratis Otros Coches Coleccionables Electronica Consolas Empleo Países Argentina Buenos Aires Catamarca Chaco Chubut Cordoba Corrientes Distrito Federal Entre Rios Formosa Jujuy La Pampa La Rioja Mendoza Misiones Neuquen Rio Negro Salta San Juan San Luis Santa Cruz Santa Fe Santiago del Estero Tierra del Fuego Tucuman Bolivia Brasil Chile Colombia Costa Rica Cuba Ecuador El Salvador España Estados Unidos Guatemala Honduras Mexico Panama Paraguay Peru Puerto Rico Republica Dominicana Uruguay Venezuela PULSA AQUI PARA PONER TU ANUNCIO Mas webs de anuncios Anuncios de Casas Anuncios de Coches Anuncios de Motos	Viernes, 27 Agosto, 2010  INICIO PLANTEADAS BEBÉ MONO PARA LA VENTA (Buenos Aires) mono bebé que es juguetón, amable, acogedora y acariciar en busca de amor y atención en cualquier familia interesada, en caso de cualquier familia o persona dispuesta a que esta oferta por favor volver a mí para más información.	0000000	-	Hembra	Huevos
	Sabado, 31 Julio, 2010  Bebés monos capuchinos para la venta (Entre Rios) monos de raza hermosa y jovial, buen bebé monos capuchinos para la venta. Se crían en nuestra casa y handfed por mí y mis hijos. Estamos estropear y darles la más excelente atención. Son consumidores de todo listo para salir a las 9 semanas de edad y son...	-	-	Macho	Adultos
	 Bebés monos capuchinos para la venta (Santa Fe) Recuerde que usted está comprando un hombre hizo la raza y es muy importante que usted compra una calidad bien criados mono. Tenemos algunas muy hermosa casa planteadas monos capuchinos que son 9 semanas de edad por el precio de 300 euros que es bastante ...	-	-	Macho	Adultos
	 adorable monos ardilla para su aprobación (Santiago del Estero) adorable monos ardilla para su aprobación	-	-	Macho	Adultos
	Sabado, 31 Julio, 2010  0000 Euros mexico. Bebés monos capuchinos para la venta (Formosa) monos de raza hermosa y jovial, buen bebé monos capuchinos para la venta. Se crían en nuestra casa y handfed por mí y mis hijos. Estamos estropear y darles la más excelente atención. Son consumidores de todo listo para salir a las 9 semanas de edad y son ...	-	-	Macho	Adultos
	 Disponible 2 Bebé Mono Capuchino. (Entre Rios) monos de raza hermosa y jovial, buen bebé monos capuchinos para la venta. Se crían en nuestra casa y handfed por mí y mis hijos. Estamos estropear y darles la más excelente atención. Son consumidores de todo listo para salir a las 9 semanas de edad y son ...	-	-	Macho	Adultos
	 Saludable y Marmoset monos capuchinos para la adopción (Cordoba) Otras especies, situado en AYOQUEZCO DE ALDAMA, tarined bebés mono capuchino, como palying con los niños y otras mascotas, mansos y muy adorable.vacunados, de buena saludviene con una jaula y el documento. Precio: A consultar	-	-	Macho	Adultos
	Sabado, 10 Julio, 2010  CAPUCHIN MONO PARA SU APROBACIÓN (Buenos Aires) los monos están bien entrenados casa, el muy juguetón con los niños y los están listos para ser adoptado por cualquier persona interesada. Si usted está interesado en adoptar un mono bueno para su casa, póngase en contacto con nosotros, gracias	-	-	Macho	Adultos
	Lunes, 05 Julio, 2010  magnífico capuchino masculinos y femeninos monos para adopción (Rio Negro) magnífico capuchino masculinos y femeninos monos para adopción que están muy familiarizados con los niños y otros animales de casa contacto para obtener más detalles de estos bebés lindos	-	-	Macho	Adultos
	 magnífico capuchino masculinos y femeninos monos para adopción (Distrito Federal) magnífico capuchino masculinos y femeninos monos para adopción que están muy familiarizados con los niños y otros animales de casa contacto para obtener más detalles de estos bebés lindos	-	-	Hembra	Adultos
Domingo, 13 Junio, 2010  capuchinos bebé monos tití increíbles y 250 euros cada uno (Santa Fe) capuchinos bebé monos tití increíbles y 250 \$ cada uno Bonito y monos jovial, capuchinos bebé preciosa y el mono tití para la venta. Se crían en nuestra casa y la mano alimentado por mí y mis hijos. Estamos estropear y darles la atención más exce...	-	-	Ambos	Adultos	
 Par de tití y monos capuchinos disponibles (San Juan) En estos momentos estamos buscando un buen hogar para monos nuestro bebé. Ellos son veterinario comprobado y también usan pañales. Vienen con una garantía de salud y son muy sociables.	-	-	Macho	Adultos	
 2 bebé tití dobles y Capuchinos (La Rioja) Adorable bebé monos capuchinos para su aprobación y listo para casas buenas. Todos los bebés están en la botella y uso de pañales. Los bebés vienen con todo el papeleo incluyendo certificado de salud. Los bebés están planteadas en nuestra casa con perros...	-	-	Macho	Adultos	
 Tití y monos capuchinos para su aprobación. (Distrito Federal) Capuchinos y monos tití para su aprobación, el hogar formado y vacunados. todos ellos son sanos y juguetones niños amor y otros compañeros de casa. Aunque de corta edad, que expresan un alto sentido de la personalidad y son rápidos a la captura. las perso...	-	-	Ambos	Adultos	
 Bebé capuchinos y monos tití para su aprobación. (Buenos Aires) que 2 dos disponibles. por favor, póngase en contacto conmigo si está interesado para obtener más información.judith_eileen@live.com	-	Monos	Ambos	Adultos	

Conclusions

- The Internet trade in all the five countries covered in this monitoring is active and growing.
- E-commerce of primates exists all over Latin America and it is very popular. The results show, very different levels of Internet trade in the researched countries.
- With the highest rate of primate Internet advertisements identified online, Mexico is the leading country in Latin America for the e-commerce trade of primates. CATCA prior Internet trade monitoring also shows Mexico as the country with the highest level of trade in protected animal species.
- Argentina was ranked second in the Internet trade of primates in this investigation.
- Uruguay offered some surprising results. It is almost on the same level to Argentina in the trade of primates.
- Guatemala was a surprise too. There, we found many more offers than we had anticipated.
- Ecuador, as we assumed, shows a minimum trade of primates. We are very glad to report that the number of offers detected in Ecuador during this monitoring is smaller than what CATCA found in 2009–2010⁽²⁾. The number of offers and the amount of animals in trade in this country compared to the other countries in Latin America, specially, Mexico, Argentina and Uruguay, is relatively small.
- This investigation showed that monkeys from the family Cebidae (specially capuchin monkeys) are most commonly traded on Internet sites in Latin America and that there is quite a demand for these primate species. The second most popular group of the new world primates in e-commerce are monkeys from the family Callitrichidae.
- Regarding old world primates, a high number of macaques were found, specially *Macaca fascicularis*. The numbers are quite alarming, but a high percent of these advertisements could be false.
- It was also interesting to notice many advertisements of people requesting to buy primates. This led us to conclude, that an important part of the Internet trade can be undetectable while conducting a monitoring.
- The buyers obviously lack general information warning them that buying primates as pets is potentially illegal and that they are contributing to the cruel cycle of kidnapping infants, while often killing several members of their family in the process. Primates are been exploited for profit and due to the ignorance of the public.
- As the vast majority of the Internet trade on protected species takes place on international Internet services, the cooperation of the enforcement authorities with these service providers, can be crucial in combating and reducing this illegal e-commerce.
- CATCA hopes that the proper authorities in Latin America will take the illegal e-commerce of primates as a serious violation, and suggests to the Latin American governments to perform regular monitoring of their Internet sites to be able to assess this trade and to prosecute the offenders. Enforcement of the countries laws should be strengthened before this trade becomes worse and more difficult to act against.





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