

Primate Experimentation in the U.S. – The National Picture

The Facts About Primate Experimentation

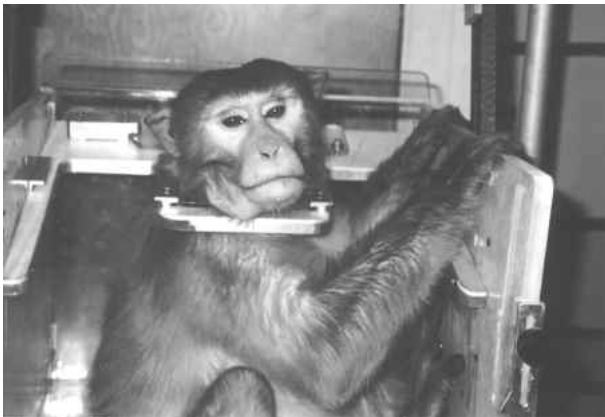
Primate experimentation in the U.S. is out of control. Approximately 96,000 primates are imprisoned in US labs, an increase of 42% in the last five years.

Funding for primate experimentation has also increased reaching \$1.1 billion during fiscal 2002. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is responsible for most of this waste, contributing over \$950 million to the total. The number of NIH-funded primate projects has increased 54.6% in the last ten years exceeding 1513. Other government agencies funding this atrocity include the National Science Foundation, United States Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Defense.

Widespread Suffering

The species most often experimented on are: rhesus monkeys, baboons, squirrel monkeys, and chimpanzees.

Laboratory isolation is severely stressful to primates. In fact, 10% of isolated primates are so severely stressed that they begin to engage in self-injurious behavior.



Harvard – 2100 primates imprisoned -- 55% infant mortality rate. Harvard has over 300 primates in solitary confinement, with many exhibiting pathological behavior. Harvard labs violated the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) 14 times in 3 years. 417 primates die per year. Harvard receives \$207 million in federal funds for New England Primate Center.

University of Oklahoma, Health Science Center (OUHSC) – 240 primates locked up. 60 primates left outside in 100-degree heat without shade or access to shelter. OUHSC violated federal law 11 times in 3 years.

University of Pittsburgh (PITT) – 600 primates imprisoned. Pitt violated federal law 27 times in 3 years. Experiments here deprive primates of water. Unnecessary isolation has driven monkeys insane.



University of Wisconsin Madison -- (UW) imprisons approximately 1500 primates. Documents indicate that 54% of the macaques and 64% of the marmosets were suffering from gastro-intestinal tract disease at death, potentially brought on by stress. The marmoset colony at the UW had an infant mortality rate of 58%. UW primates are documented as engaging in self-mutilation.

Three marmosets were recently killed at the UW when they were not removed from their cage before the cage was sanitized. UW receives \$62 million in federal funding for the Wisconsin Primate Center as 200 primates die annually. UW violated federal law 15 times in 3 years.

Emory University – imprisons over 3800 primates. A report from 8/23/02 reveals the death of rhesus monkey #3566 on 4/16/02. This primate had been steadily declining since 6/01 – losing 32% of his/her body weight in this 14-month period. Yerkes Primate Center receives \$111 million per year in federal funds. 410 primates die per year. Emory violated the AWA 28 times in 3 years.

University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) – 182 primates incarcerated. USDA prosecution for: “Doing a craniotomy to expose a monkey's brain without administering post-operative analgesics; over-breeding marmoset monkeys; depriving monkeys of water, resulting in severe weight loss.” UCSF cited for 51 violations of the Animal Welfare Act in 3 years.

University of California, Davis – 4100 primates confined. 36% of deaths tied to gastro-intestinal tract disease; 34% of the dead primates were emaciated & 20% were dehydrated. 7 primates killed in heating malfunction in 2004. Davis Primate Center receives \$81 million per year in federal funds. 560 primates die per year.

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University of Puerto Rico – 1800 primates locked up. 33 violations of the Animal Welfare Act in 3 years

University of Washington, Seattle – 1200 primates locked up. Internal UW documents reveal the death of primate (K93464) on (9/01) as a result of ingesting a set of latex gloves. Another primate (T93497) died (1/01) after being anesthetized for a blood draw, potentially as a result of anesthetic overdose. Another primate (#93169) died (7/00) of anesthetic overdose. Two primates (A00131 & 98026) in the care of investigator CC Tsai died with “total absence of body fat stores” and “total absence of subcutaneous fat.” Dehydration is also discussed in reference to primate #98026. Primate F93276 died 6/01 is discussed as having “Malnutrition, chronic, severe” and “Dehydration, severe.” The UW receives \$246 million annually for the Washington Primate Center; 700 primates die annually.

Johns Hopkins – confines over 500 primates. During 1999 Riki, a rhesus monkey, died at Johns Hopkins University. This primate had received treatment for ulcers in 1996. During 1999 Riki was found to be biting his/her stifles (area near the knee), a form of self-mutilation. On 8/27/99 Riki was found lying on his/her side at noon in shock. The only treatment given was intravenous fluids. A government report states: “The primate was allowed to suffer and die, instead of being immediately humanely euthanized when the decision was made not to administer further treatment.”



Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) – 4000 primates incarcerated. OHSU receives \$269 million/year for the Oregon Primate Center while killing 400 primates.

University of Alabama, Birmingham (UAB) – 212 monkeys imprisoned. Internal UAB documents reveal primates with a total lack of body fat (indicating long-term disease), swollen joints, and self-mutilation.

Tulane University – 6000 primates incarcerated. Tulane receives \$112 million/year in federal funds for the Tulane Primate Research Center where 895 primates die annually.

New Iberia Research Center (NIRC) -- 5500 primates locked up. Abuses reported include: burning the hands of chimpanzees, improper anesthetization techniques, and the deaths of primates from exposure to the elements. Necropsy reports obtained from the NIH reveal that animals at NIRC are emaciated, dehydrated, and suffering from physical trauma. Primates that routinely live until 30 or more are usually dying at age 3 or less

Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research (SWFBR) – 6200 primates imprisoned. SWFBR receives \$79 million in federal funds for primate experiments. 338 primates killed each year.

Government Waste

Most primates are not used in experiments that study the diseases that kill most Americans. Projects that study primate psychology, alcohol & addictive drugs, brain mapping, and sex in primates far outnumber studies involving heart disease or cancer.

Repetition is rampant among NIH-funded projects. Currently, 175 NIH projects study neural information processing in macaque monkeys. These useless experiments waste over \$70 million in federal tax dollars every year. Many of these projects continue on for decades wasting millions of tax dollars each year and victimizing primates for an entire lifetime.

What you can do to help:

1. **Read, copy, and distribute this fact sheet.**
2. **Write to your federal legislators to request a General Accounting Office (GAO) investigation of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded primate experimentation.**

The Honorable _____	202-234-3121
U.S. House of Representatives	www.house.gov
Washington, D.C. 20515	
Senator _____	202-234-3121
U.S. Senate	www.senate.gov
Washington, D.C. 20510	
3. **Send as large a tax-deductible donation as you can afford to Stop Animal Exploitation NOW! (SAEN) to support this campaign.**

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