

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIMATES IN WESTERN GHATS



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WESTERN GHATS & PRIMATES

The Western Ghats is a continuous mountain chain parallel to the western coast of India traversing six states, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. The complex topography and climatic conditions helps in the presence of abundance fauna and flora in this region. At least 325 globally threatened species are present in the Western Ghats region and many species of plants and animals are yet to be discovered.

The Primates are the members of the biological order Primates. Non-human primates occurs mostly in Central and South America, Africa, and southern Asia. Primates radiated in arboreal habitats and mostly dwells in Tropical forests. The topography and forest types present in Western Ghats promotes the wide distribution of primates.

STUDY AREA

Latitude: 8°0' to 22°26'N
Longitude: 72°55' to 78°11'E
Covering distance: 1500km
Area: 1,64,280 sq.km.
Altitude range: 0-2674m
Annual average rainfall: 2500 mm.
Mean temp. ranges: 20-24°C.

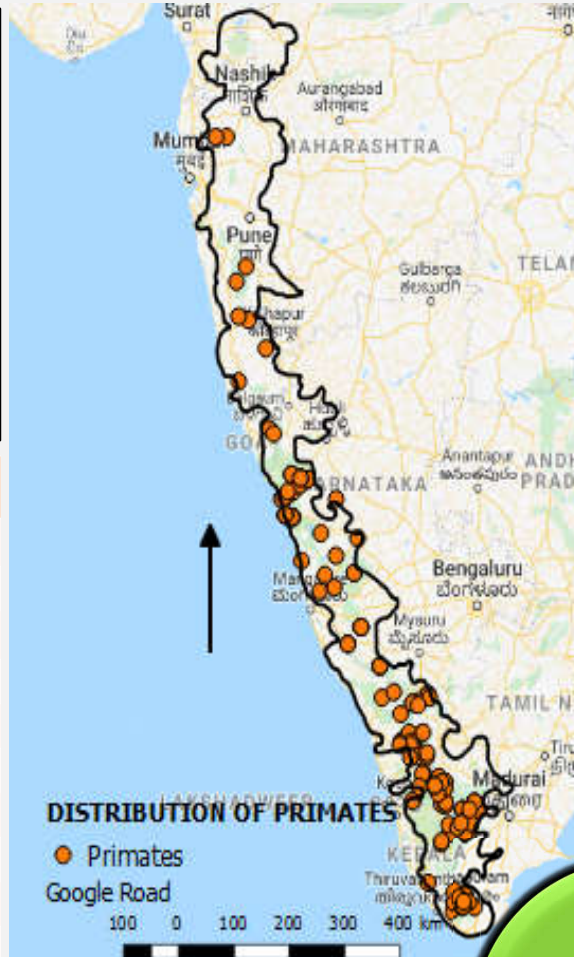


PRIMATE DISTRIBUTION IN WG

Primate species are distributed across the WG region. There are 10 primate species were located from 72 locations in WG. Cercopithecidae and Lorisidae are the primate families present in WG. Among these Cercopithecidae is the widely distributed family present in WG, while Lorisidae family shows higher distribution towards the southern and central portion of Western Ghats.

PRIMATE SPECIES IN WG

- Loris tardigradus*
- Loris lydekkerianus*
- Macaca fascicularis*
- Macaca radiata*
- Macaca silenus*
- Semnopithecus dussumieri*
- Semnopithecus entellus*
- Semnopithecus hypoleucos*
- Semnopithecus priam*
- Trachypithecus johnii*



ENDEMIC PRIMATES IN WG

Macaca silenus- Lion-tailed Macaque
Family: Cercopithecidae
Conservation Status: Endangered

Habitat: Tropical Evergreen, Semi-evergreen and Monsoon Forests in Hilly regions.



Trachypithecus johnii- Nilgiri langur
Family: Cercopithecidae
Conservation Status: Vulnerable

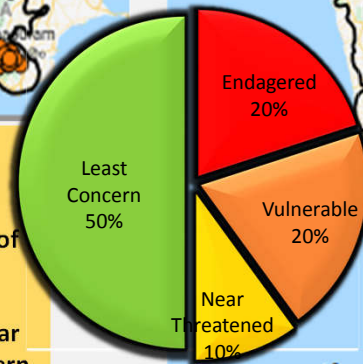
Habitat: Evergreen, Semi-Evergreen, Moist Deciduous, Montane Evergreen and Riparian Forests.



DISTRIBUTION BASED ON CONSERVATION STATUS

Endangered species *Macaca silenus* and *Loris tardigradus* shows higher distribution towards Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu regions (8° -15°) of Western Ghats.

Vulnerable (*Semnopithecus hypoleucos* and *Trachypithecus johnii*) and **Near Threatened** species (*Semnopithecus priam*) were also shows a similar pattern of distribution towards the Central and Southern parts of Western Ghats.



Conservation Status

- Least Concern
- Near Threatened
- Vulnerable
- Endangered



REFERENCES

- Estimate of primate density using distance sampling in the evergreen forests of the central Western Ghats, India
- Distribution, status and conservation of primates of the Western Ghats
- Distribution and Abundance of Primates in Rain Forests of the Western Ghats, Karnataka, India and the Conservation of *Macaca silenus*
- Distribution, status and conservation of primates of the Western Ghats

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