

# The Attack Surface Landscape in Brazil - An Overview

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SHADOWSERVER.org



#### # whoami



- Piotr Kijewski (NL) US CEO, US Board of Trustees, EU Director, Programme Manager
  - 20+ years experience in the operational security community
  - Sysadmin (Unix) background
  - National CSIRT background Previously Head of CERT Polska (CERT.PL)
  - Previously a Director at the Honeynet Project (honeypots!)
  - Authored large scale threat detection systems and threat information sharing systems
  - Botnet takedown, disruption, sinkholing ...
  - Still active with research into above!







# What is The Shadowserver Foundation?



A US 501c3 and Dutch Stichting **not-for-profit** organisation that works to try and make the Internet more secure for all by providing quality intelligence about threats for **free** 



We share information with Internet defenders at no cost
We work to help mitigate vulnerable systems, detect
malicious activity and counter emerging threats with
greatest effect internationally.

We tell people for free what risks we see they are holding

We punch **seriously** above our weight - with our own **Unique sources**, a **global vantage point** and **proven partnerships** with the people who can make the necessary security updates

We have been quietly building this unique position of trust for 20 years of proven community partnerships. We are the world's largest provider of free cyber threat intelligence (and most people have never heard of us!)





# 3 Target Audiences - to make Everybody Safer









#### **National Level**

We pass the data
every day to the
National bodies
responsible for 175
countries, so they can
help protect their
citizens & companies

#### **Network Level**

We pass the data to over 8,000 Network Owners, including most Fortune 500 companies, so they can better protect their own networks (plus their customers where they are service providers)

#### **Law Enforcement**

Law Enforcement lack our data, scale or insight and can benefit from the global trust network we have built - so we (quietly) support top tier law enforcement operations in their efforts to protect citizens from the actions of the online criminals





# What does The Shadowserver Foundation do?





#### Sinkholes:

We take control of domain names and addresses used by criminals to log the IP address of infected devices for over 400 malware families



For network owners + focus on CSIRT & LE support



#### Scanning:

We call out to nearly every IPv4 (~3.7 billion) and ~1.9 billion IPv6 addresses many times a day looking for different types of vulnerable, compromised, abusable systems, attacker infra





#### Sensors:

We build and deploy systems to the Internet that pretend to be vulnerable computers, and log cyber criminals trying to abuse them



#### Sandboxes:

We collect malicious software samples at industrial scale (often 1 million+ per day, for nearly 2 billion total) and run them to see what they do

+ a host of other interesting things!





STRATEGIC

Information on changing risk

The board

High-level

PACTICAL

Attacker methodologies, tools and tactics

Architects and sysadmins

Details of a specific incoming attack

Defenders

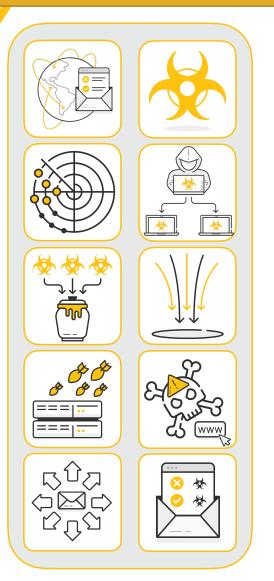
OPERATIONAL

Indications of specific malware, exploitation attempt or attack surface exposure

SOC staff / IR

16CL

#### **Core Shadowserver offering**







#### Free Daily Remediation Reports - National CSIRTs and Network Owners



### **Network Reporting**

Every day, Shadowserver sends custom remediation reports to more than 8000 vetted subscribers, including over 201 national CSIRTs in 175 countries and territories and many Fortune 500 companies. These reports are detailed, targeted, relevant and free.

DNS Open Resolvers	Accessible Telnet	Command and Control	Netcore/Netis Router Vulnerability	Open LDAP TCP	Open Redis	Scan Report
Accessible XDMCP Service	Accessible VNC	Darknet	NTP Monitor	Open mDNS	Open SNMP	Sinkhole6 HTTP Drone
ASN Summary Report	Accessible Rsync	DDoS	NTP Version	Open Memcached	Open SSDP	Sinkhole6 HTTP Referer
Botnet URL	Amplification DDoS Victim	Drone/Botnet-Drone	Open CWMP	Open MongoDB	Open/Accessible TFTP	Spam URL
Sinkhole HTTP Drone	Botnet Drone Hadoop	Geographical Summary	Open DB2 Discovery Service	Open MS-SQL Server Resolution	Open Ubiquiti	SSL Freak
Accessible ADB	Brute Force Attack	Honeypot URL	Open Chargen	Open NAT-PMP	Proxy	SSL Poodle
Accessible AFP	Blacklist	HTTP Scanners	Open Elasticsearch	Open Netbios	Sandbox URL	Synful Scan
Accessible Hadoop	Click-fraud	ICS Scanners	Accessible HTTP	Open Portmapper	Sandbox Connection	Vulnerable ISAKMP
Accessible SMB	Compromised Host	IRC Port Summary	Open IPMI	Open Proxy	Sandbox IRC	Accessible Cisco Smart Install
Accessible SSH	Compromised Website	Microsoft Sinkhole	Open LDAP	Open QOTD	Sandbox SMTP	Accessible FTP/RDP

Much of the world uses these reports to receive rapid notification when computer networks globally are exposed, misconfigured, vulnerable, abusable, compromised, become a source of attacks, host malicious C2 or other attacker infrastructure ...

**Everyone** can get <u>free</u> daily reports about who/what is at risk in their <u>own</u> network/country.





# Use Report Event Severity for Triage



#### **Severity Levels**

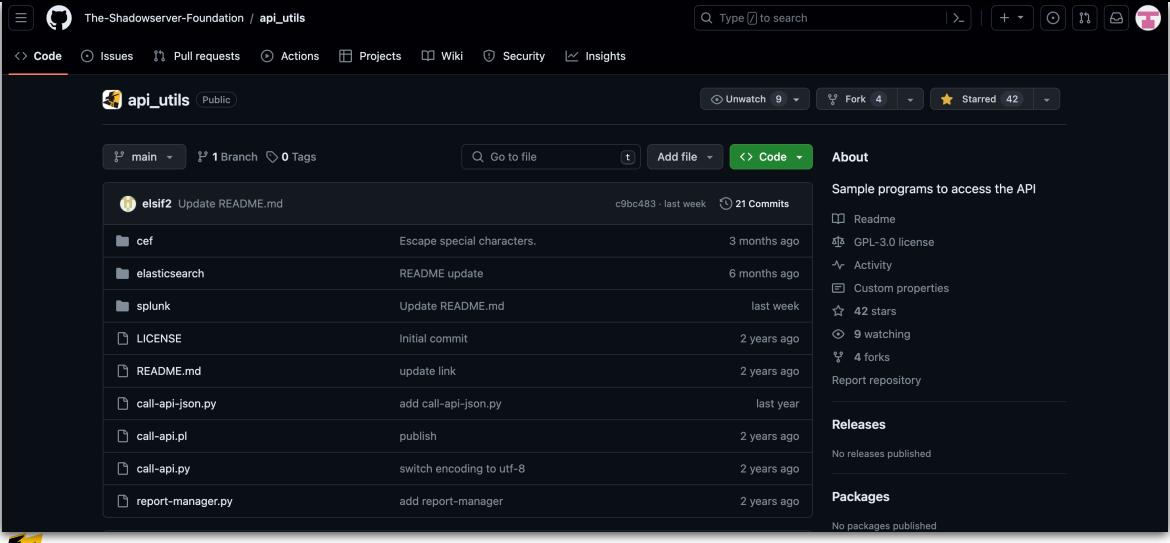
Level	Description				
critical	Highly critical vulnerabilities that are being actively exploited, where failure to remediate poses a very high likelihood of compromise. For example, a pre-auth RCE or modification or leakage of sensitive data.				
high	End of life systems, systems that you can log into with authentication that are meant to be internal (SMB, RDP), some data can be leaked. Sinkhole events end up in this category.				
medium	Risk that does not pose an immediate threat to the system but can over time escalate to a higher severity. For example, risk of participating in DDoS, unencrypted services requiring login, vulnerabilities requiring MITM to exploit, attacker will need to know internal systems/infrastructure in order to exploit it.				
low	Deviation from best practice - little to no practical way to exploit, but setup is not ideal. For example, SSL POODLE reports may end up in this category.				
info	Informational only. Typically no concerns. However, this category includes the Device Identification report, which may include information on device types that should not be accessible on the public Internet, in which case the individual events in the report may be assigned higher severity levels. Review in accordance with your security policy.				





#### Automation



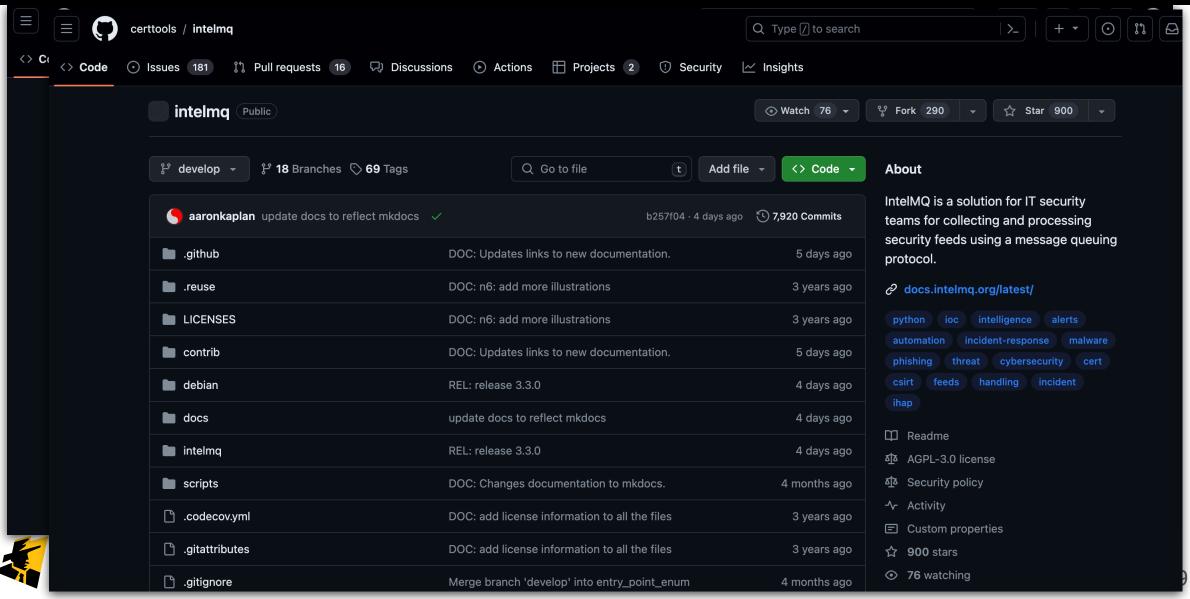






#### Automation







# "Global Plumbing" - nCSIRT Coverage





201 nCSIRTs (175 Countries)

8000+ Network Owners (Direct)
+ many more (Indirect)

Every Day Free!





# Shadowserver ASN Coverage By Continent



Europe	63%
North America	57%
Oceania	65%
Africa	42%
South America	35%
Asia	29%







# Shadowserver ASN Subscribers - Brazil



Statistics
At geo-level

**90,972,218** IPs **62,429** CIDRs

**10,241** ASNs

Statistics
At ASN-level

**151,609,216** IPs **62,221** CIDRs

**10,240** ASNs

180 ASNs with a report

54,939,776 IPs (60%)

10,061 ASNs without a report

**36,032,442** IPs (40%)

With reports 180 ASNs 54.9M (60%)

Without reports 10,061 ASNs 36M (40%)





# Direct Report Recipients (LAC)







# The Shadowserver Foundation Dashboard

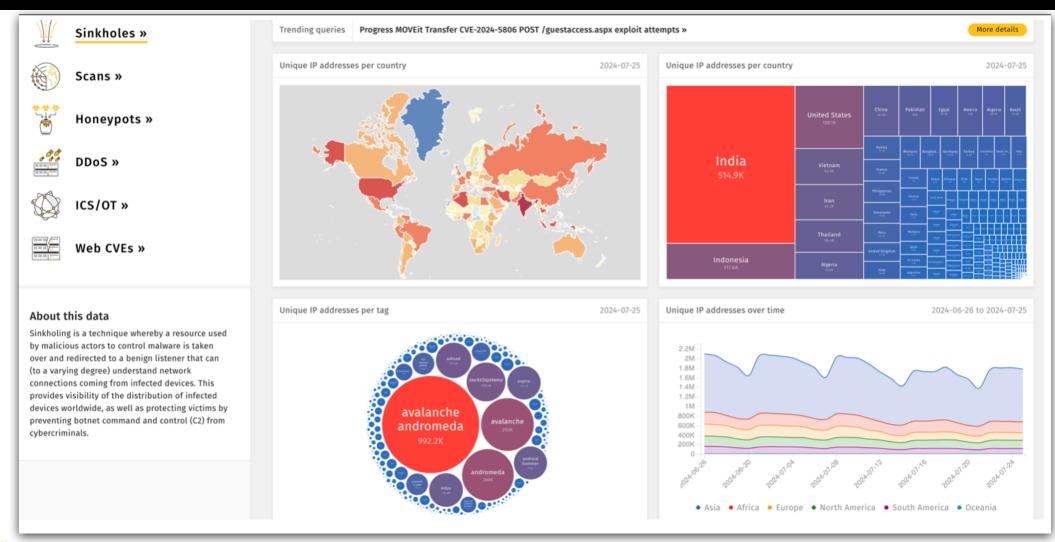
A Free Tool for the Community





### Shadowserver Public Dashboard



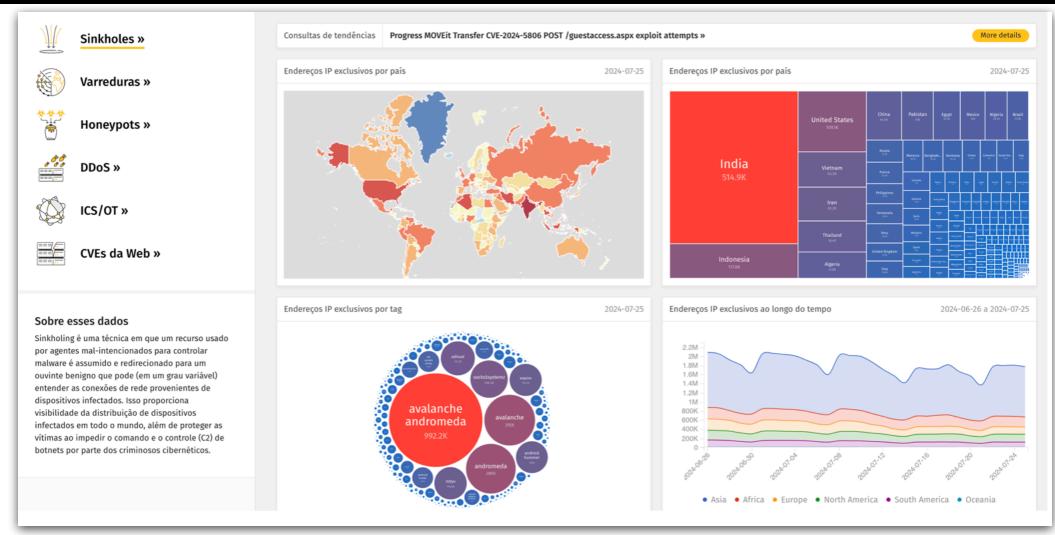






#### Shadowserver Public Dashboard - Multiple Language Support







# Brazil

As seen by Shadowserver



# Device Attack Surface

As seen in our scans (only for cases where we identify a device!)





## Remote Device Identification



- Take all data we collect in all our daily scans
  - Match returned content with regularly updated signatures to identify devices
- Classify all IPs by:
  - device\_type
  - device\_vendor
  - device\_model
  - device\_version
  - device\_sector









# Remote Device Identification



- SSL Common Names & Organization Names
- HTML body title & content
- HTTP headers
- HTTP server name
- HTTP cookies
- SNMP sysdesc, sysname
- SSDP
- PPTP
- FTP, TELNET, SSH banners
- ... many more!









## Remote Device Identification



- Scan rule engine implemented
- Classifies scan data as it is submitted to the Shadowserver backend API
- Currently ~2800 scan rules implemented - June 2024
- Support for detection of devices from ~700 vendors - June 2024
- Daily successfully classifies over
   50M devices (excluding desktops/ servers, web servers etc) - June 2024







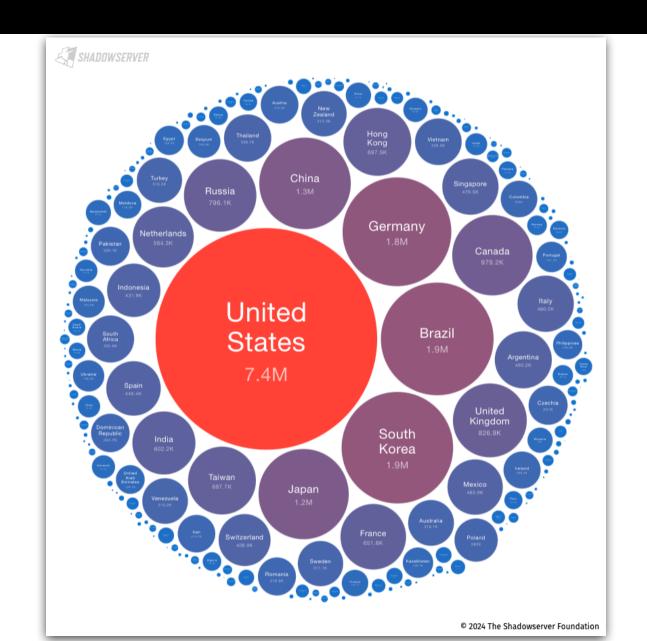


#### Daily Device Attack Surface Volume - World & South America









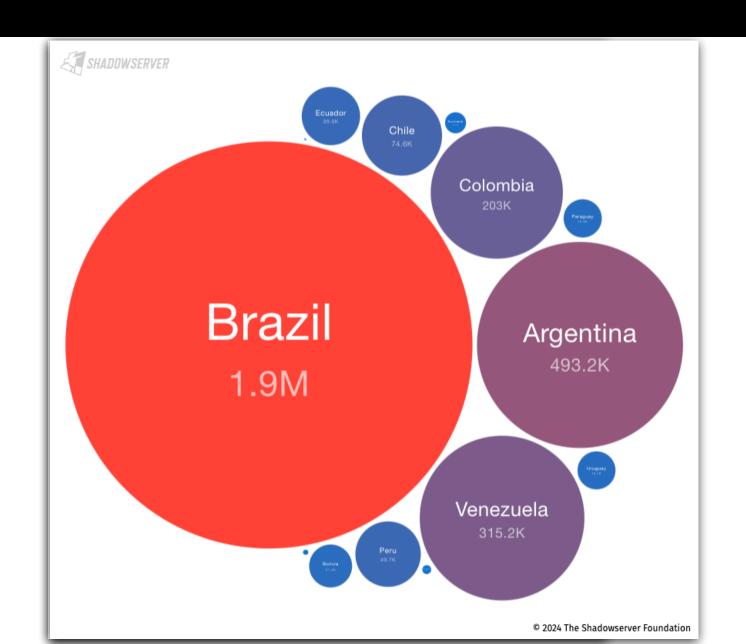


#### Daily Device Attack Surface Volume - World & South America



Note: Only cases where we identify a device

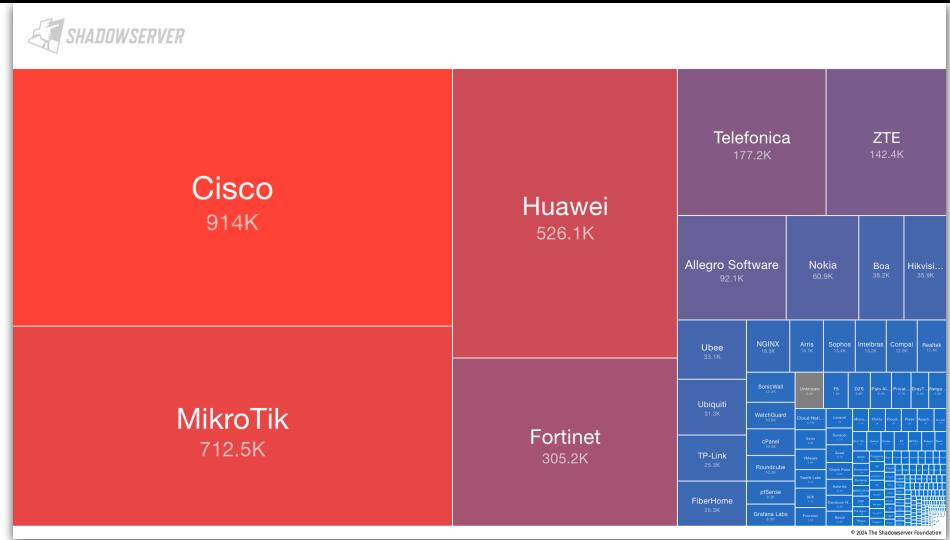






#### Device Exposure by Vendor - South America & Brazil (2024-07-24)





Note: Only

cases where

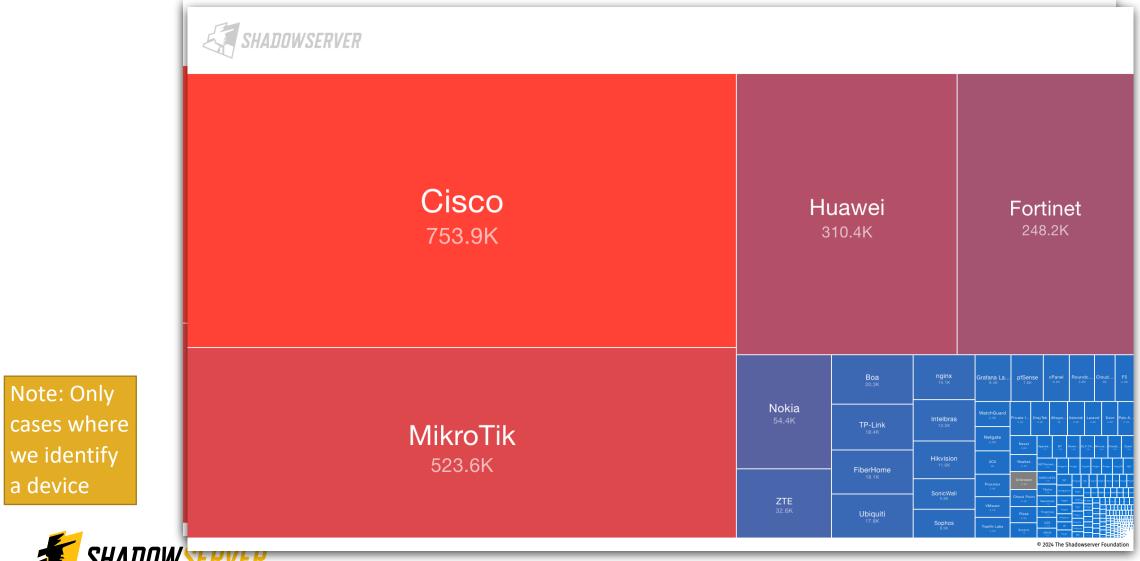
we identify

a device



#### Device Exposure by Vendor - South America & Brazil (2024-07-24)

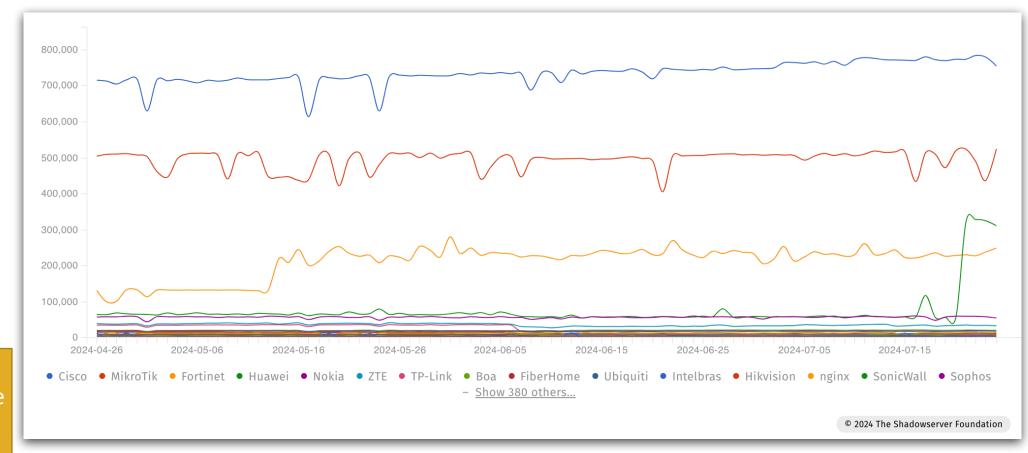






# Device Exposure by Vendor - BR (Last 3 months)





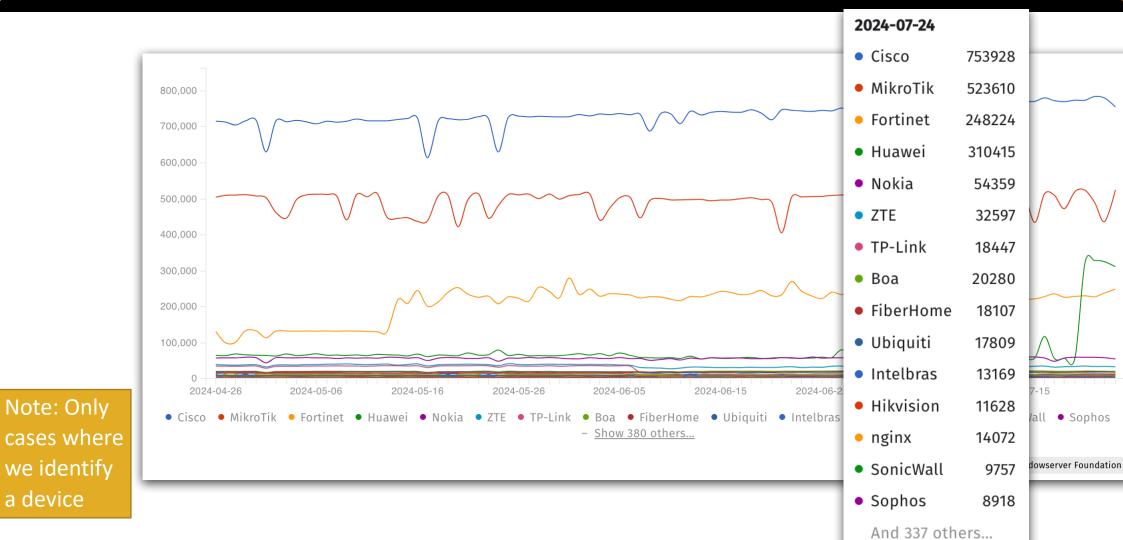
Note: Only cases where we identify a device





## Device Exposure by Vendor - BR (Last 3 months)





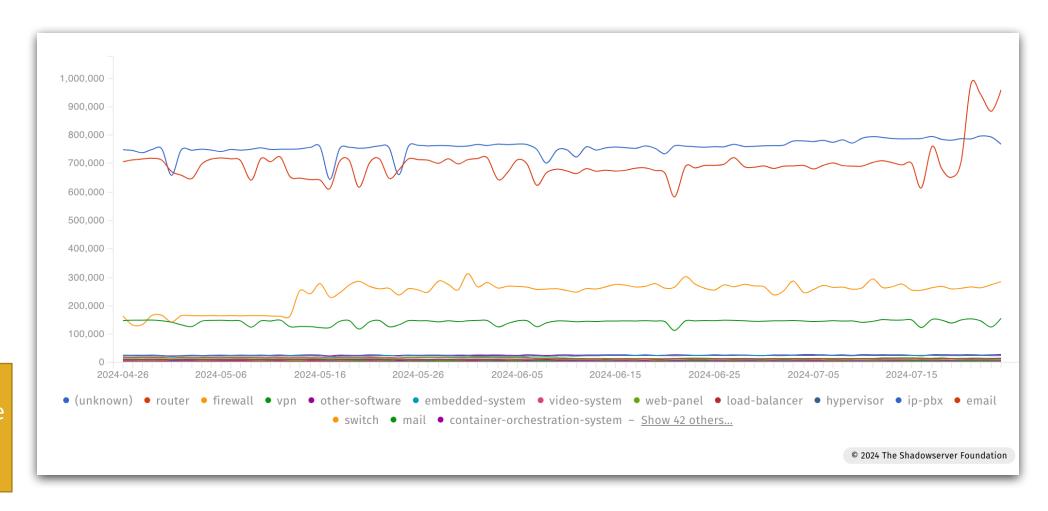


a device



# Device Exposure by Type - BR (Last 3 months)





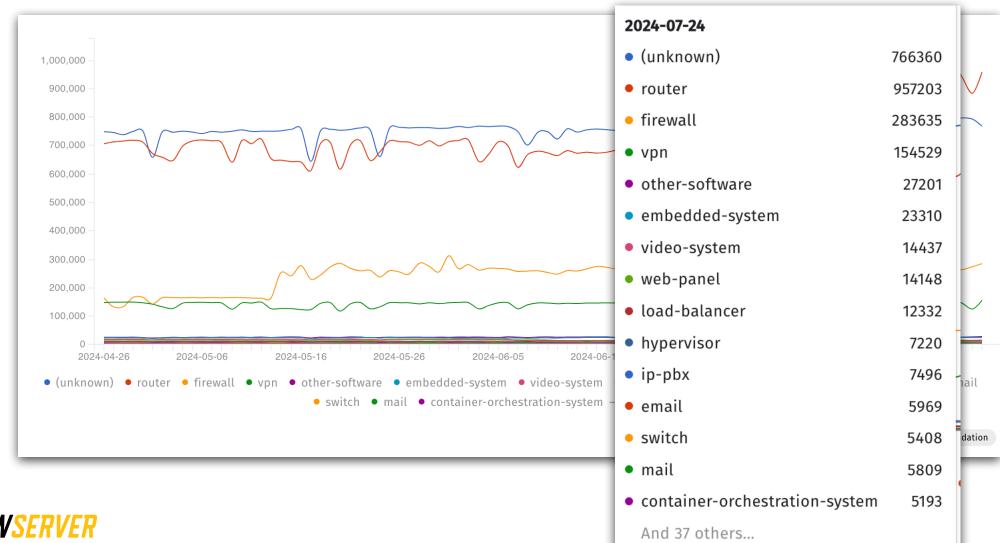
Note: Only cases where we identify a device





# Device Exposure by Type - BR (Last 3 months)



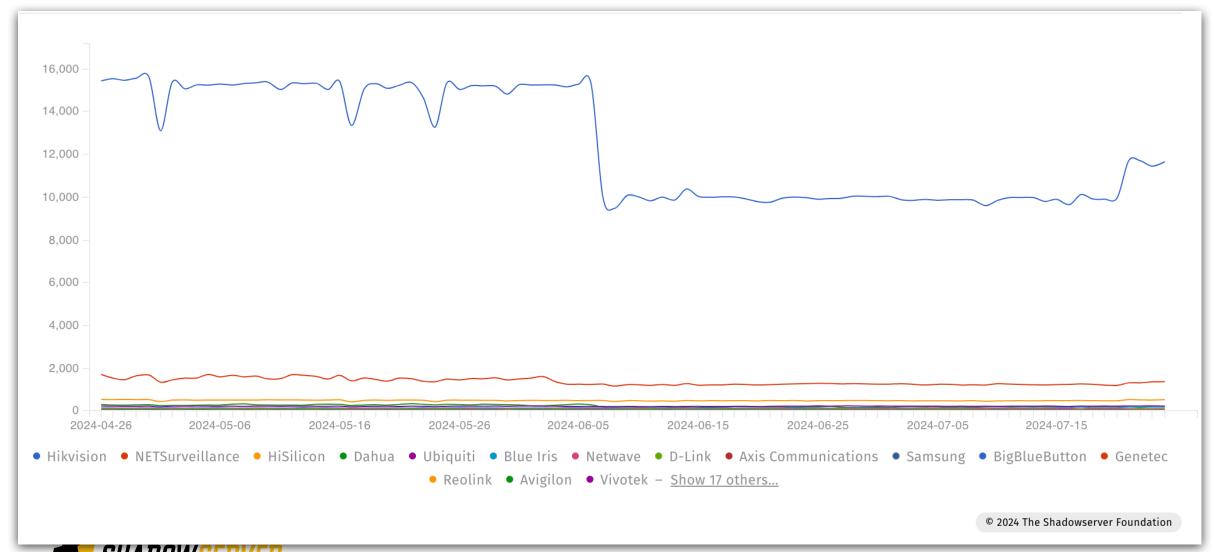


Note: Only cases where we identify a device



# Video System Exposure - BR (Last 3 months)

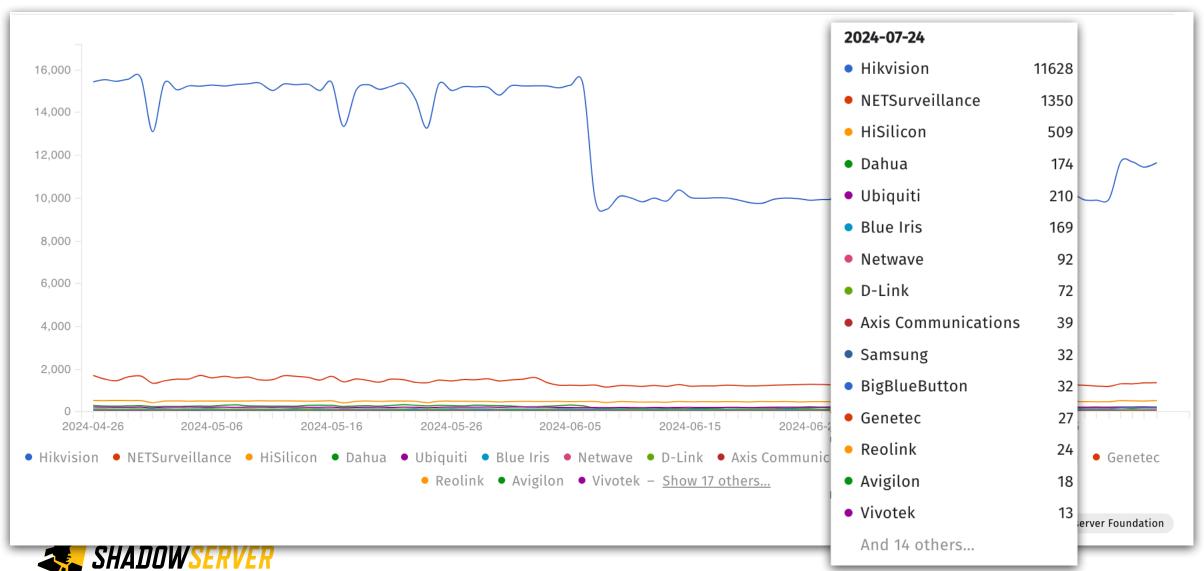






# Video System Exposure - BR (Last 3 months)





# **Exposed Services**

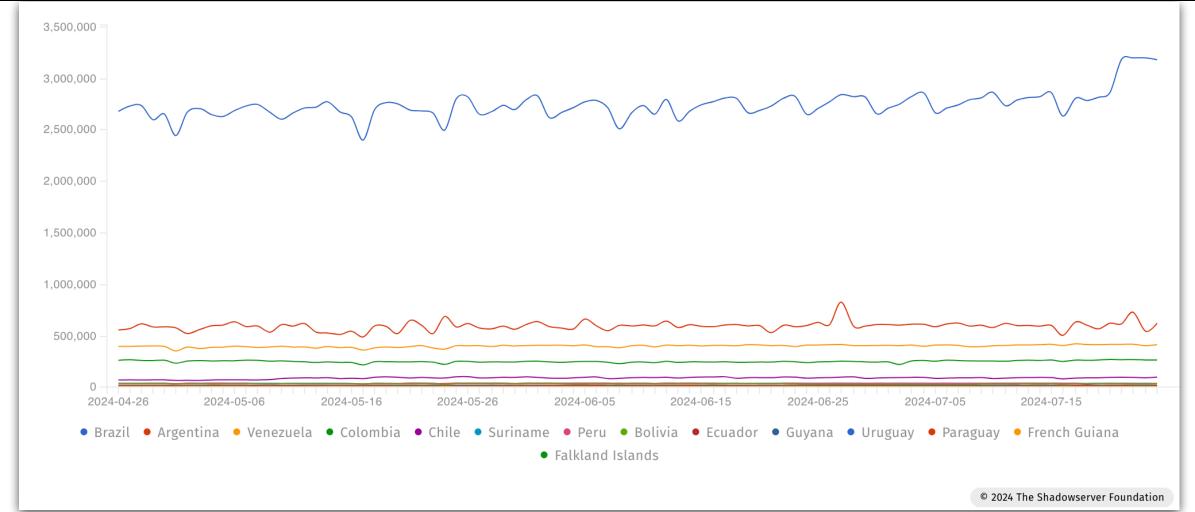
Unnecessary attack surface





#### Problematic Exposed Server-side Applications (South America)



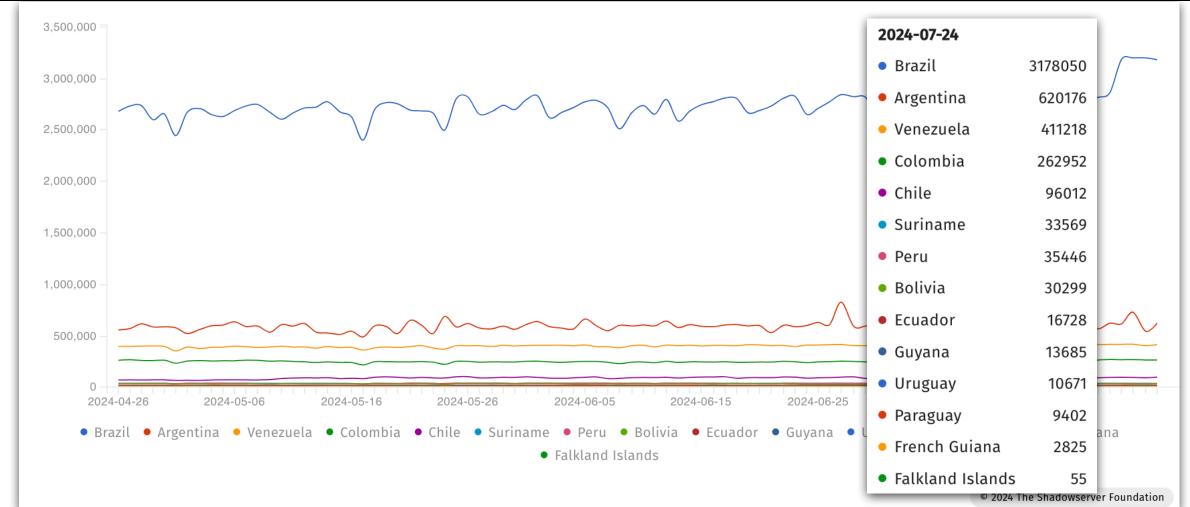






#### Problematic Exposed Server-side Applications (South America)



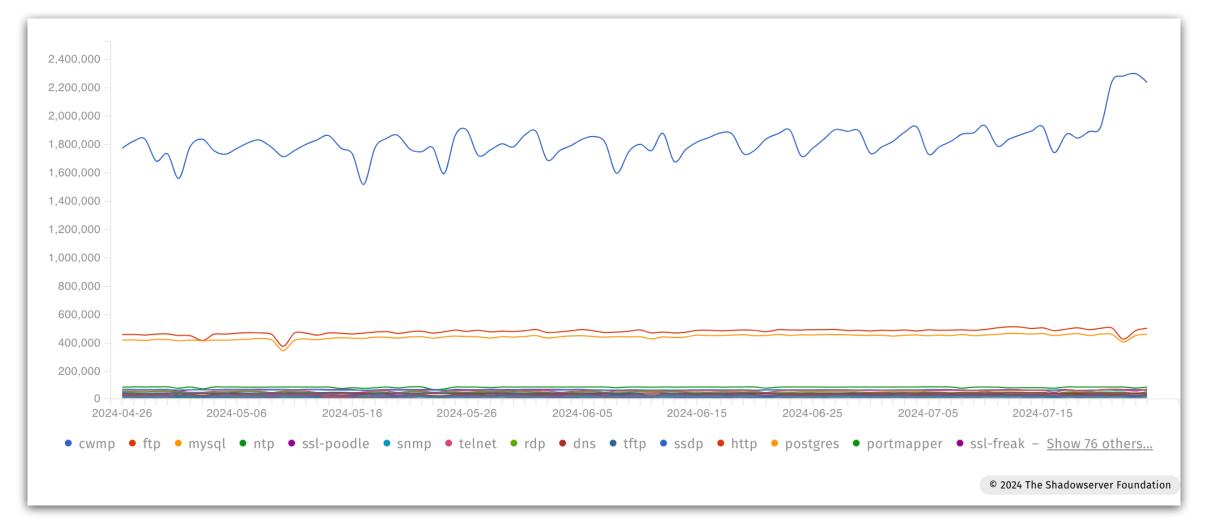






### Problematic Exposed Server-side Applications by Type - BR



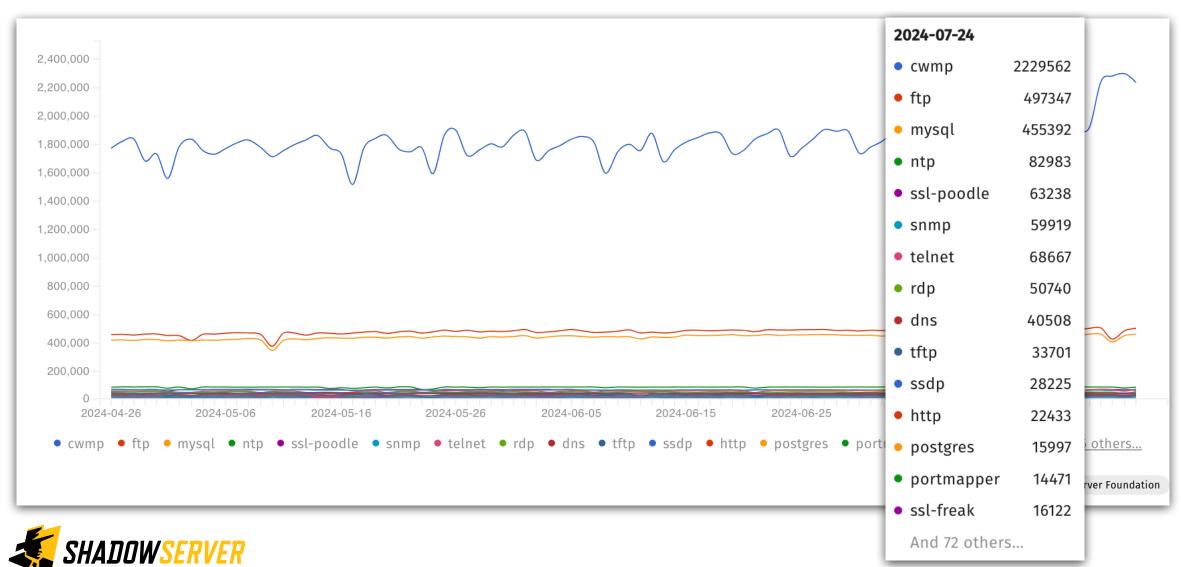






#### Problematic Exposed Server-side Applications by Type - BR







# SCADA/ICS - Unitronics, Modbus & more



CYBERSECURITY & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY  AMERICA'S CYBER DEFENSE AGENCY	Search			
Topics ✔ Spotlight Resources & Tools ✔ News & Events ✔ Careers ✔ About ✔				
Home / News & Events / Cybersecurity Advisories / Alert				
ALERT				
Exploitation of Unitronics PLCs used in Water and				
Exploitation of officionics i Les used in water and				
Wastewater Systems				
Release Date: November 28, 2023				
RELATED TOPICS: CYBERSECURITY BEST PRACTICES				
•				
·				
CISA is responding to <u>active exploitation</u> of Unitronics programmable logic controllers (PLCs) used in the <u>Water and</u>				
Wastewater Systems (WWS) Sector. Cyber threat actors are targeting PLCs associated with WWS facilities, including an				
identified Unitronics PLC, at a U.S. water facility. In response, the affected municipality's water authority immediately				
took the system offline and switched to manual operations—there is no known risk to the municipality's drinking				
water or water supply.				
WWS Sector facilities use PLCs to control and monitor various stages and processes of water and wastewa	ater			
treatment, including turning on and off pumps at a pump station to fill tanks and reservoirs, flow pacing chemicals to				
meet regulations, gathering compliance data for monthly regulation reports, and announcing critical alarms to				
operations.				



# Intelligence Brief: Impact of FrostyGoop ICS Malware on Connected OT Systems

In April 2024, FrostyGoop, an ICS malware, was discovered in a publicly available malware scanning repository. FrostyGoop can target devices communicating over Modbus TCP to manipulate control, modify parameters, and send unauthorized command messages. Modbus TCP is a commonly used protocol across all industrial sectors.

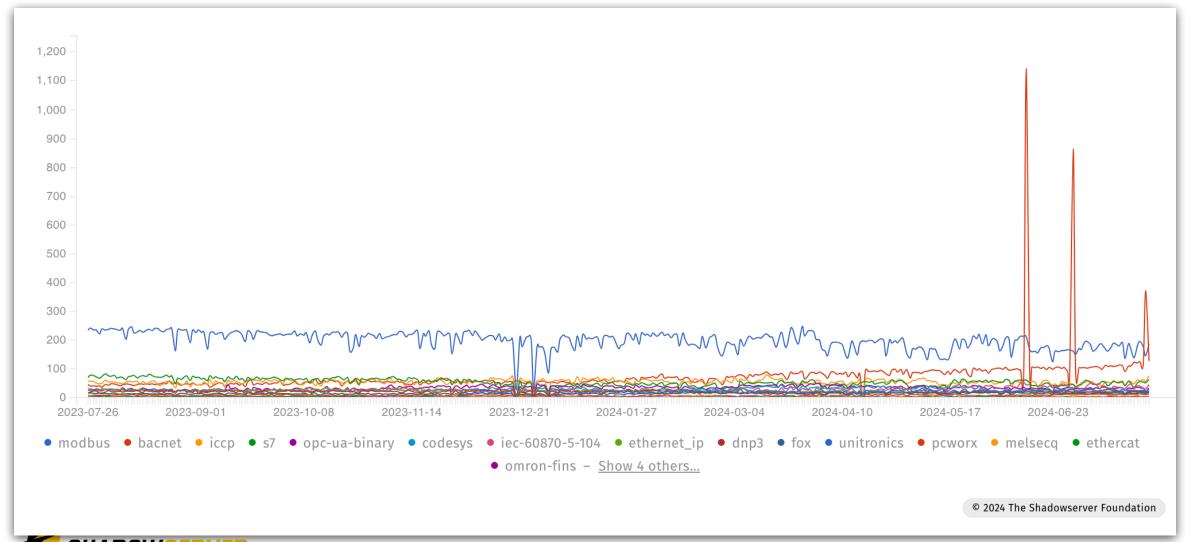
The Cyber Security Situation Center (CSSC), a part of the Security Service of Ukraine, shared details with Dragos about a cyber attack that impacted a municipal district energy company in Ukraine in January 2024. At the time of the attack, this facility fed over 600 apartment buildings, supplying customers with central heating. Remediation of the incident took almost two days, during which time the civilian population had to endure sub-zero temperatures. Dragos assessed that FrostyGoop and internet-exposed ICS devices facilitated this attack.





# Exposed Native ICS Applications - South America



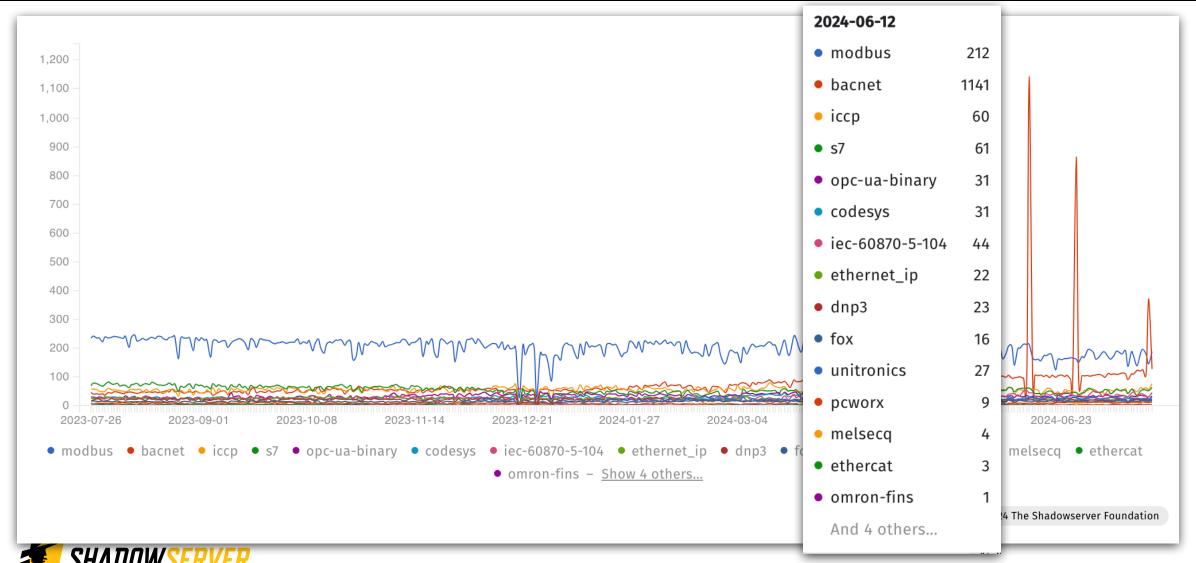






# Exposed Native ICS Applications - South America

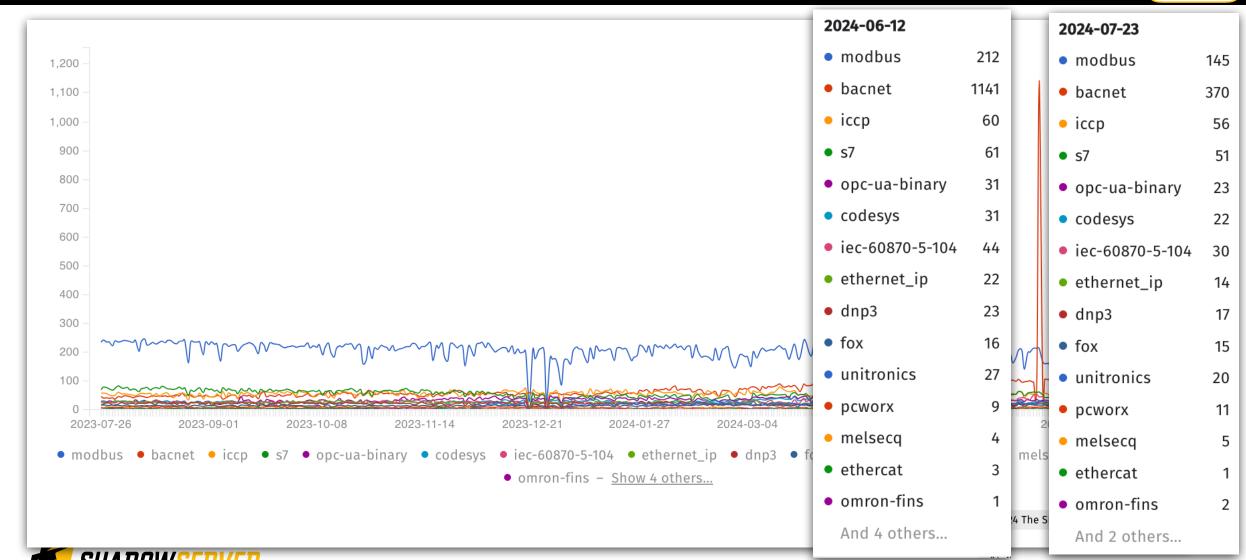






# Exposed Native ICS Applications - South America

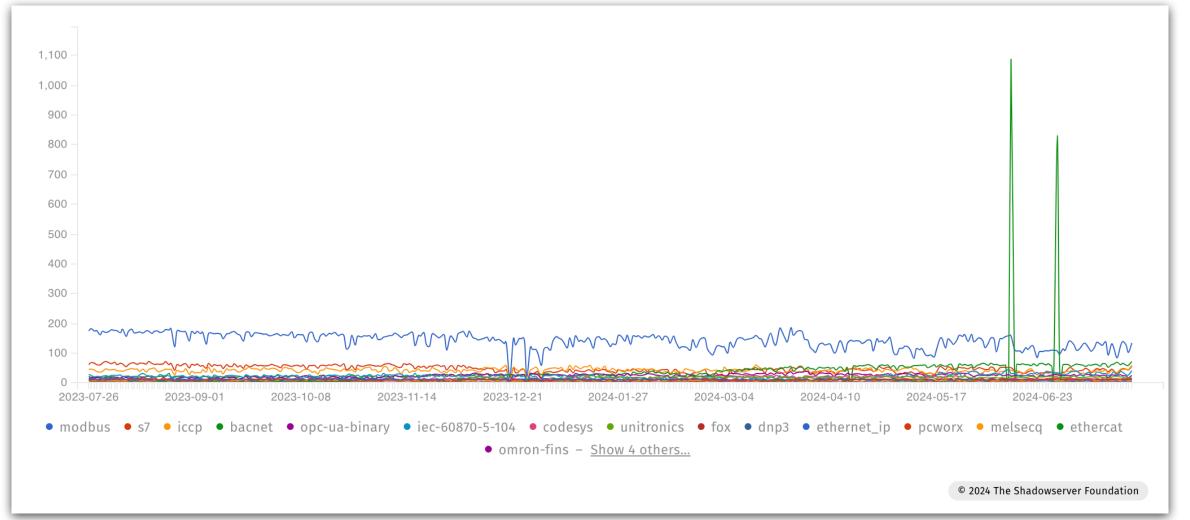






# **Exposed Native ICS Applications - BR**







# Critical Vulnerabilities

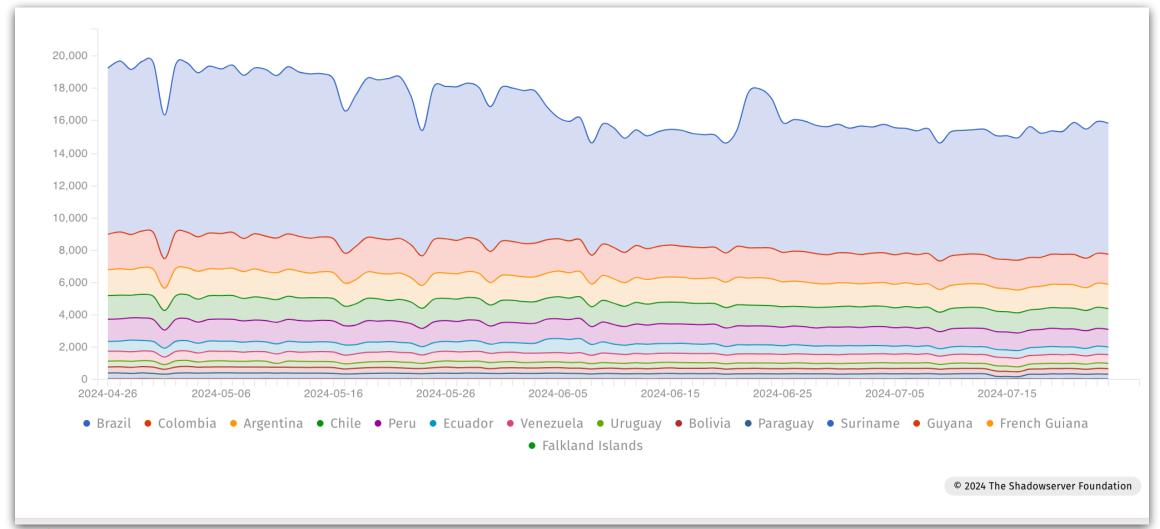
Infrastructure Vulnerable to Unauthenticated Remote Code Execution (via Web-based attacks)





#### Exposed Assets (in Critical Applications) Vulnerable to RCE - South America



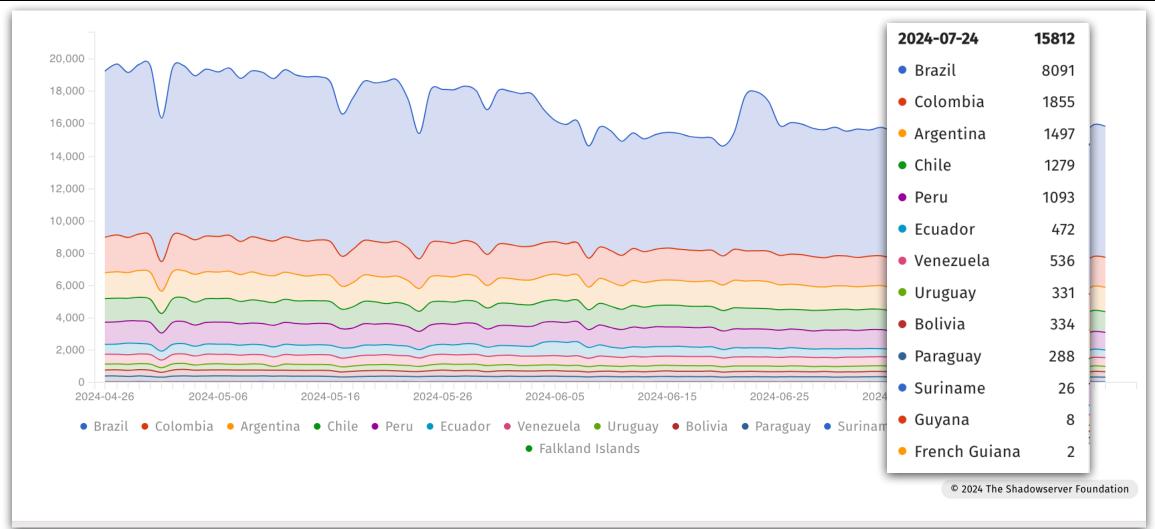






#### Exposed Assets (in Critical Applications) Vulnerable to RCE - South America









#### Top RCE exposure - South America & Brazil (Last 3 months)

Brazil



Tag •	Counte	d IP addresses 🔷
cve-2024-21762	7,286	Fortinet
cve-2023-27997	4,227	Fortinet
cve-2020-3992	2,879	VMware ESXi
cve-2021-21974	2,879	VMware ESXi
cve-2019-5544	2,663	VMware ESXi
cve-2023-5631	1,782	Roundcube
cve-2022-37042	1,268	Zimbra Collaboration Suite
cve-2023-43770	869	Roundcube
cve-2024-22252	415	VMware ESXi
cve-2022-42475	340	Fortinet
cve-2023-33308	340	Fortinet

Tag \$	Counted IP addresses	
cve-2020-3992	2,556	VMware ESXi
cve-2021-21974	2,556	VMware ESXi
cve-2024-21762	2,475	Fortinet
cve-2019-5544	2,287	VMware ESXi
cve-2023-27997	1,464	Fortinet
cve-2023-5631	1,282	Roundcube
cve-2023-43770	726	Roundcube
cve-2022-37042	521	Zimbra Collaboration Suite
cve-2024-22252	278	VMware ESXi
cve-2022-42475	182	Fortinet
cve-2023-33308	182	Fortinet

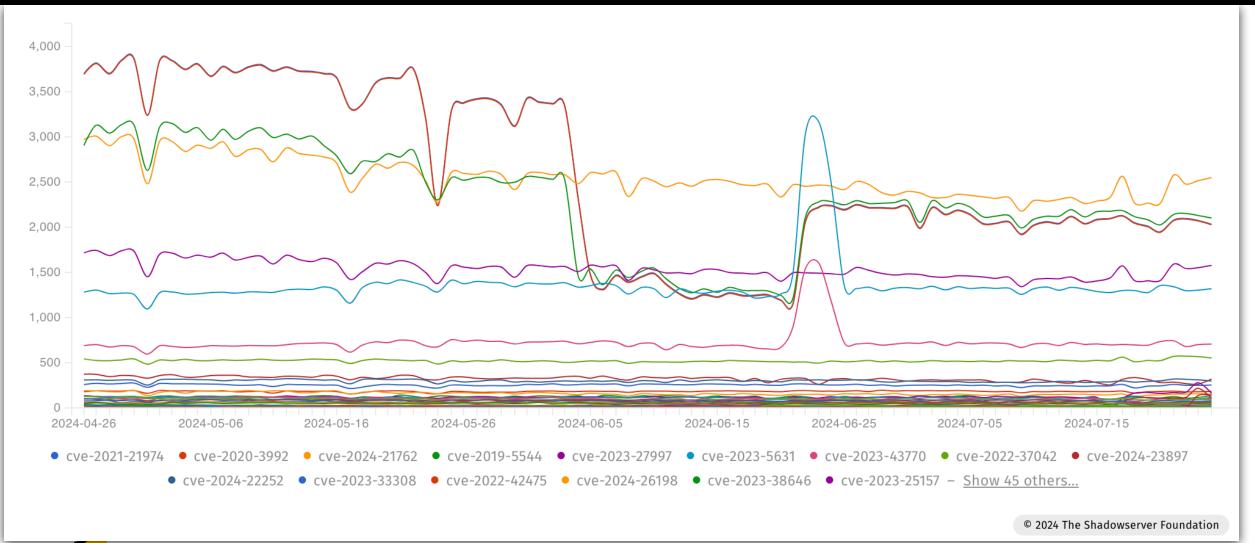
South America





#### Exposed Assets (in Critical Applications) Vulnerable to RCE - BR



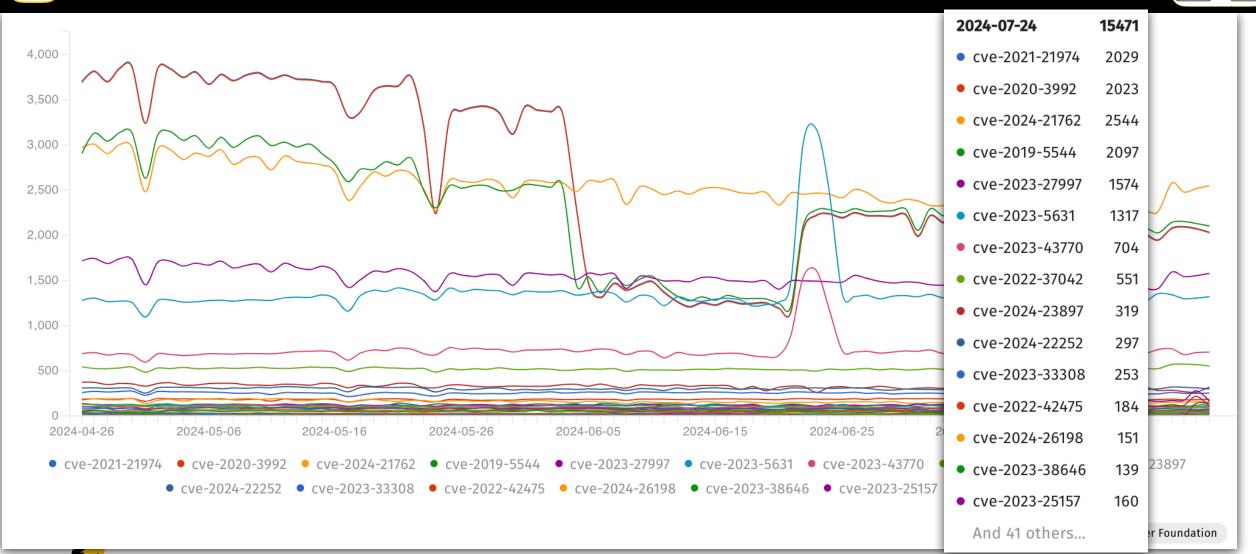






#### Exposed Assets (in Critical Applications) Vulnerable to RCE - BR







# Citrix NetScaler

CVE-2023-3519







CTX561482

Citrix ADC and Citrix Gateway Security Bulletin for CVE-2023-3519, CVE-2023-3466, CVE-2023-3467

Security Bulletin | Severity: Critical | 137 found this helpful | Created: 18 Jul 2023 | Modified: 18 Jul 2023 | Status: Final

#### **Applicable Products**

Citrix ADC

Citrix Gateway

#### **Description of Problem**

Multiple vulnerabilities have been discovered in NetScaler ADC (formerly Citrix ADC) and NetScaler Gateway (formerly Citrix Gateway).

The following supported versions of NetScaler ADC and NetScaler Gateway are affected by the vulnerabilities:

- NetScaler ADC and NetScaler Gateway 13.1 before 13.1-49.13
- NetScaler ADC and NetScaler Gateway 13.0 before 13.0-91.13
- NetScaler ADC 13.1-FIPS before 13.1-37.159
- NetScaler ADC 12.1-FIPS before 12.1-55.297
- NetScaler ADC 12.1-NDcPP before 12.1-55.297

Note: NetScaler ADC and NetScaler Gateway version 12.1 is now End Of Life (EOL) and is vulnerable.









CTX561482

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Shadowserver already had Device Identification rules in place for Citrix NetScaler. This helped free daily report constituents in multiple sectors to quickly identify where Citrix devices were located in their networks, which allowed local Incident Response (IR) teams to start immediate investigations as soon as the vendor advisory was made public, and in some cases feed their discoveries back to us, as part of our existing scan/report/feedback cycle with some constituents.

- NetScaler ADC and NetScaler Gateway 13.1 before 13.1-49.13
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- . Fingerprinting was consistently improved in the following days, based on feedback
- NetScaler ADC 13.1-FIPS before 13.1-37.159
- NetScaler ADC 12.1-FIPS before 12.1-55.297
- NetScaler ADC 12.1-NDcPP before 12.1-55.297

Note: NetScaler ADC and NetScaler Gateway version 12.1 is now End Of Life (EOL) and is vulnerable.















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July 20th: Shadowserver shares vulnerable instance information in its daily reports (Vulnerable HTTP report)





# Citrix Nets The Shadowserver Foundation @Shadowserver



July 19th: CISA Adds Citrix Net

July 19th: Shadowserver devel

July 20th: Shadowserver share

Now sharing info on likely CVE-2023-3519 vulnerable Citrix ADC/Gateway instances in our Vulnerable HTTP report: shadowserver.org/what-we-do/net...

At least 11170 unique IPs found, most in the US (4.1K).

Make sure to patch: support.citrix.com/article/CTX561...

Dashboard stats: dashboard.shadowserver.org/statistics/com...



presence in html body content)

ΓΤΡ report)







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July 21st: Shadowserver improves scans for vulnerable instances - based on feedback







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July 19th: Shadowserver devel

July 20th: Shadowserver share

July 20th: CISA Advisory on CV

July 21st: Shadowserver impro



#### **The Shadowserver Foundation**

@Shadowserver

Update on CVE-2023-3519 vulnerable IPs: we now tag 15K Citrix IPs as vulnerable to CVE-2023-3519. We extended the tagging logic to tag as vulnerable all that return Last Modified headers with a date before July 1, 2023 00:00:00Z. We also improved NetScaler AAA detection coverage.

ml body content)









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July 21st: Honeypot profile added













July 24th: CVE-2024-3519 PoC published by AssetNote







July 24th: CVE-2024-3519 PoC published by AssetNote

July 24th: First Exploitation attempts observed by honeypots - CVE-2024-3519 tagging added by Shadowserver







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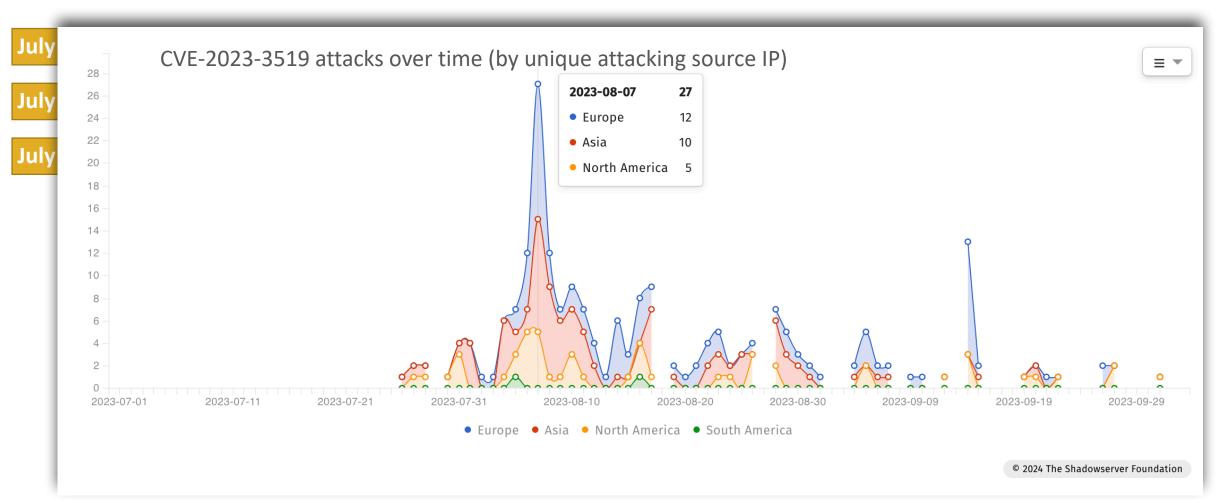
July 24th: First Exploitation attempts observed by honeypots - CVE-2024-3519 tagging added by Shadowserver

**July 26th:** First CVE-2024-3519 tagged exploitation attempts















July 24th: CVE-2024-3519 PoC published by AssetNote

July 24th: First Exploitation attempts observed by honeypots - CVE-2024-3519 tagging added by Shadowserver

**July 26th:** First CVE-2024-3519 tagged exploitation attempts







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#### Citrix NetSc The Shadowserver Foundation



July 24th: CVE-2024-3519 PoC pub

July 24th: First Exploitation attempt

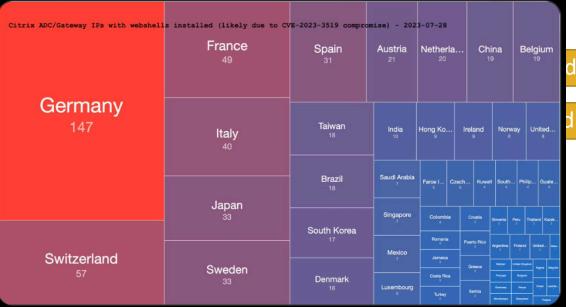
July 26th: First CVE-2024-3519 tag

July 27th: Trusted partner reaches

July 28th: First full scan for websh

We are reporting out webshells installed on Citrix ADC/Gateway IPs likely compromised as part of CVE-2023-3519 attacks. We found 691 instances on 2023-07-28. If you received a report today for your network/constituency, please make sure to investigate.

shadowserver.org/what-we-do/net...



3:32 PM · Jul 29, 2023 · 10.4K Views

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**1** 25

**C** 41

 $\square$  5

by Shadowserver

on compromised instances







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#### Citrix NetScrient CV/F 2022 2F16

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#### Technical Summary of Observed Citrix CVE-2023-3519 Incidents

AUGUST 7, 2023

#### INTRODUCTION

The Shadowserver Foundation and trusted partners have observed three different malicious campaigns that have exploited **CVE-2023-3519**, a code injection vulnerability rated **CVSS 9.8** critical in **Citrix NetScaler ADC** and **NetScaler Gateway**. The summary below is based on collaboration with the individual compromised organizations, as well as their commercial incident response teams. All timestamps in this write-up are in **UTC timezone**, and they have all been slightly adjusted to not disclose the actual times. **Please ensure you follow the detection and hunting steps provided for signs of possible compromise and webshell presence**.

Citrix released an advisory along with a patch on July 18th 2023 – CTX561482 Citrix ADC and Citrix Gateway Security Bulletin for CVE-2023-3519, CVE-2023-3466, CVE-2023-3467. Initial CVE-2023-3519 attacks were well documented by CISA in their Cybersecurity Advisory Threat Actors Exploiting Citrix CVE-2023-3519 to Implant Webshells on July 20th 2023.

To assist National CSIRTs and system defenders in identifying which organizations and Citrix instances they should focus on and investigate/remediate, Shadowserver provides – amongst others – the **Device Identification report** and the **Vulnerable HTTP report**. These proved very useful as Partners could use the **Shadowserver Device Identification report** to look for Citrix NetScaler/Gateway devices very rapidly in their constituency. The Shadowserver **Vulnerable HTTP report** was expanded quickly to tag vulnerable Citrix NetScaler/Gateway devices with "cve-2023-3519" starting July 20th, which enabled Partners to quickly gain insight into which devices needed particular attention. As a result of the work documented in this summary, **Shadowserver have reported over 600 hosts** that have webshells installed through the **Shadowserver Compromised Website report**. The real number of compromised/webshelled hosts will be significantly higher, as any host patched/updated after July 20th will not be included in the report.

by Shadowserver

on compromised instances

n shared Aug 4th







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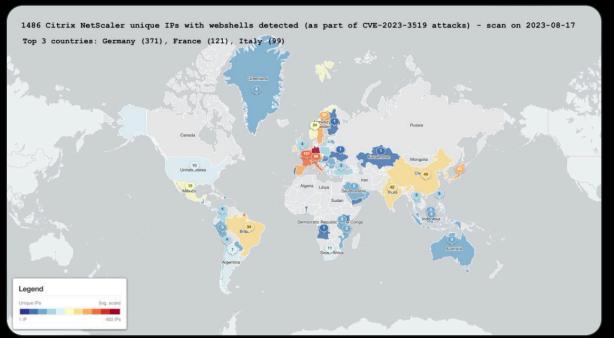
Aug 7th: We publish a technical

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Aug 18th: Share further reports

We continue to report out daily lists of Citrix ADC/Gateway IPs that are known to be compromised with webshells installed (CVE-2023-3519 attacks). We now see 1486 instances on 2023-08-17. Big thank you to @DIVDnl & @foxit for the collaboration.

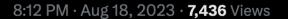
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Shadowserver

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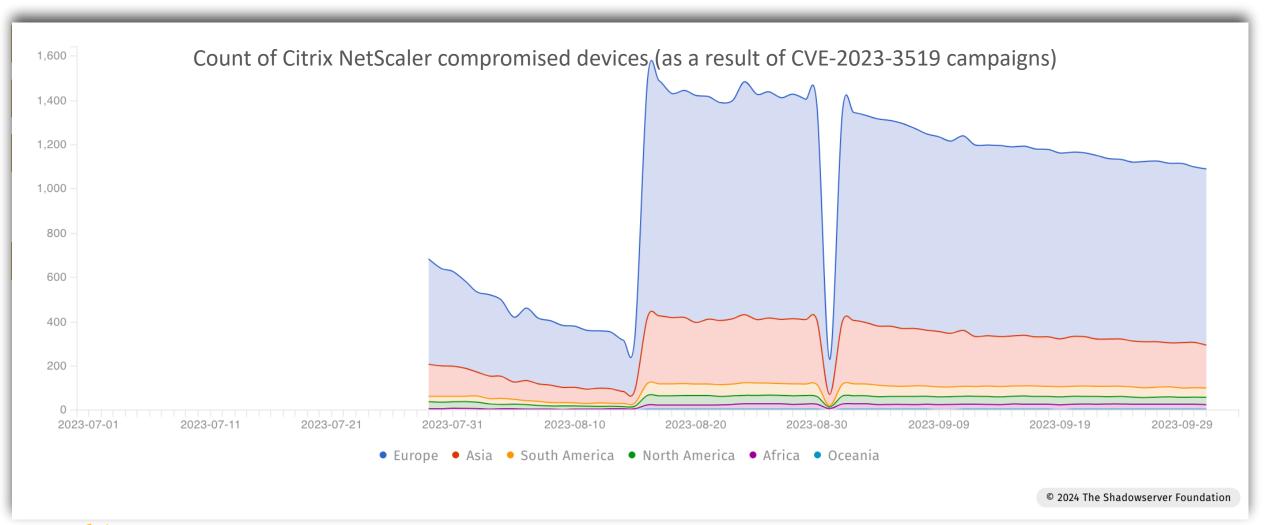
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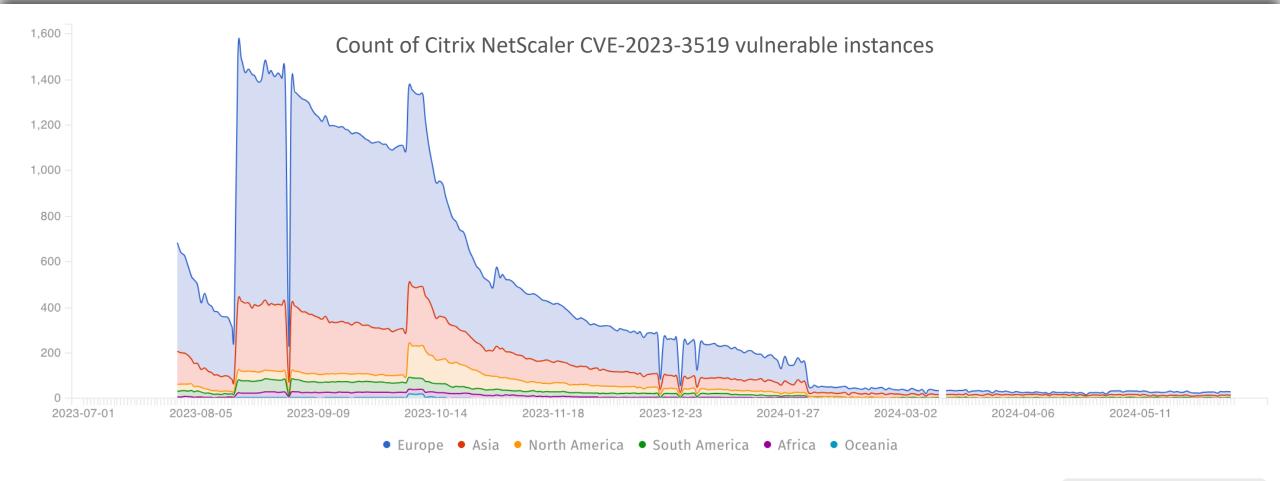
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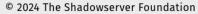
Sep 6th: CISA updates Citrix advisory based on input from partners, including Shadowserver (part of JCDC collaboration)









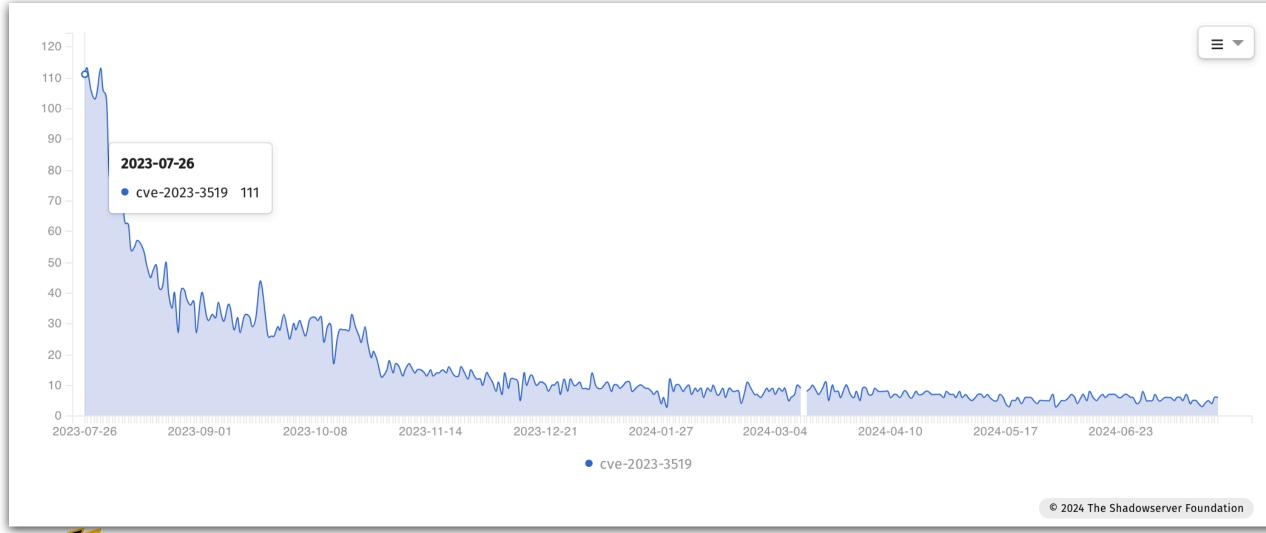






#### Citrix NetScaler CVE-2023-3519 Vulnerable - Brazil



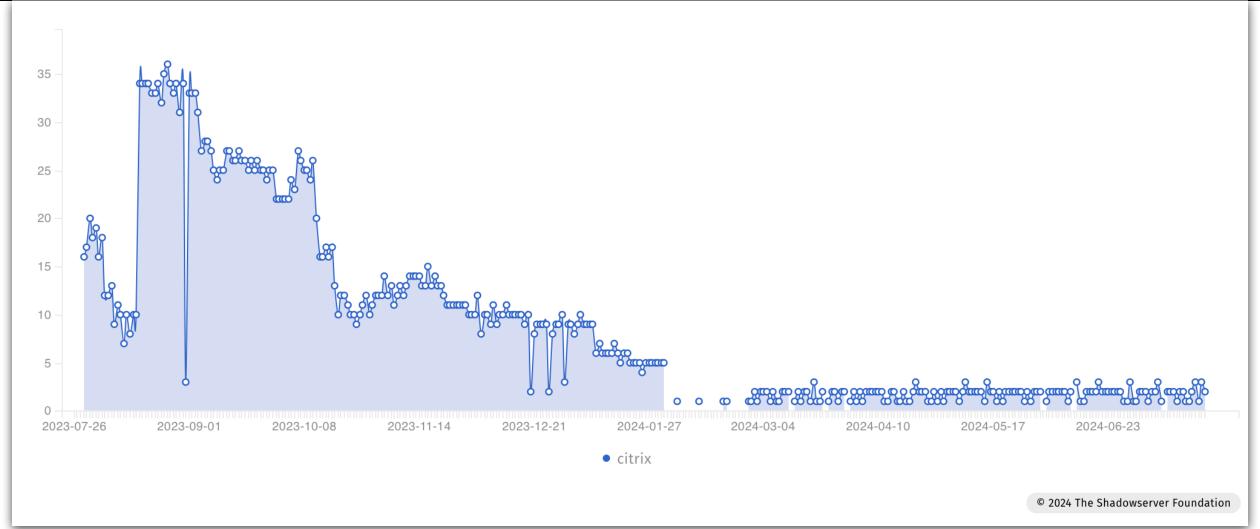






### Citrix NetScaler CVE-2023-3519 Compromised - Brazil









# Compromises

(Critical compromised assets tracked by Shadowserver)











Oct 16th: Cisco Talos publication on active exploitation of Cisco IOS XE Web Interface vulnerabilities. Scan implemented







Oct 16th: Cisco Talos publication

Active exploitation of Cisco IOS XE Software Web Management User Interface vulnerabilities

plemented

By Cisco Talos

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023 11:05

THREAT ADVISORY

#### **Updates**

**Nov. 02**: Identified a third version of the BadCandy implant. Added expected response from the new version of the implant against one of the HTTP requests used to check for infected device.

**Nov. 1:** Observed increase in exploitation attempts since the publication of the proofs-of-concept (POCs) of the exploits involved. Named the Lua-based web shell "BadCandy."

Oct. 23: Identified an updated version of the implant. Provided new curl command to check for infected devices. Fixes for CVE-2023-20198 and CVE-2023-20273 started to roll out on Oct. 22.

Oct. 20: Identified an additional vulnerability (CVE-2023-20273) that is exploited to deploy the implant. Fixes for both CVE-2023-20198 and CVE-2023-20273 are estimated to be available on Oct. 22. The CVE-2021-1435 that had previously been mentioned is no longer assessed to be associated with this activity.

**Oct. 19**: Added additional attacker IP and username, defense evasion observations, and new Snort rules. Also added new information regarding our assessment that the activity is being carried out by the same actor.







Oct 16th: Cisco Talos publication on active exploitation of Cisco IOS XE Web Interface vulnerabilities. Scan implemented







Oct 16th: Cisco Talos publication on active exploitation of Cisco IOS XE Web Interface vulnerabilities. Scan implemented

Oct 17th: Shadowserver conducts first full daily scan for compromised devices



IOS XE IPs compromised with implants based on the check published by Cisco in blog.talosintelligence.com/active-exploit...

Oct 16th: Cisco Talos publicati

Oct 17th: Shadowserver cond

IP data on implants shared out daily in: shadowserver.org/what-wedo/net... tagged 'device-implant'.



5:27 AM · Oct 18, 2023 · 91.1K Views

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Inerabilities. Scan implemented





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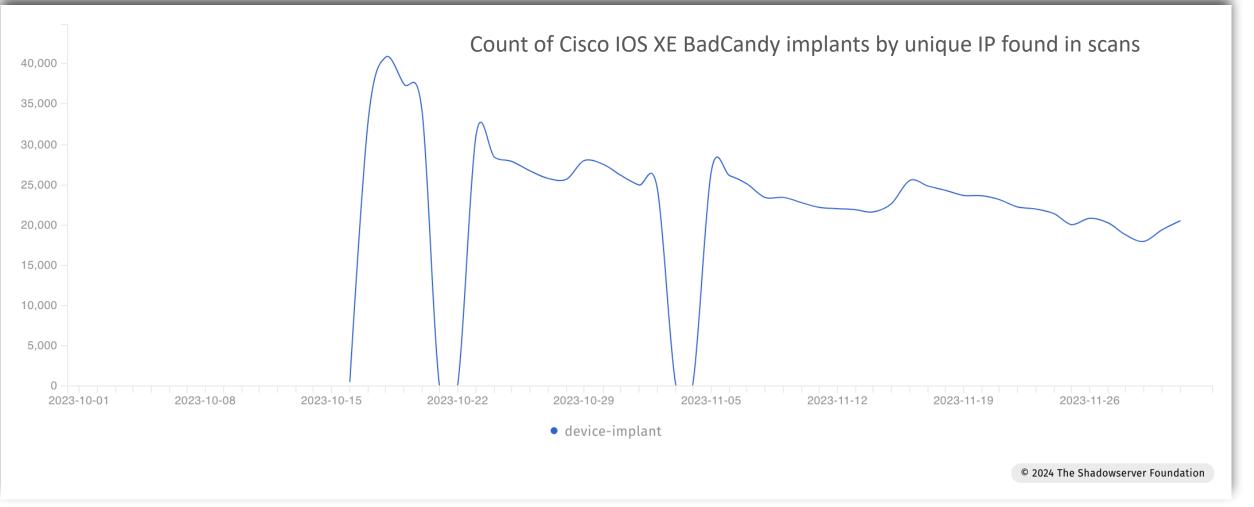
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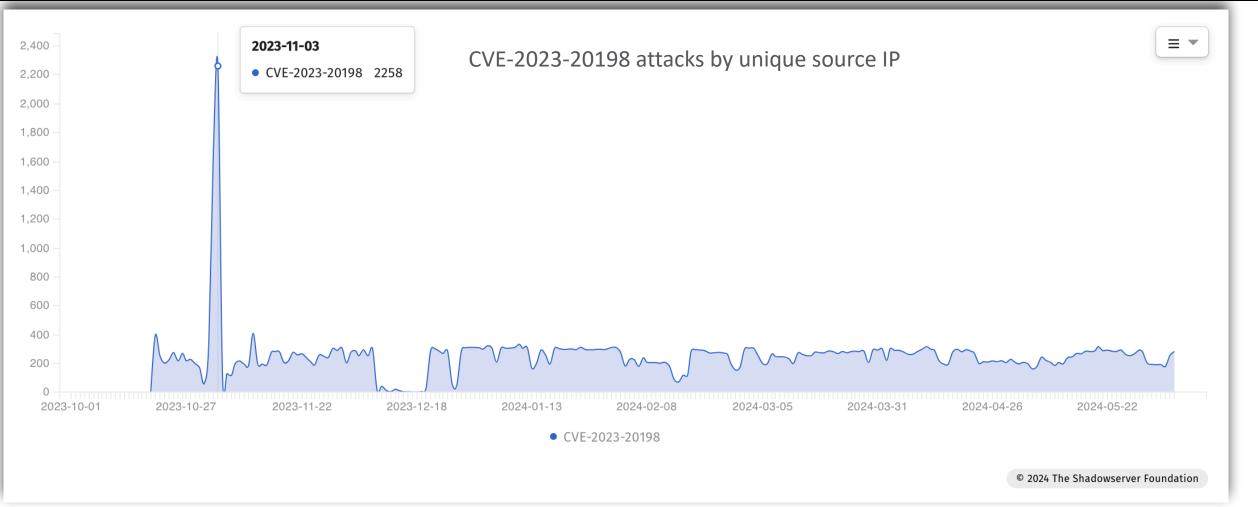
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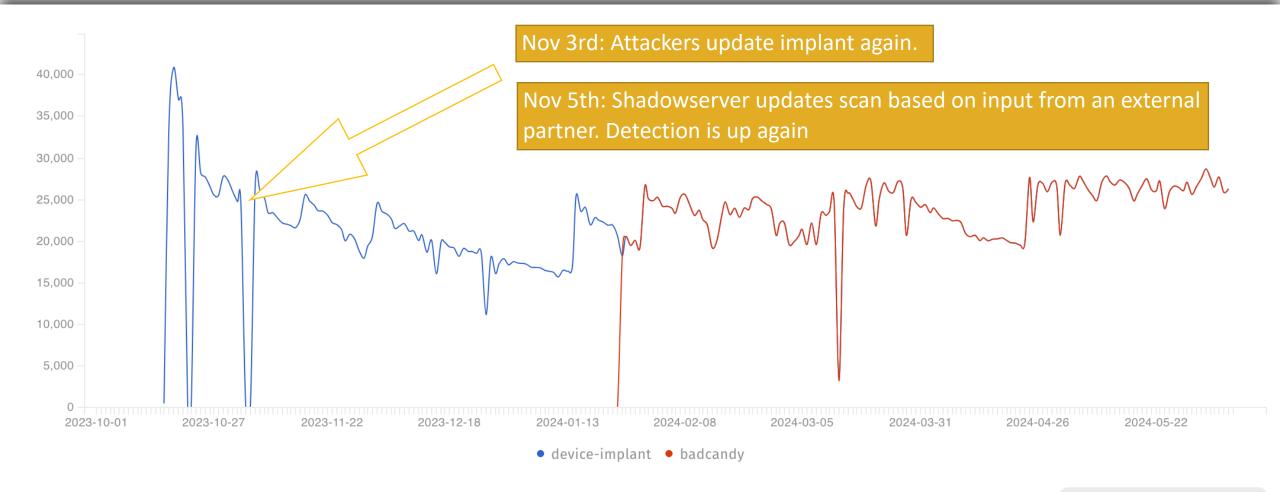
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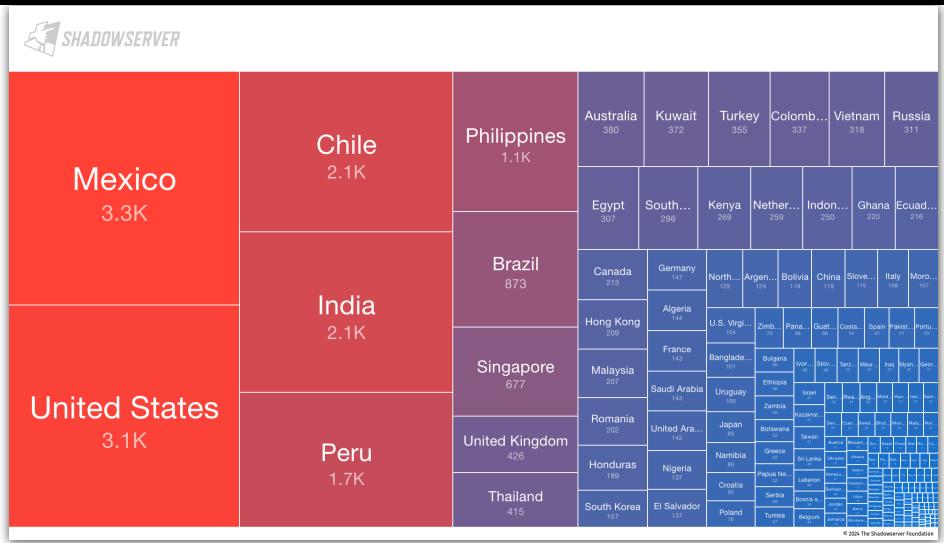
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# Cisco IOS XE BadCandy - World (2024-07-24)









#### Cisco IOS XE BadCandy - South America (2024-07-24)

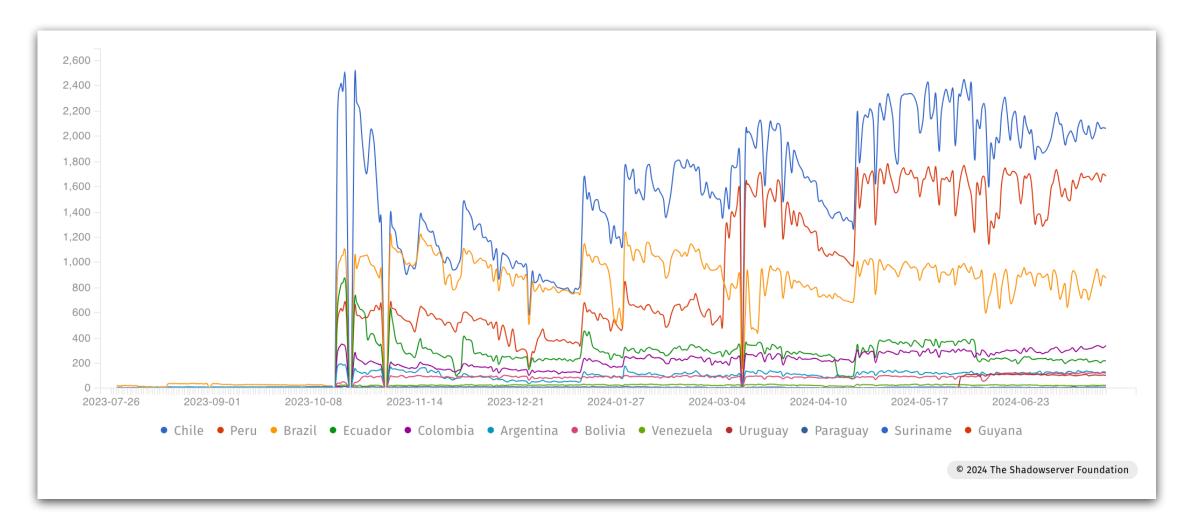






#### Compromised Devices (Citrix, Ivanti, Cisco IOS XE ... ) - South America



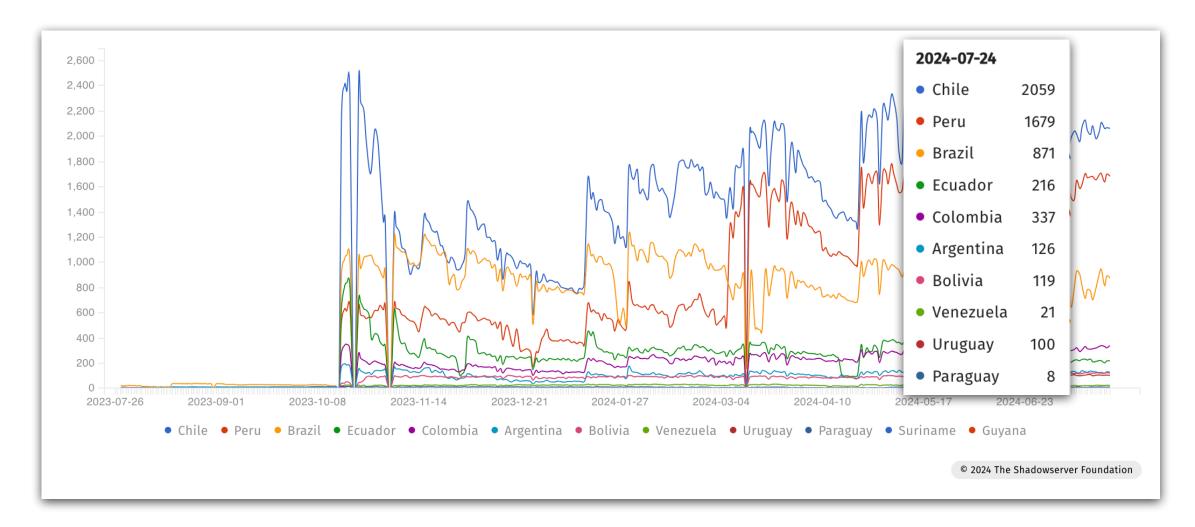






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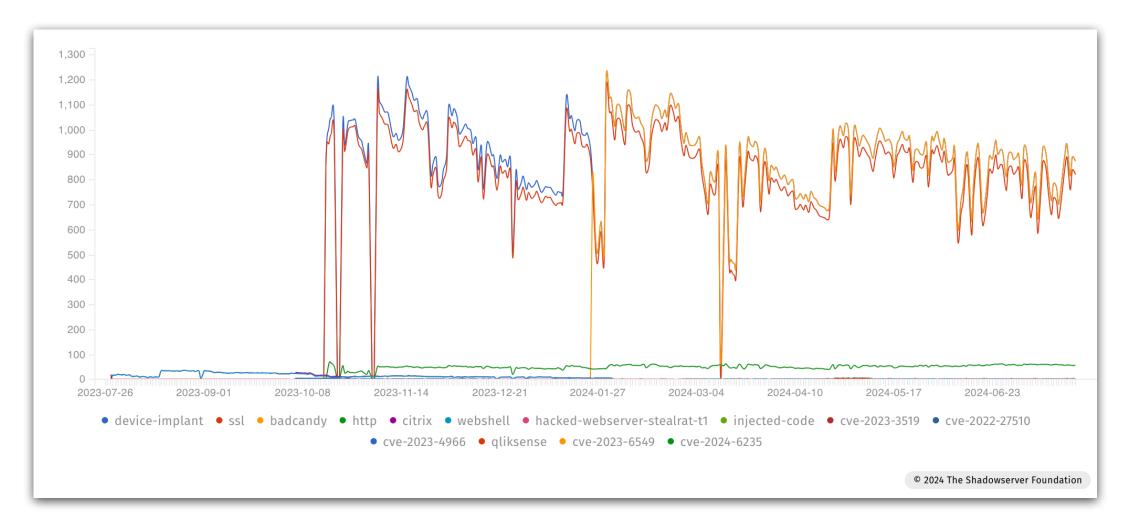






## Compromised Devices (Citrix, Ivanti, Cisco IOS XE ... ) - Brazil







# Malware sinkholes

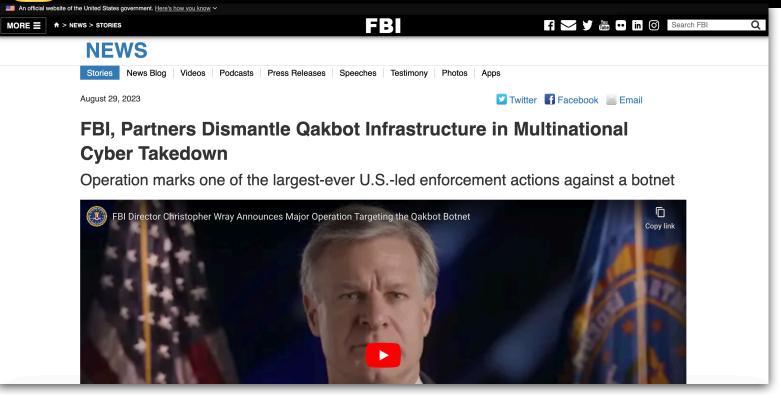
**Infected System Observations** 





# Qakbot Botnet Disruption (2023-08-24)





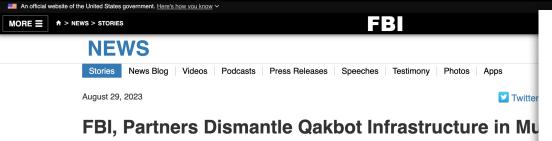


Src: FBI, DoJ



# Qakbot Botnet Disruption (2023-08-24)





## **Cyber Takedown**

Operation marks one of the largest-ever U.S.-led enforcement acti



### **Qakbot Malware Disrupted in International Cyber Takedown**

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, Central District of California

### Qakbot Malware Infected More Than 700,000 Victim Computers, Facilitated Ransomware Deployments, and Caused Hundreds of Millions of Dollars in Damage

LOS ANGELES - The Justice Department today announced a multinational operation involving actions in the United States, France. Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Romania, and Latvia to disrupt the botnet and malware known as Qakbot and take down its infrastructure.

The Qakbot malicious code is being deleted from victim computers, preventing it from doing any more harm. The Department also announced the seizure of more than \$8.6 million in cryptocurrency in illicit profits.

The action represents the largest U.S.-led financial and technical disruption of a botnet infrastructure leveraged by cybercriminals to commit ransomware, financial fraud, and other cyber-enabled criminal activity.

"Cybercriminals who rely on malware like Qakbot to steal private data from innocent victims have been reminded today that they do not operate outside the bounds of the law," said Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. "Together with our international partner the Justice Department has hacked Qakbot's infrastructure, launched an aggressive campaign to uninstall the malware from victim computers in the United States and around the world, and seized \$8.6 million in extorted funds."



Src: FBI. DoJ



# Qakbot Botnet Disruption (2023-08-24)



MORE 

↑ > NEWS > STORIES

FBI

### **Qakbot Malware Disrupted in International Cyber**

### **NEWS**

An official website of the United States government. Here's how you know >

Stories N

News Blog

August 29, 2023

## FBI, Partne Cyber Take

Operation ma



### **Qakbot Botnet Disruption**

AUGUST 29, 2023

Home > News & Insights > Qakbot Botnet Disruption

On Tuesday 29th August 2023, the US

Department of Justice (DoJ) and US Federal

Bureau of Investigations (FBI) – along with
law enforcement partners in France, Germany,
the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom –
announced a disruption action against the
very long running Qakbot botnet.

Qakbot (also known as QBot, Pinkslipbot, Quakbot and Oakbot) has been active since around 2007, having initially been developed as information stealer and banking trojan malware, before later becoming primarily a

distribution network for other malware/ransomware. See <u>Malpedia's timeline</u> for more information about its lengthy evolution, and <u>CISA's advisory</u> for Indicators of Compromise (IOCs) and mitigation information.

In recent years, Qakbot has been used as an initial infection vector by many ransomware groups including Conti, ProLock, Egregor, REvil, MegaCortex, and Black Basta. This has likely enabled significant financial losses globally.



### Recent Articles

### Qakbot Historical Bot Infections Special Report

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

On Tuesday 29th August 2023, the US DoJ and FBI, together with other global law enforcement partners, announced a disruption...

Read more »

### Technical Summary of Observed Citrix CVE-2023-3519 Incidents

AUGUST 7, 2023

The Shadowserver Foundation and trusted partners have observed three different malicious campaigns that have exploited... Read more » ral District of California

#### Ransomware

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more harm. The Department also

ture leveraged by

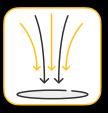
been reminded today that they ir with our international partner uninstall the malware from unds."



Src: FBI, DoJ



# Qakbot Botnet Disruption, World (2023-08-24)



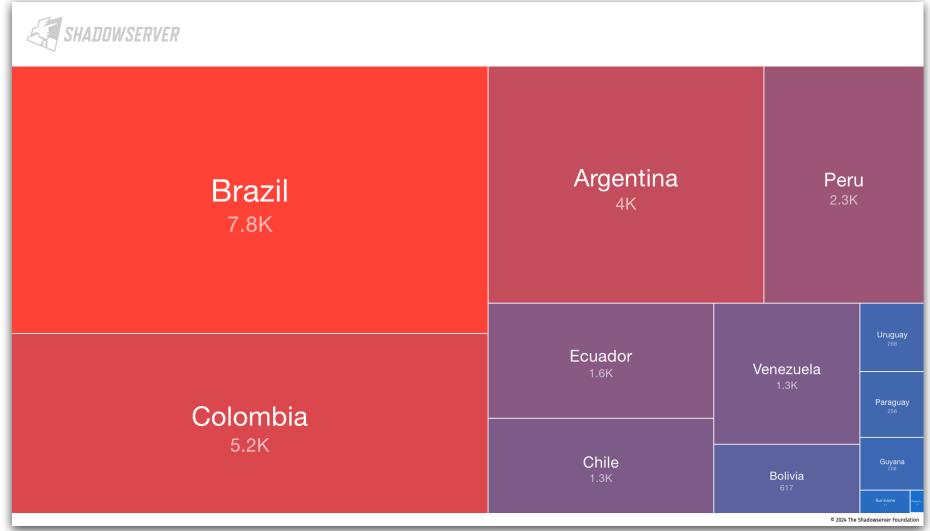
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## Qakbot Botnet Disruption, South America (2023-08-24)







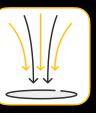


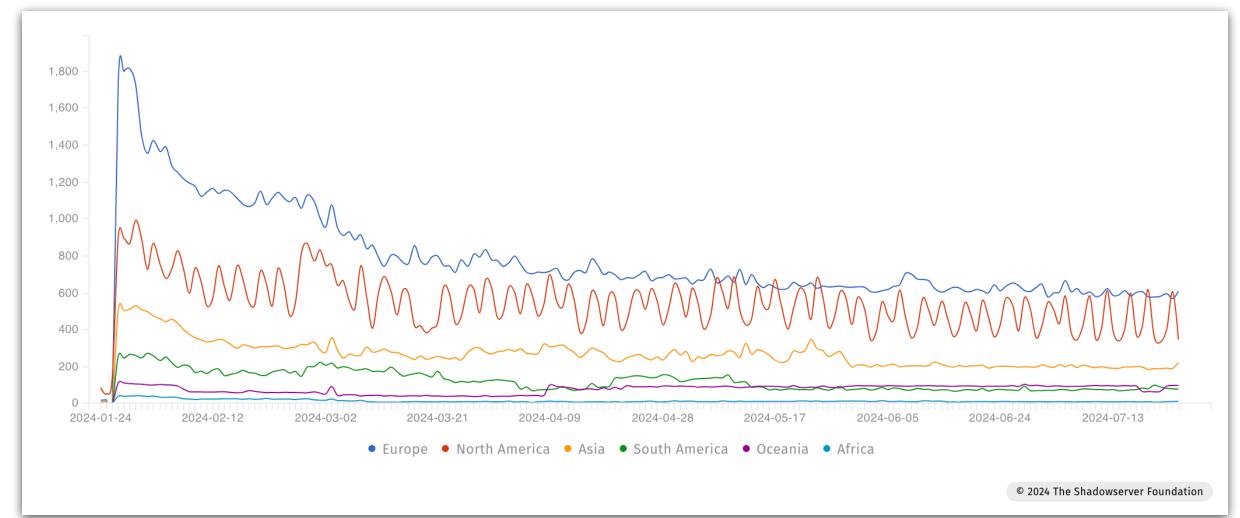






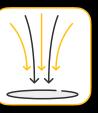


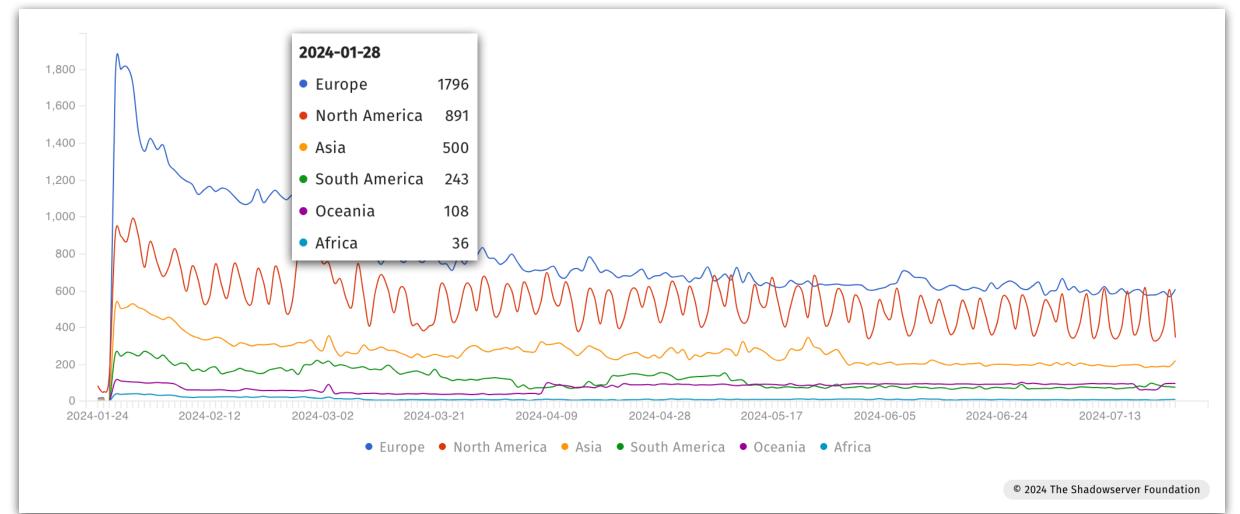








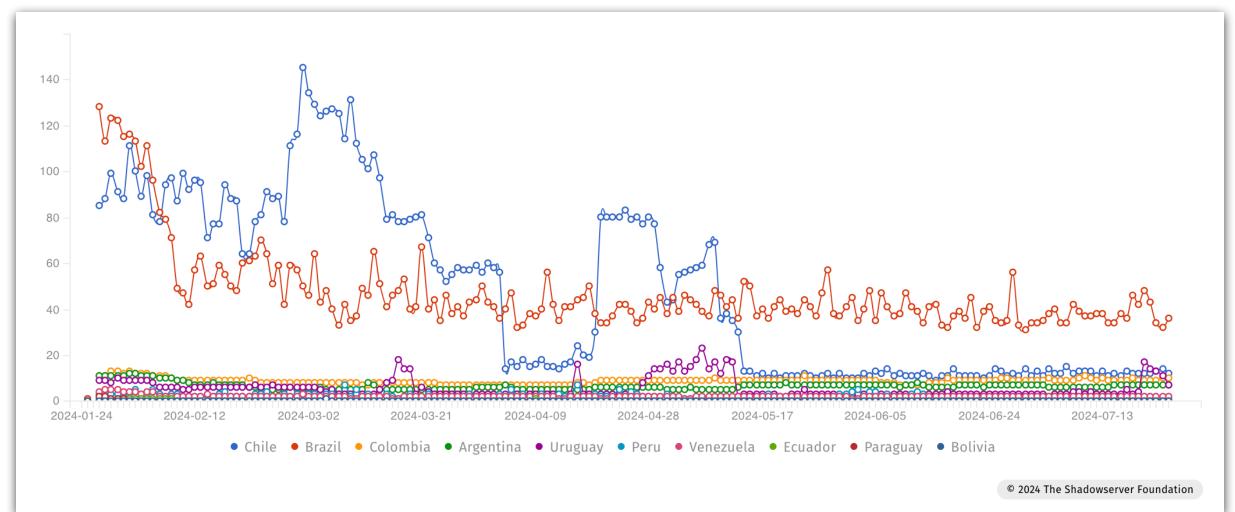






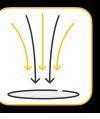


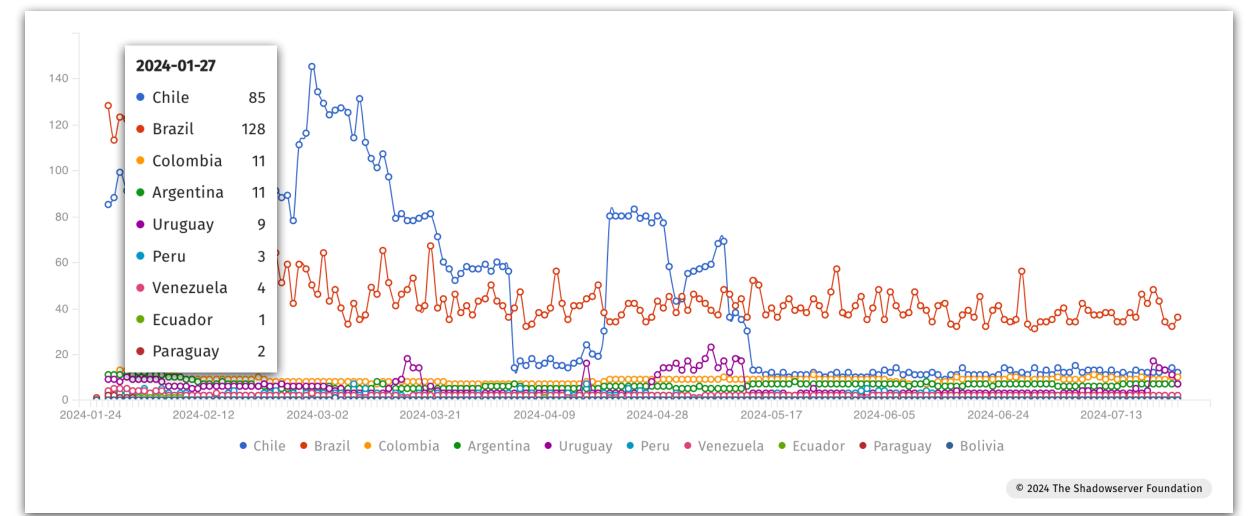








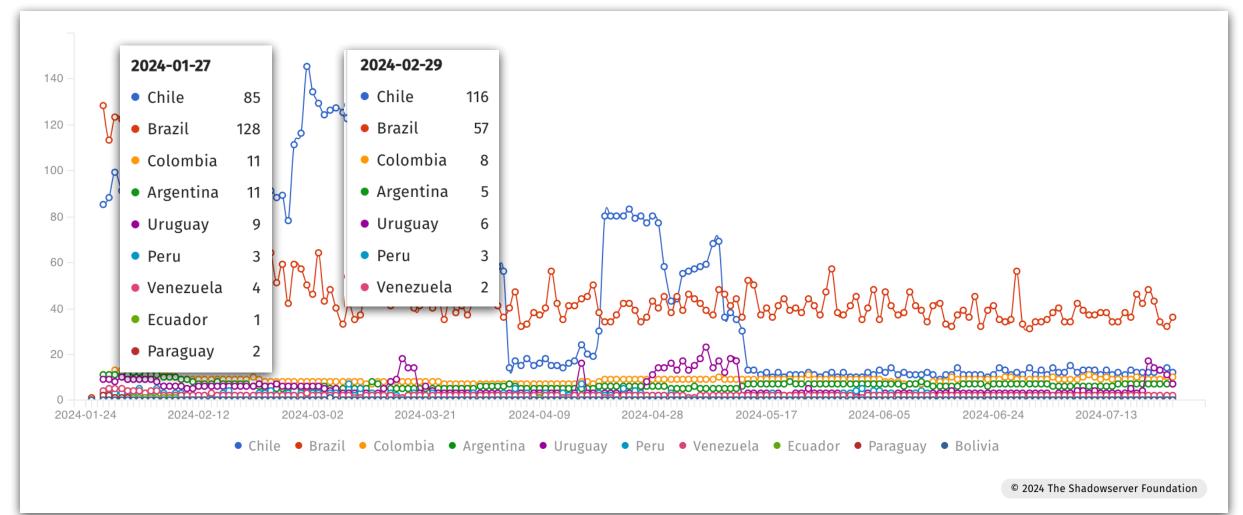








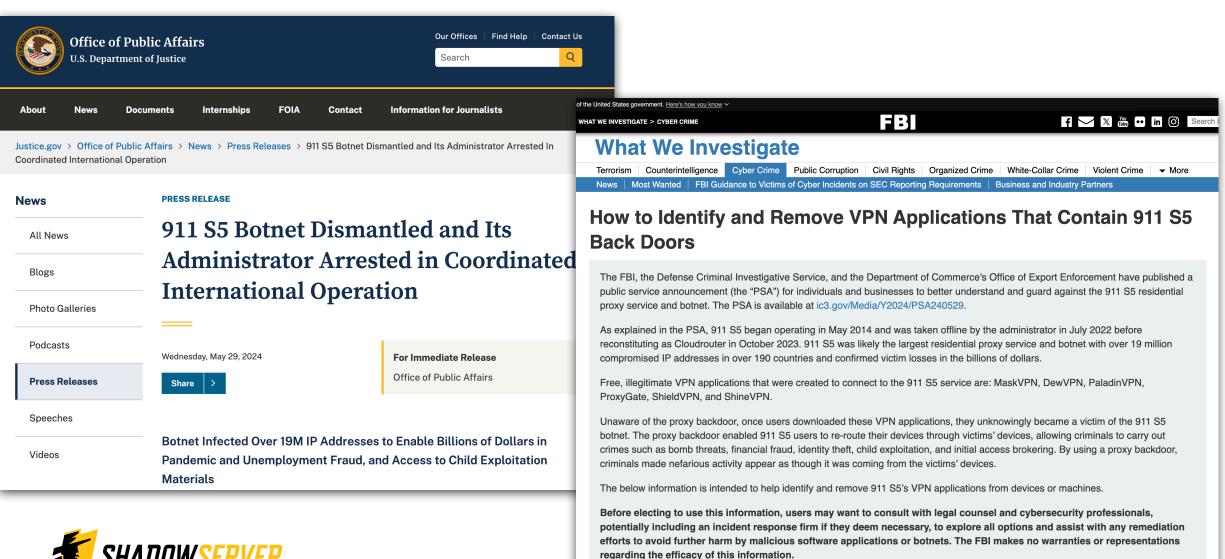




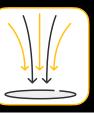


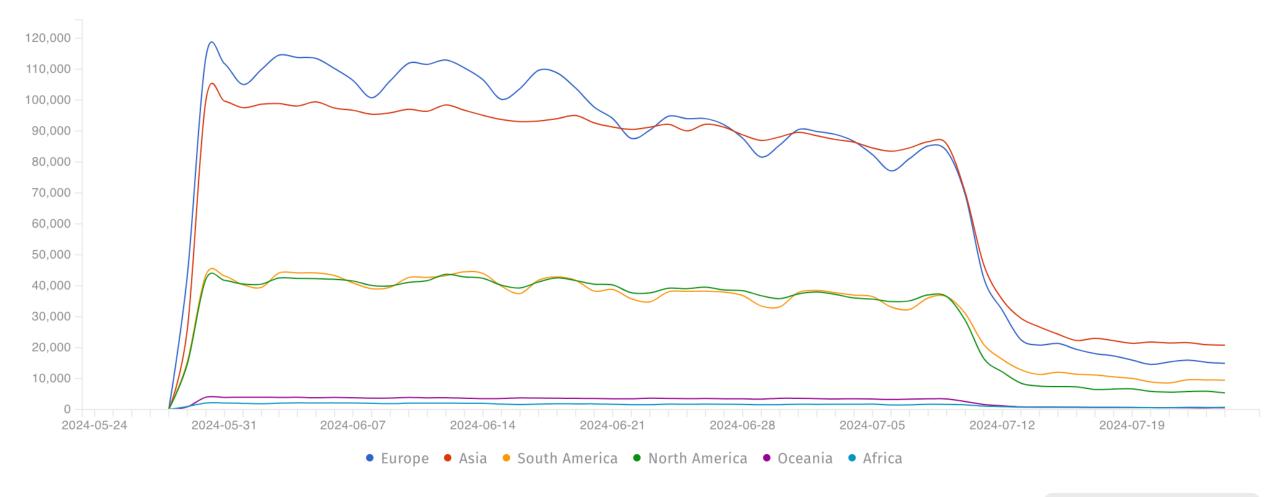










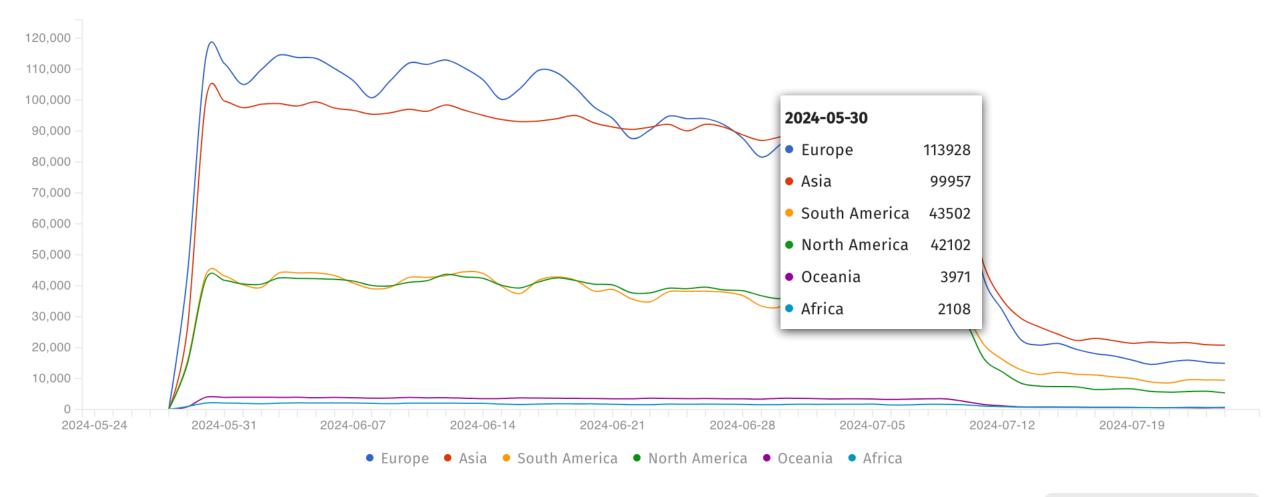








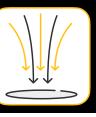


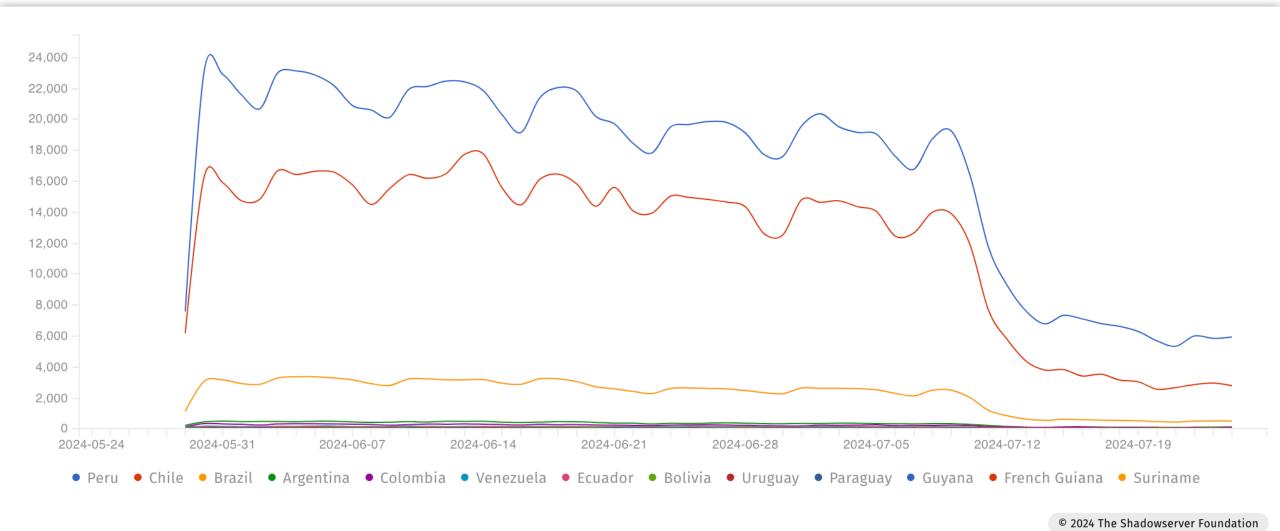








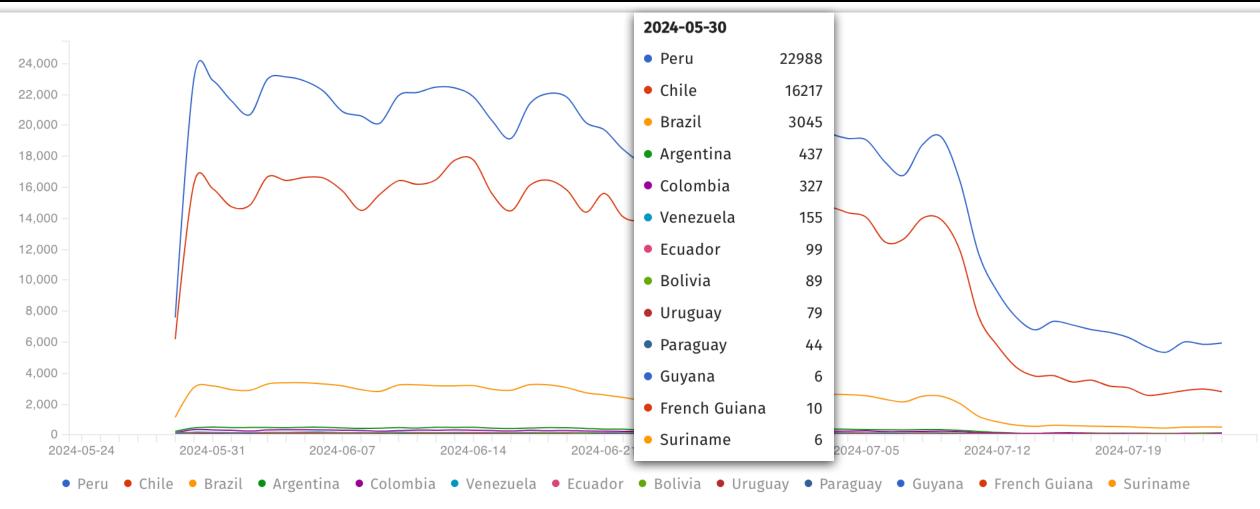














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# Largest ever operation against botnets hits dropper malware ecosystem

International operation shut down droppers including IcedID, SystemBC, Pikabot, Smokeloader and Bumblebee leading to four arrests and takedown of over 100 servers worldwide

Part of the EMPACT Cycle V







Between 27 and 29 May 2024 Operation Endgame, coordinated from Europol's headquarters, targeted droppers including, IcedID, SystemBC, Pikabot, Smokeloader, Bumblebee and Trickbot. The actions focused on disrupting criminal services through arresting High Value Targets, taking down the criminal infrastructures and freezing illegal proceeds. This approach had a global impact on the dropper ecosystem. The malware, whose infrastructure was taken down during the action days, facilitated attacks with ransomware and other malicious software. Following the action days, eight fugitives linked to these criminal activities, wanted by Germany, will be added to Europe's Most Wanted list on 30 May 2024. The individuals are wanted for their involvement in serious cybercrime activities.

This is the largest ever operation against botnets, which play a major role in the deployment of ransomware. The operation, initiated and led by France, Germany and the Netherlands was also supported by Eurojust and involved Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States. In addition, Armenia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Switzerland and Ukraine also supported the operation with different actions, such as arrests, interviewing suspects, searches, and seizures or takedowns of servers and domains. The operation was also supported by a number of private partners at national and international level including Bitdefender, Cryptolaemus, Sekoia, Shadowserver, Team Cymru, Prodaft, Proofpoint, NFIR, Computest, Northwave, Fox-IT, HavelBeenPwned, Spamhaus, DIVD, abuse.ch and Zscaler.

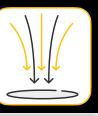
#### The coordinated actions led to:

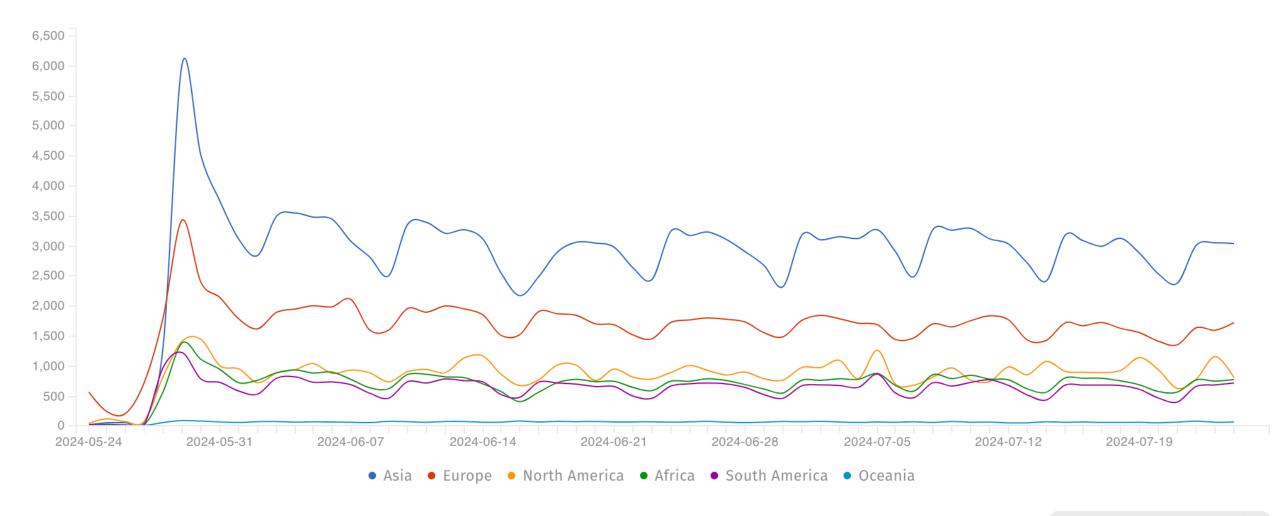
- 4 arrests (1 in Armenia and 3 in Ukraine)
- 16 location searches (1 in Armenia, 1 in the Netherlands, 3 in Portugal and 11 in Ukraine)
- Over 100 servers taken down or disrupted in Bulgaria, Canada, Germany, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Romania, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and Ukraine
- Over 2 000 domains under the control of law enforcement

Furthermore, it has been discovered through the investigations so far that one of the main suspects has earned at least EUR 69 million in cryptocurrency by renting out criminal infrastructure sites to deploy ransomware. The suspect's transactions are constantly being monitored and legal permission to seize these assets upon future actions has already been obtained.







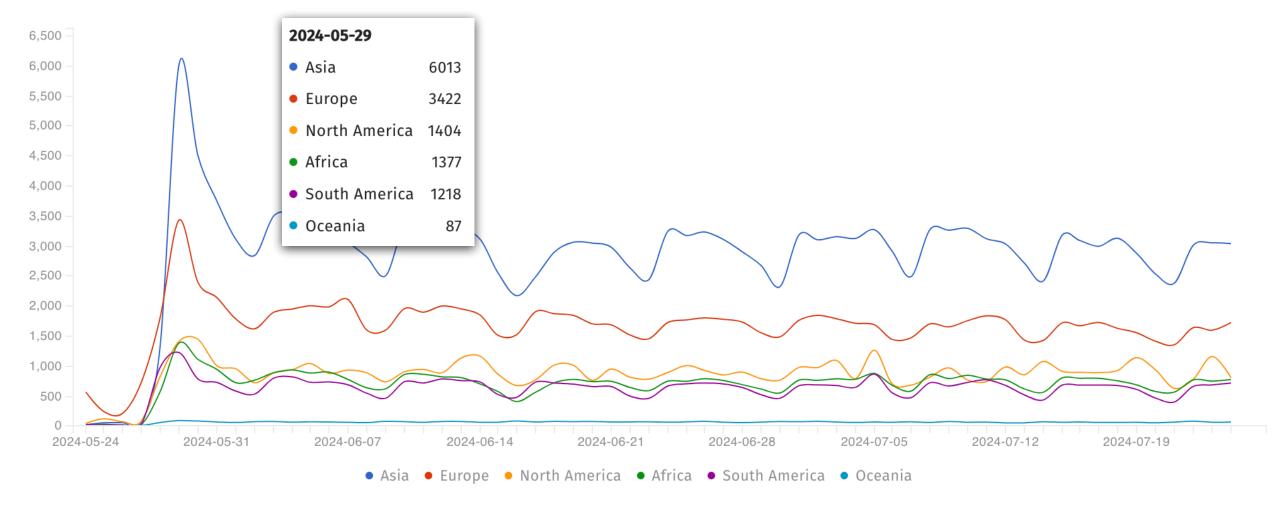








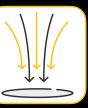


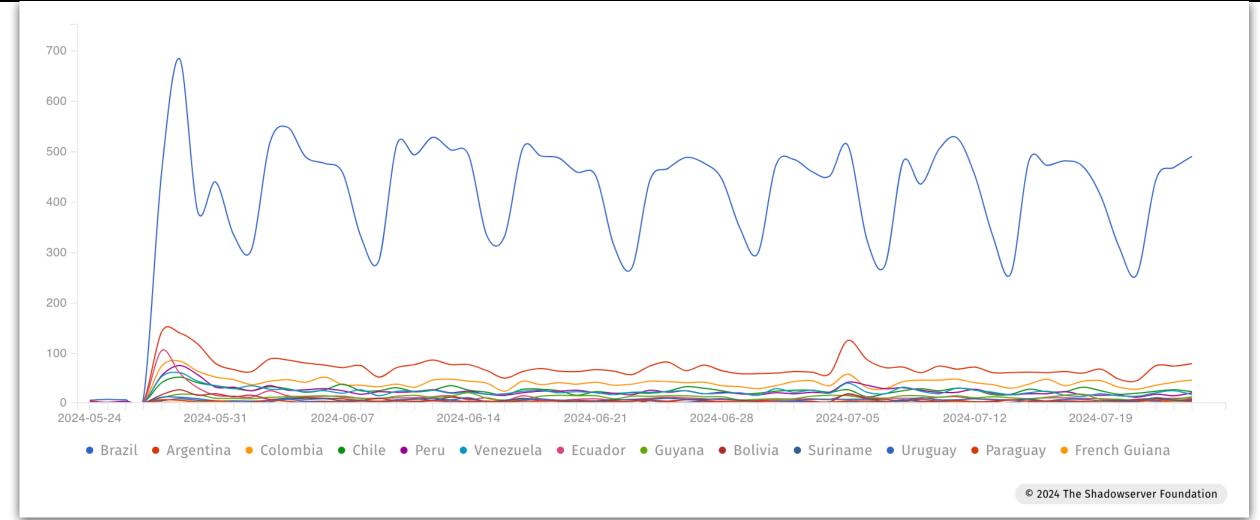


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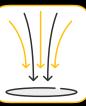


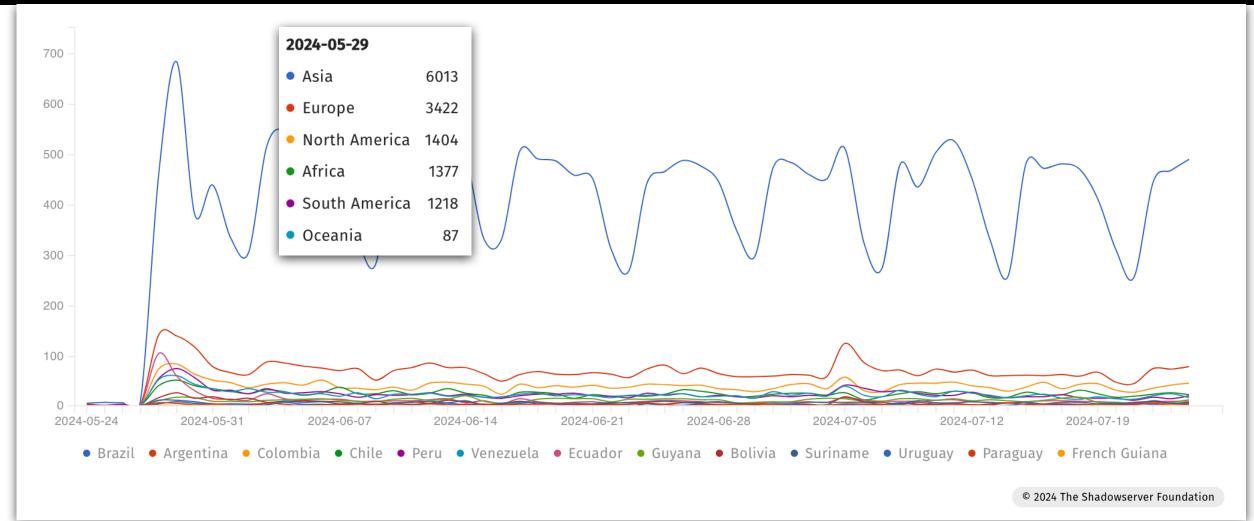










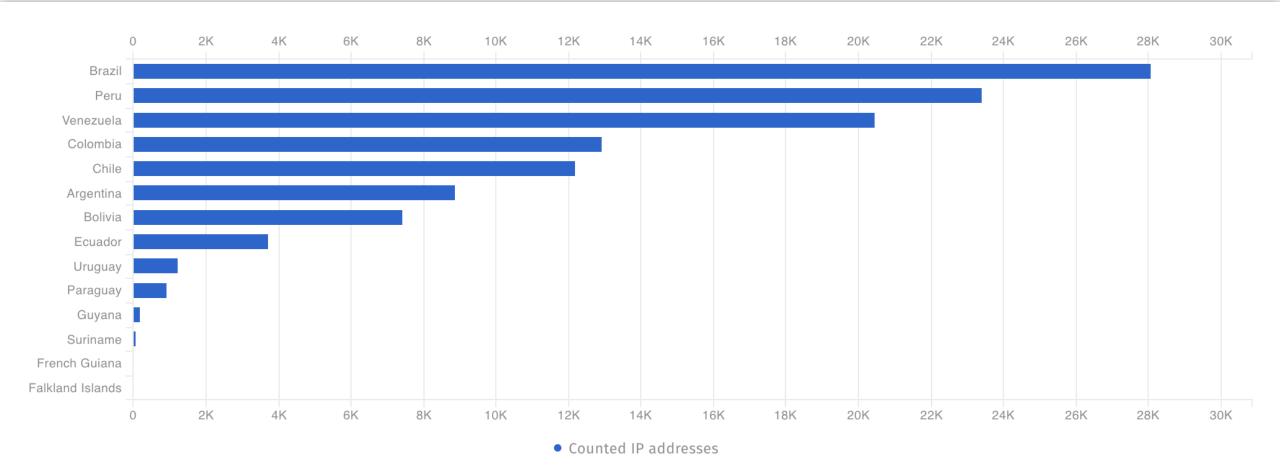






## Top 10 Sinkhole Infections by Country - South America (Last 3 Months)





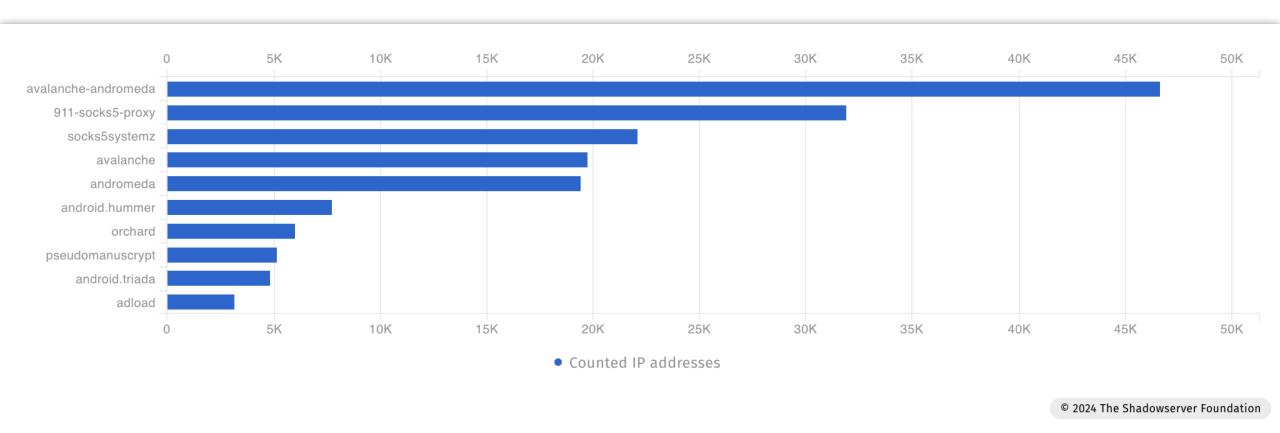






## Top 10 Sinkhole Infections by Type - South America (Last 3 Months)



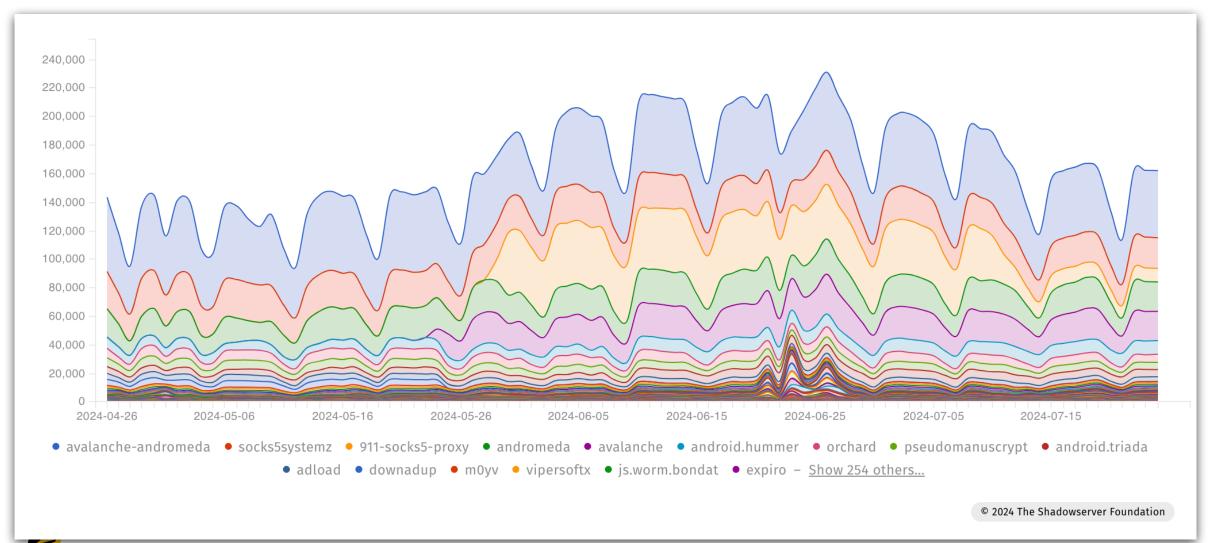






## Top Infections in South America over time



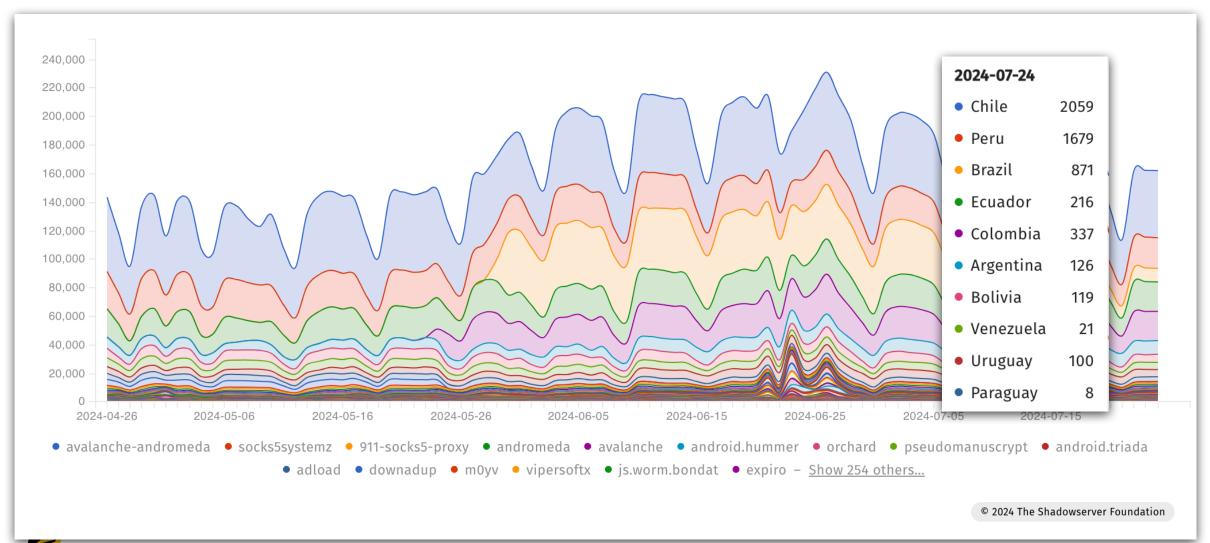






## Top Infections in South America over time

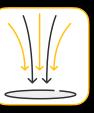


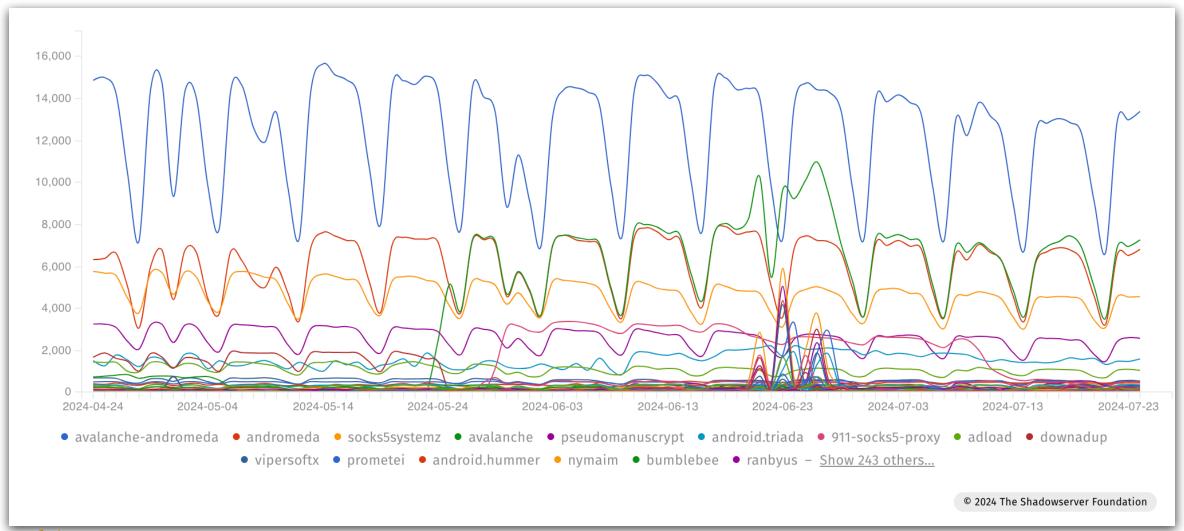






## Top Infections in Brazil over time

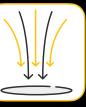


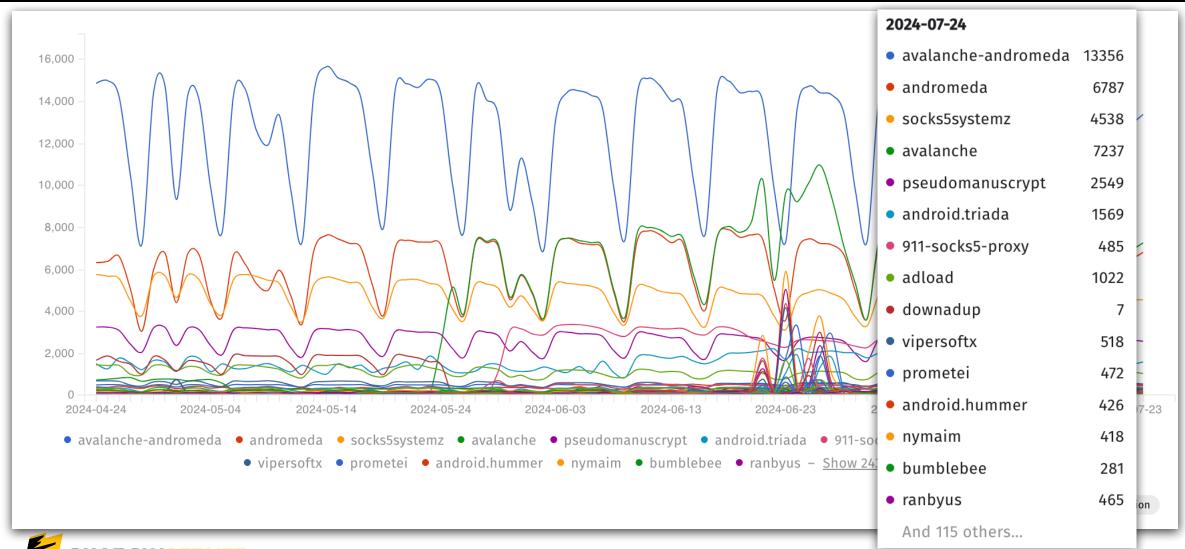






## Top Infections in Brazil over time







# Attacking Devices

What Attacks Are Seen Coming from/to Brazil?













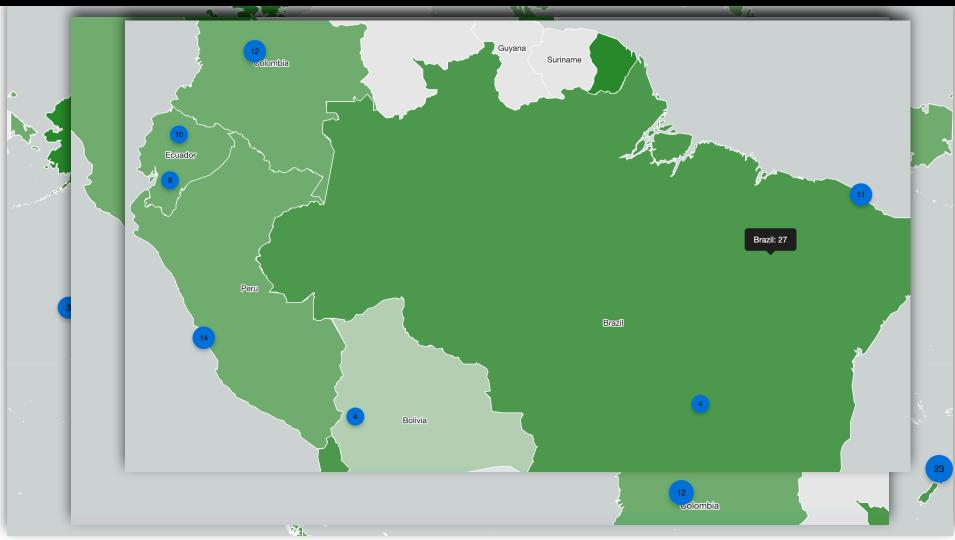


















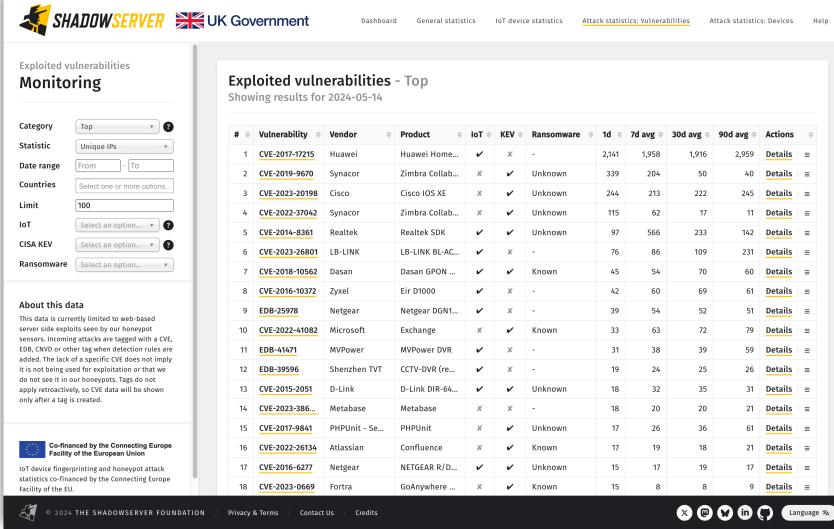






## Exploitation tracking (by CVE or similar)









#### Exploitation tracking (by CVE or similar)

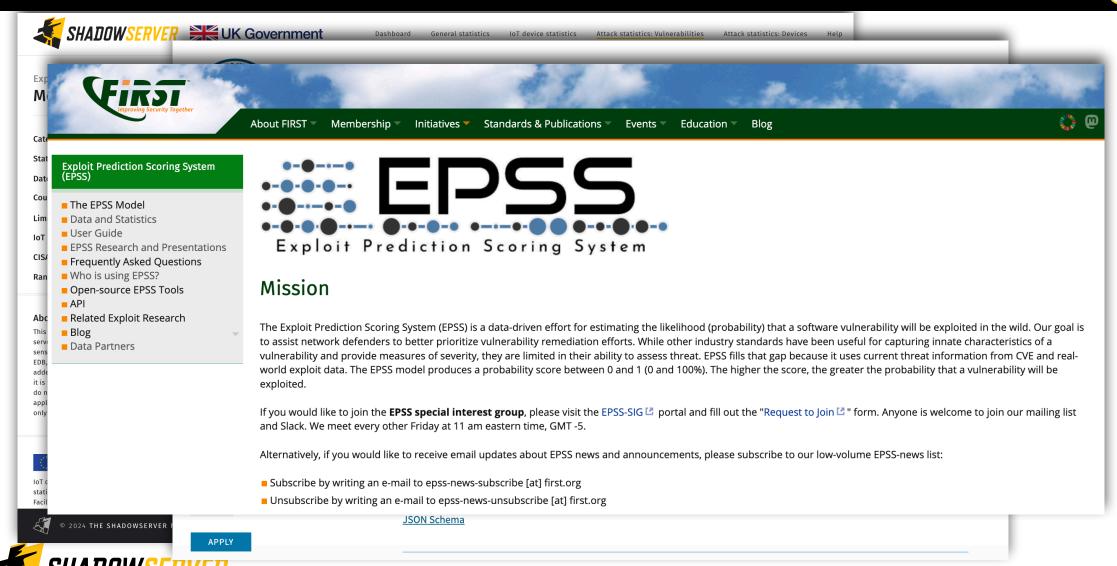






# Exploitation tracking (by CVE or similar)







#### Earliest Reporter of Exploitation in the Wild



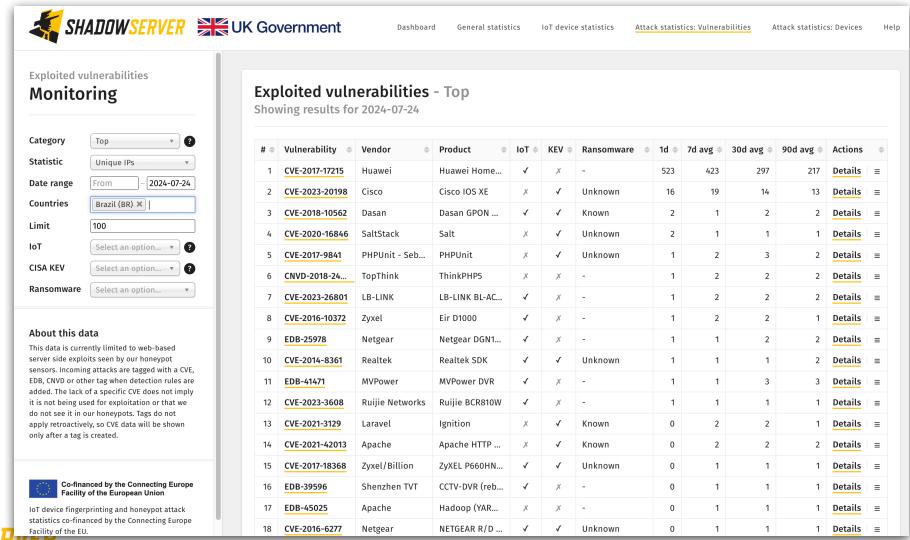






#### Most Exploited Vulnerabilities - from BR (Daily Breakdown)

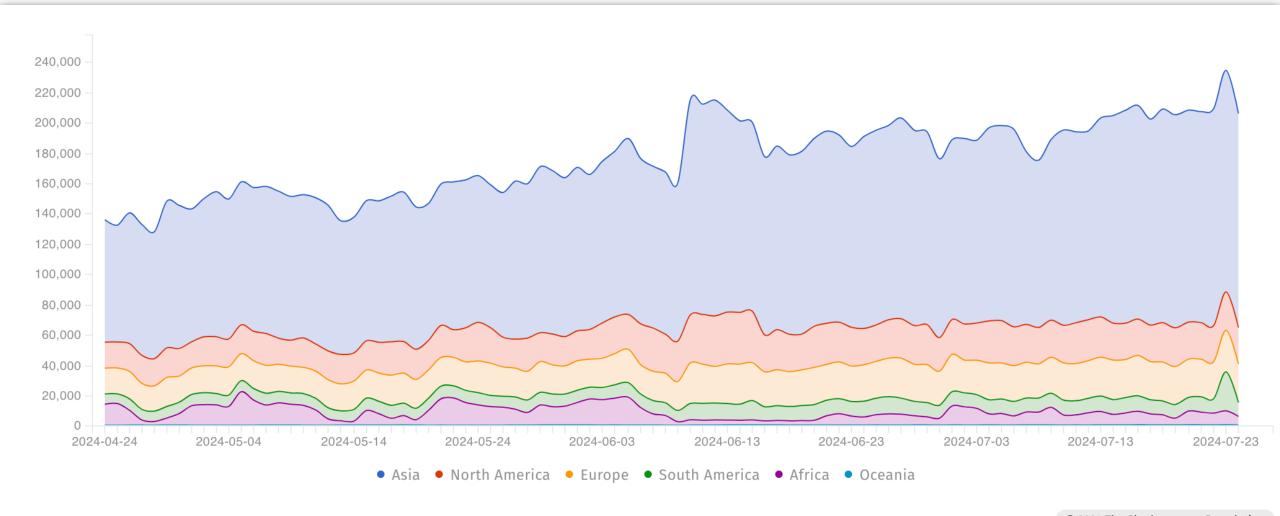


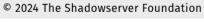




#### **Attacking Devices - Source by Continent**





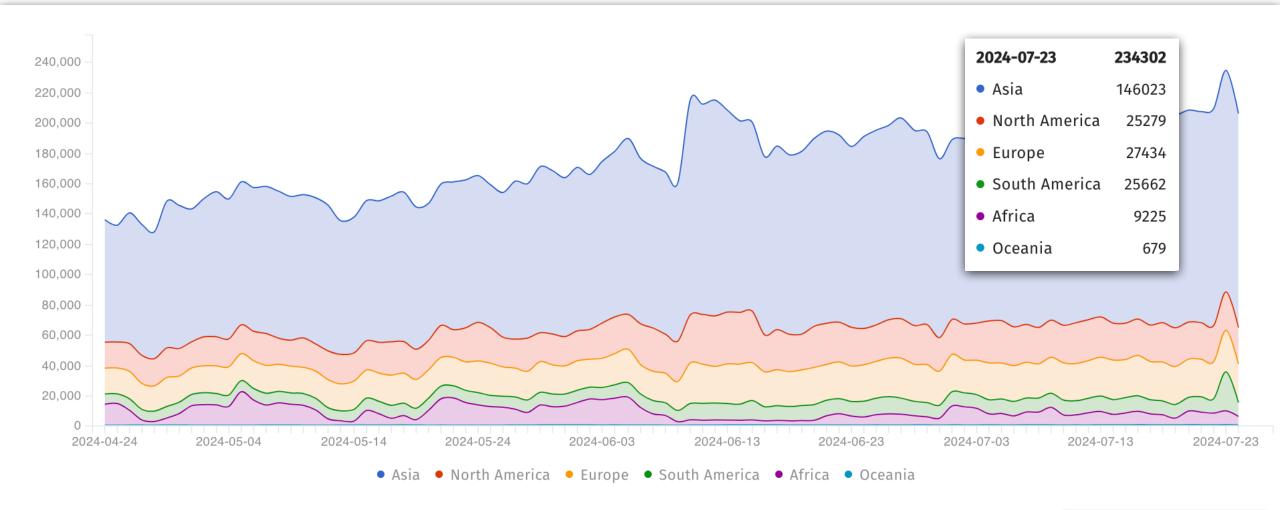






#### **Attacking Devices - Source by Continent**





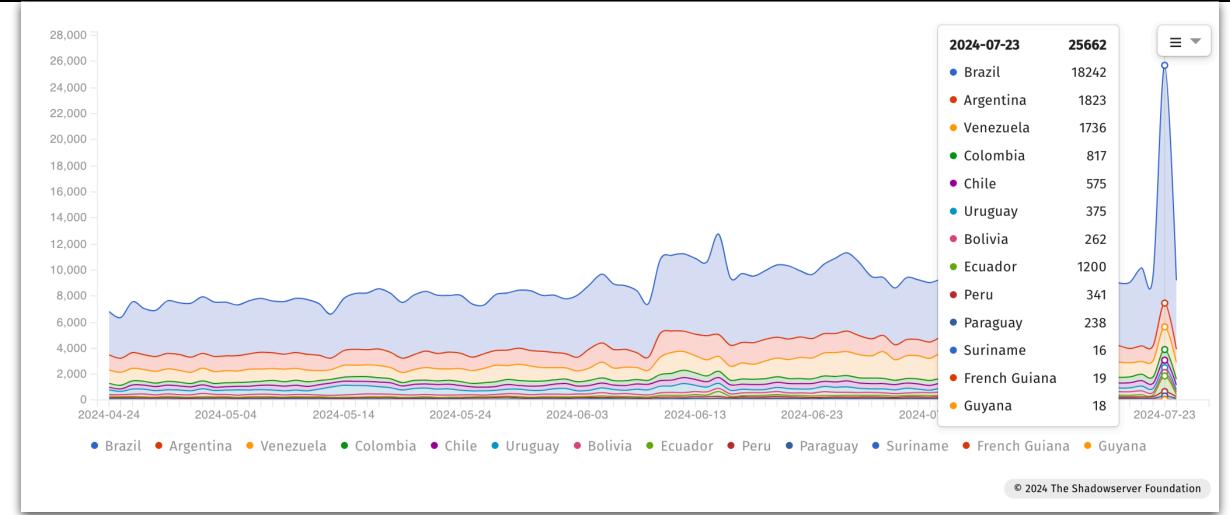


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#### Attacking Devices - Source by Country (South America)



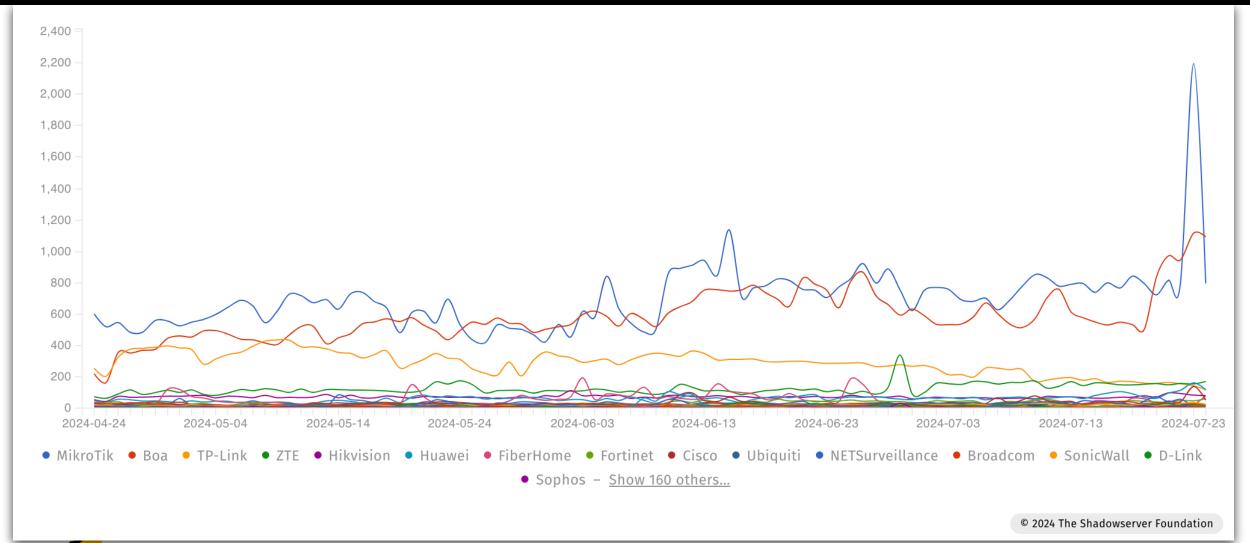






#### Attacking Devices by Vendor - South America



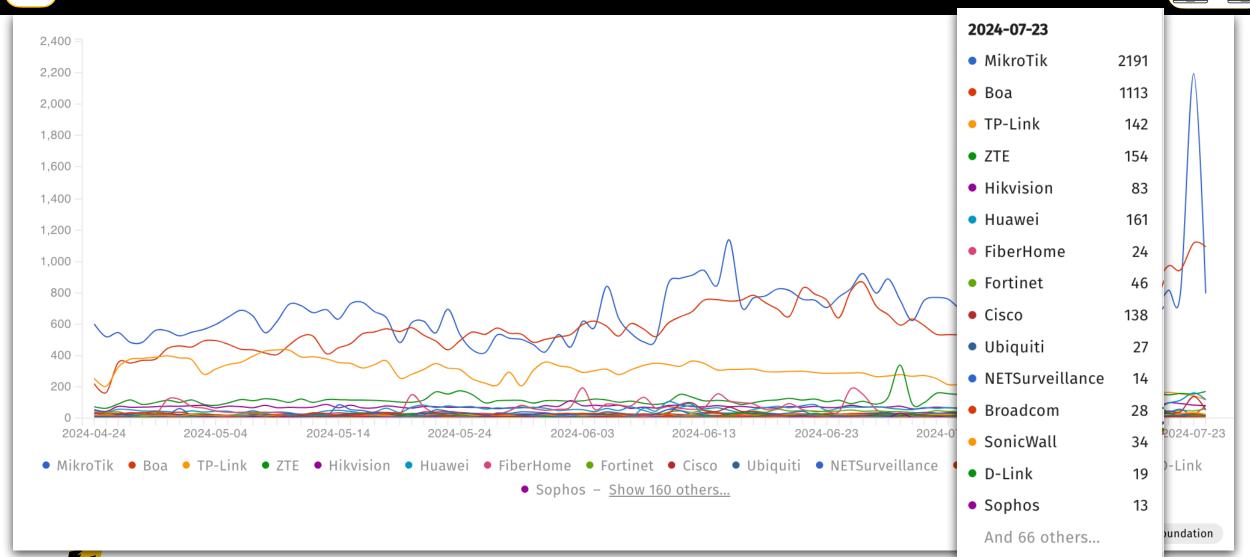






#### Attacking Devices by Vendor - South America

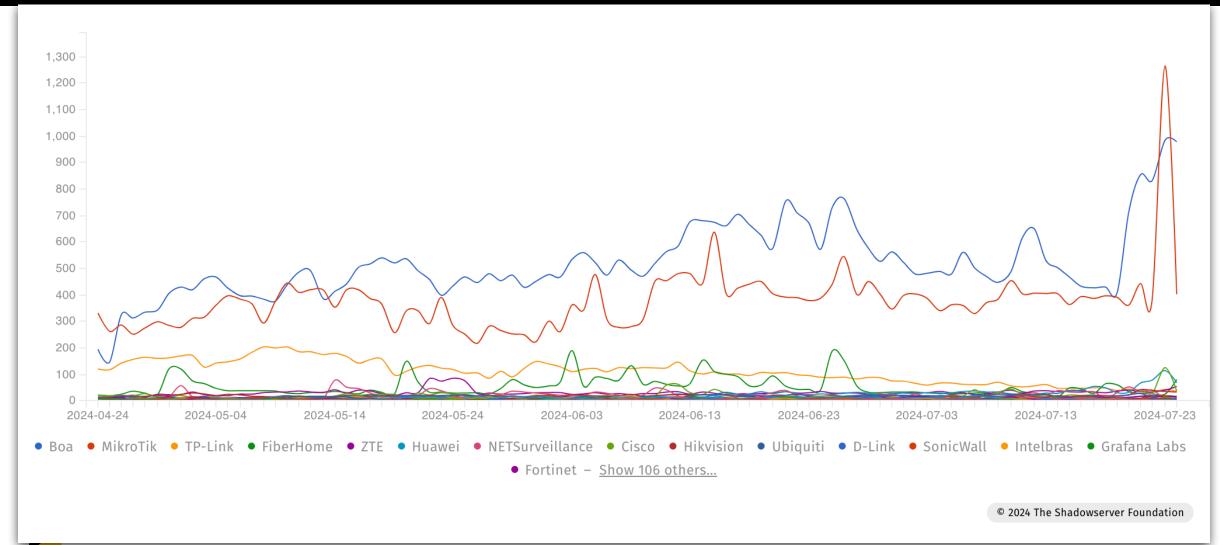






### Attacking Devices by Vendor - Brazil



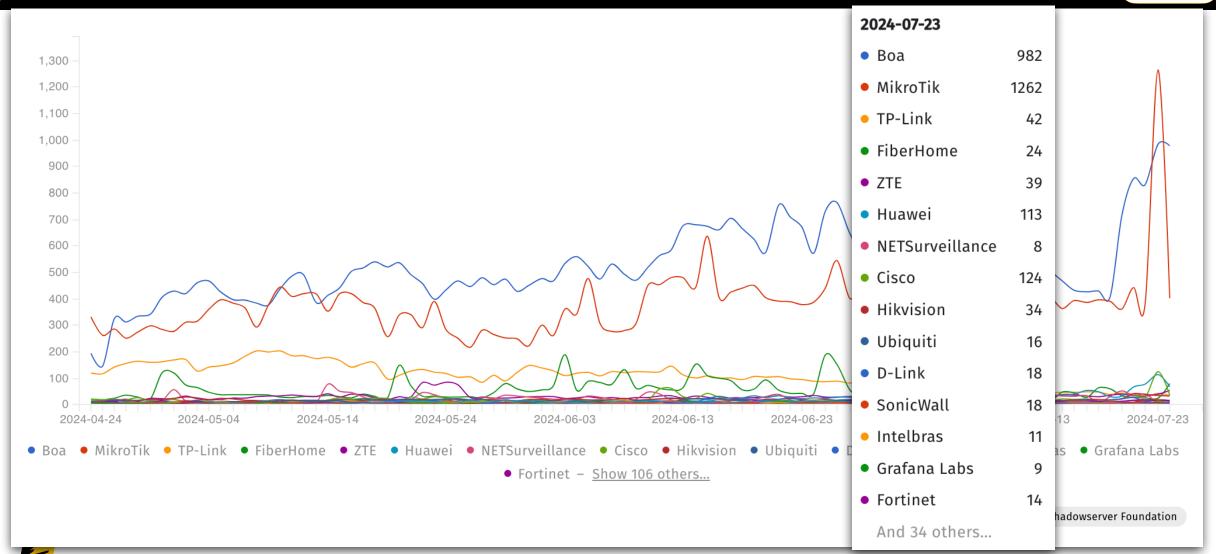






#### Attacking Devices by Vendor - Brazil



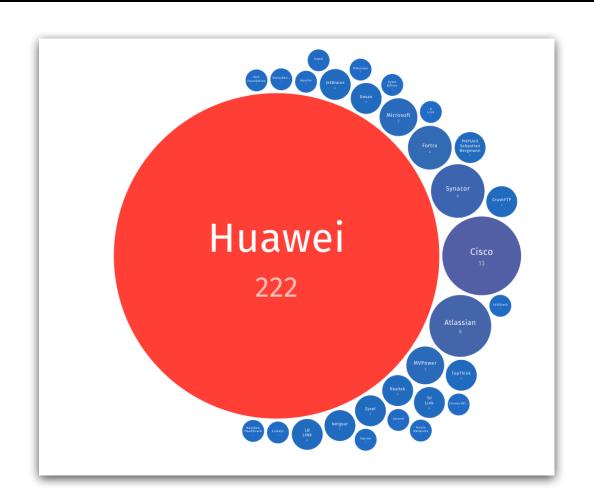


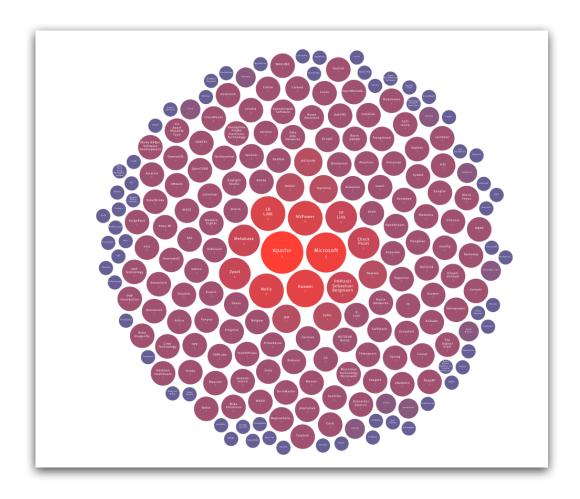




## Vendor Most Targeted by Exploits (from/to BR)







# DDoS Attacks

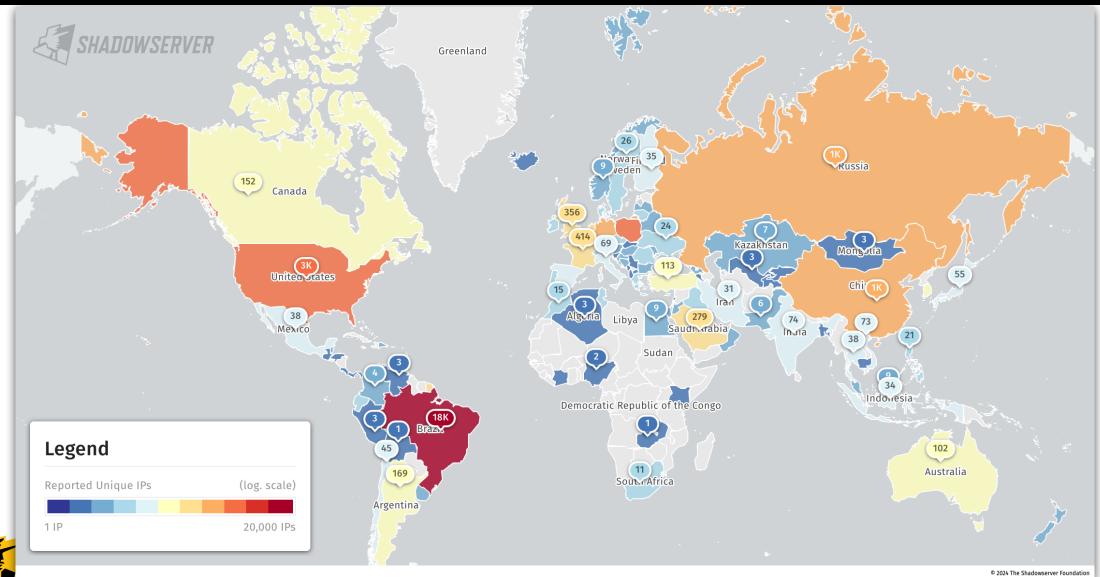
Amplification Attacks - As seen by honeypot sensors





#### Amp DDoS Attacks by Unique Targets - 2024-07-24

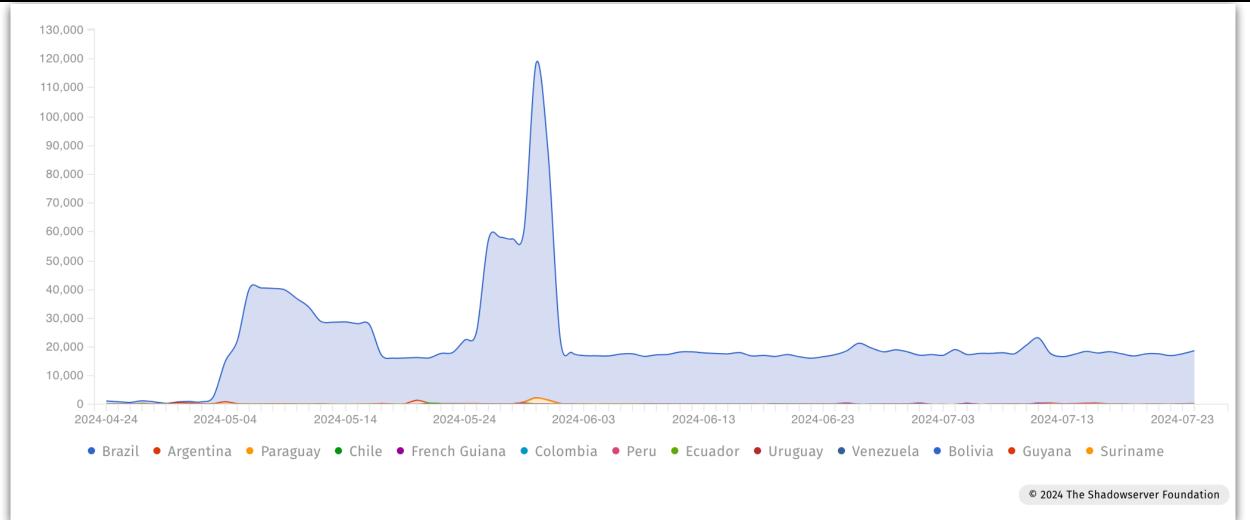






#### Amp DDoS Attacks by Unique Targets (South America)



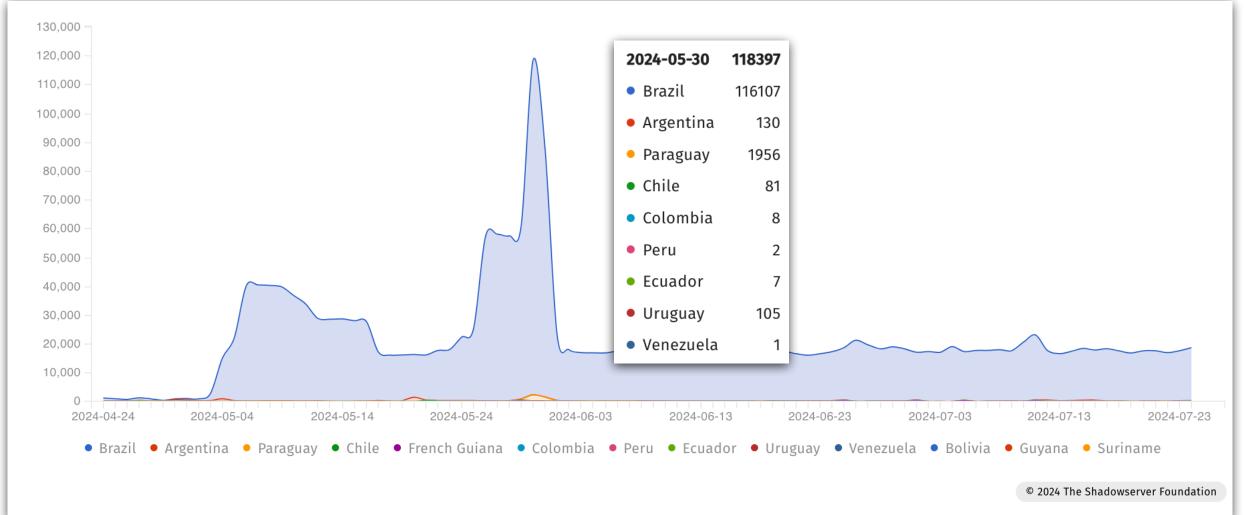






#### Amp DDoS Attacks by Unique Targets (South America)



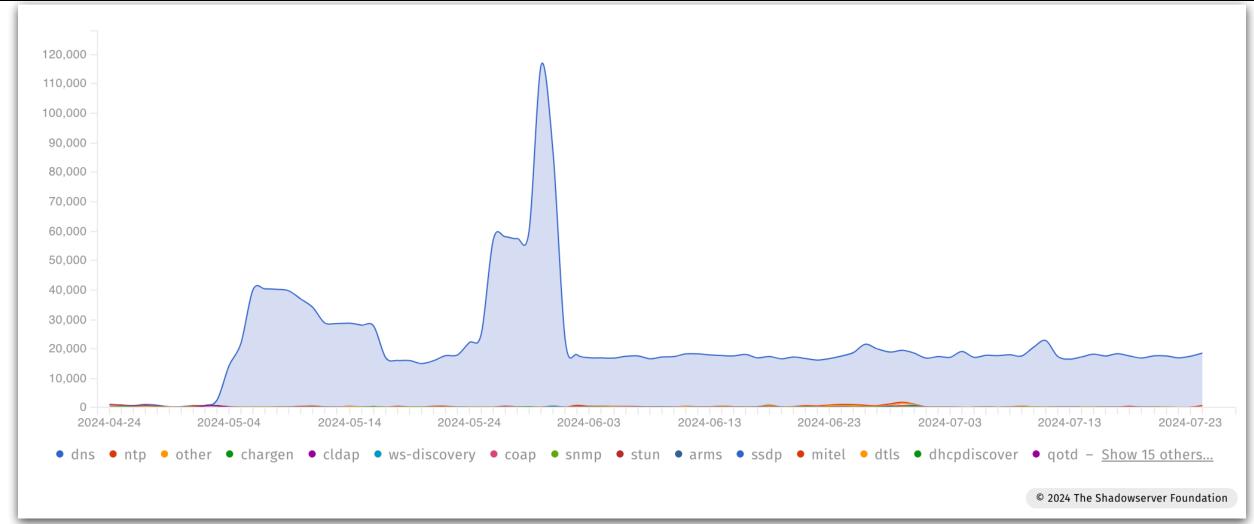






## DDoS Attacks - Amplification type (Brazil)



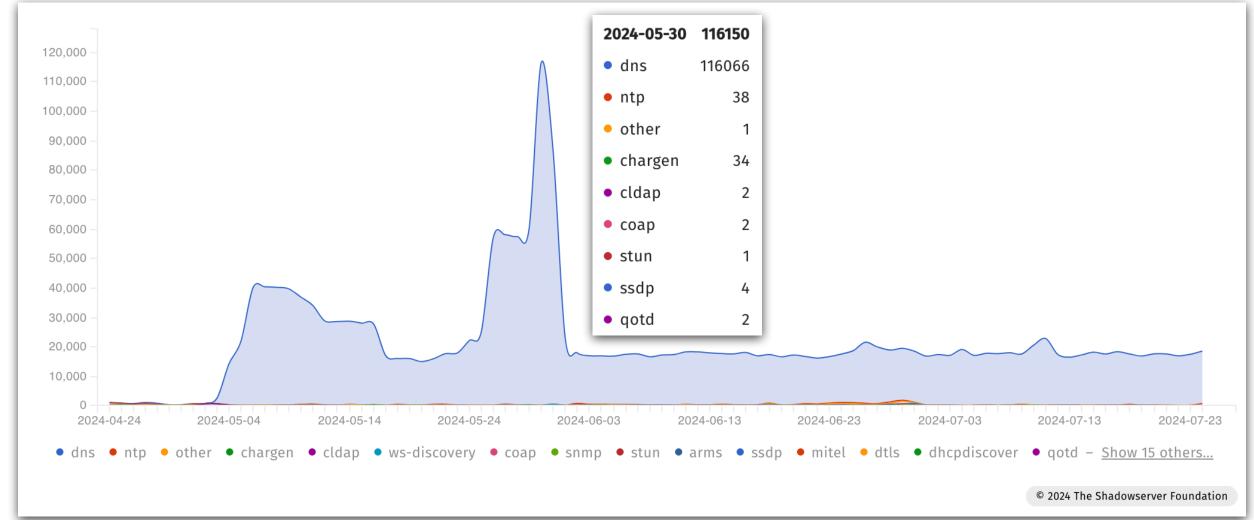






## DDoS Attacks - Amplification type (Brazil)







# Post Exploitation Frameworks/C2

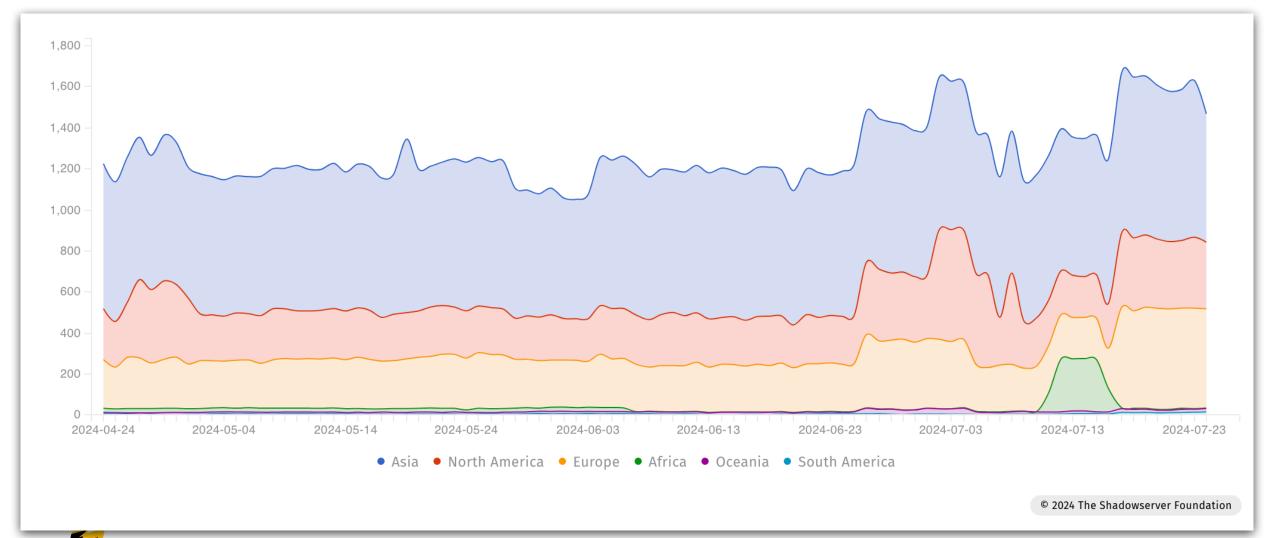
As seen in scans





#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks - World

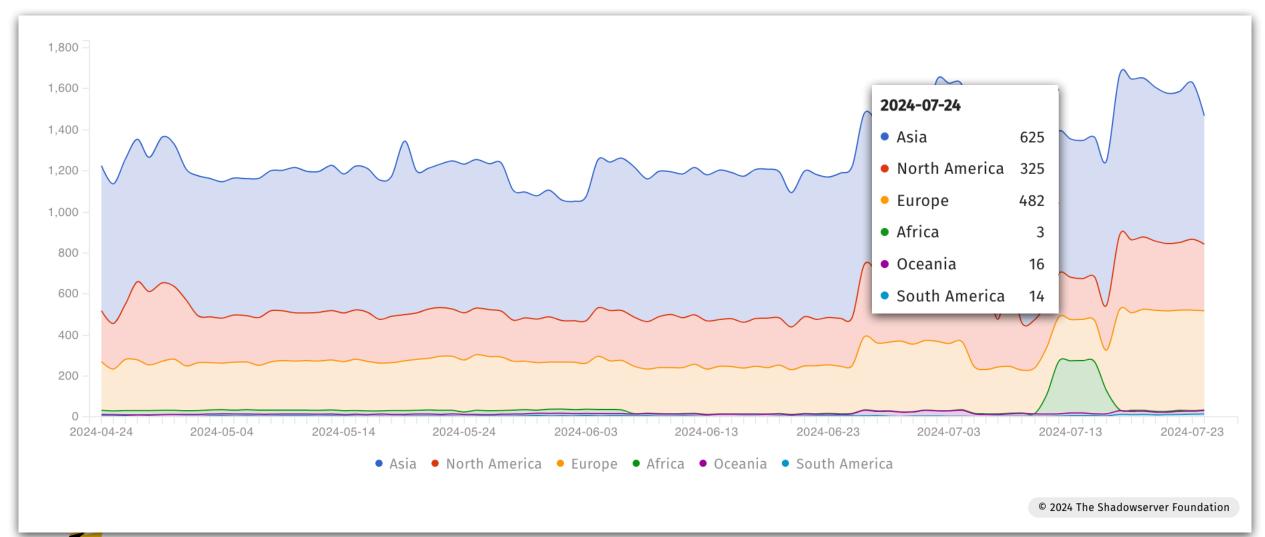






#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks - World

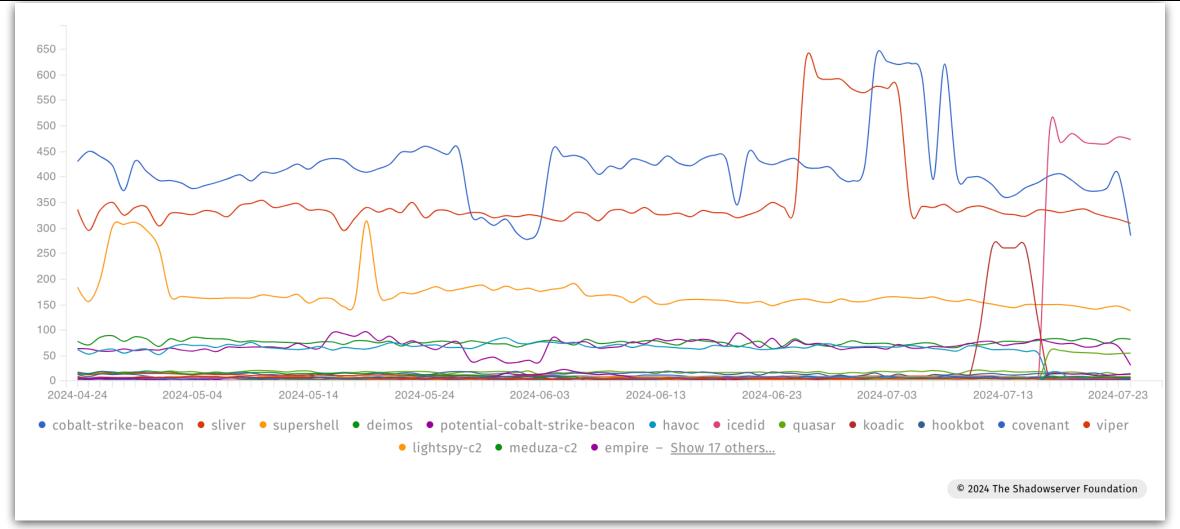






### Post-Exploitation Frameworks by Type (World)



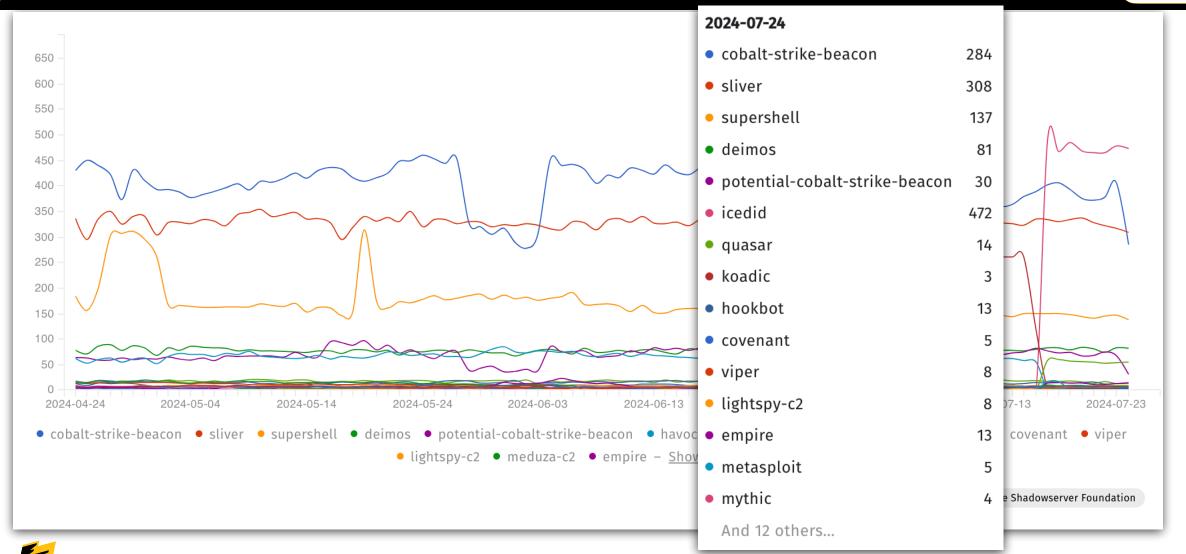






#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks by Type (World)



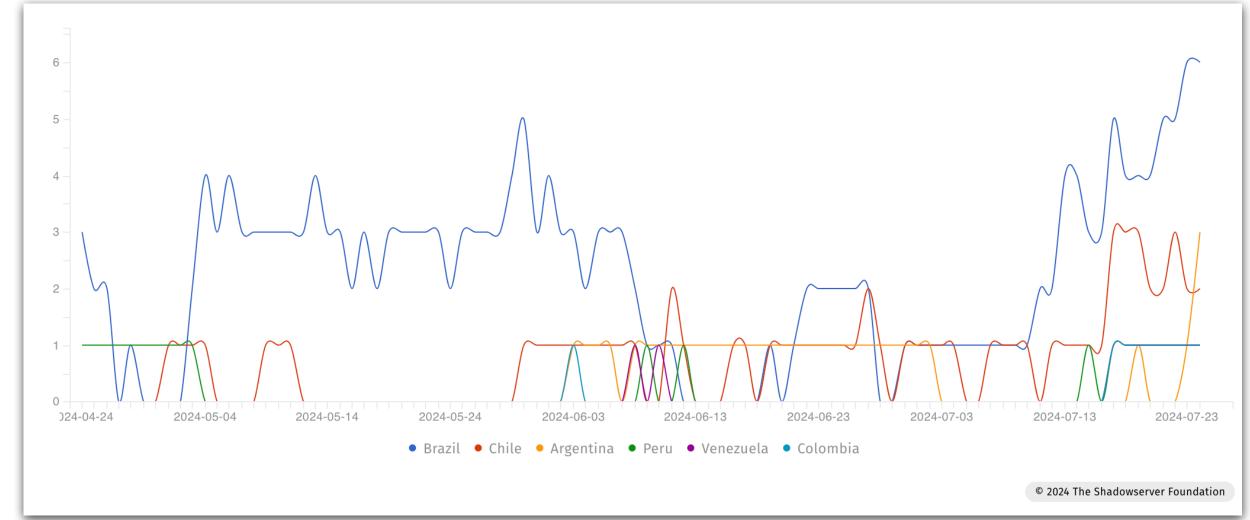






#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks (South America)



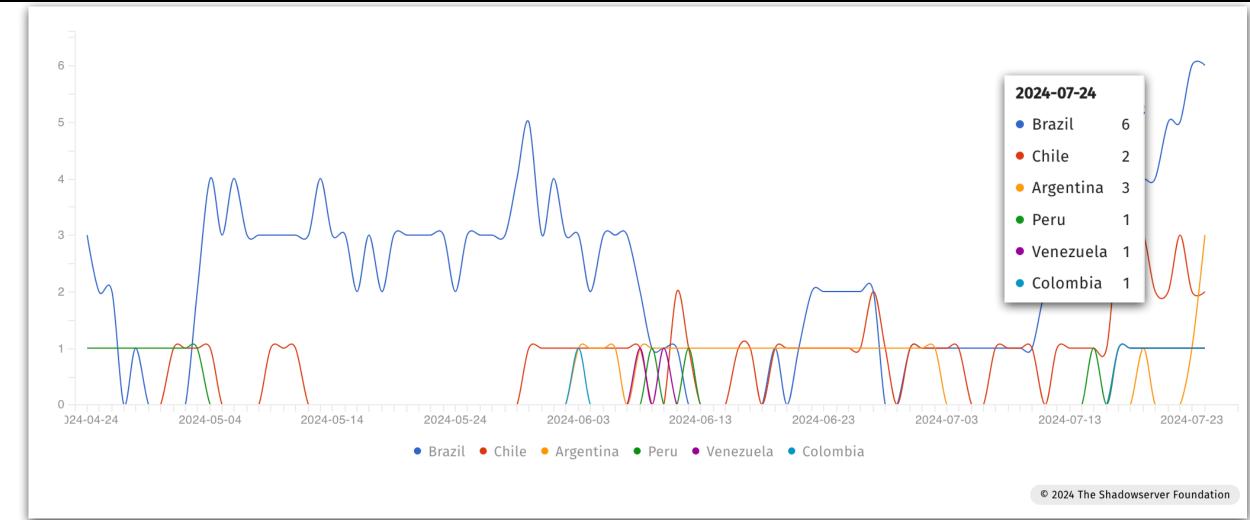






#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks (South America)



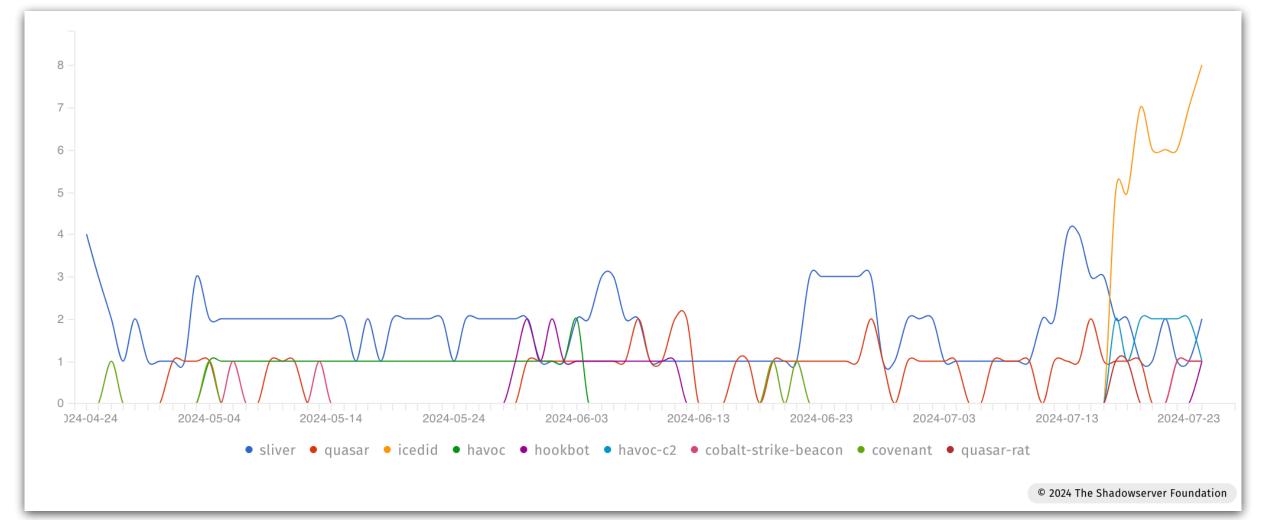






#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks by Type (South America)



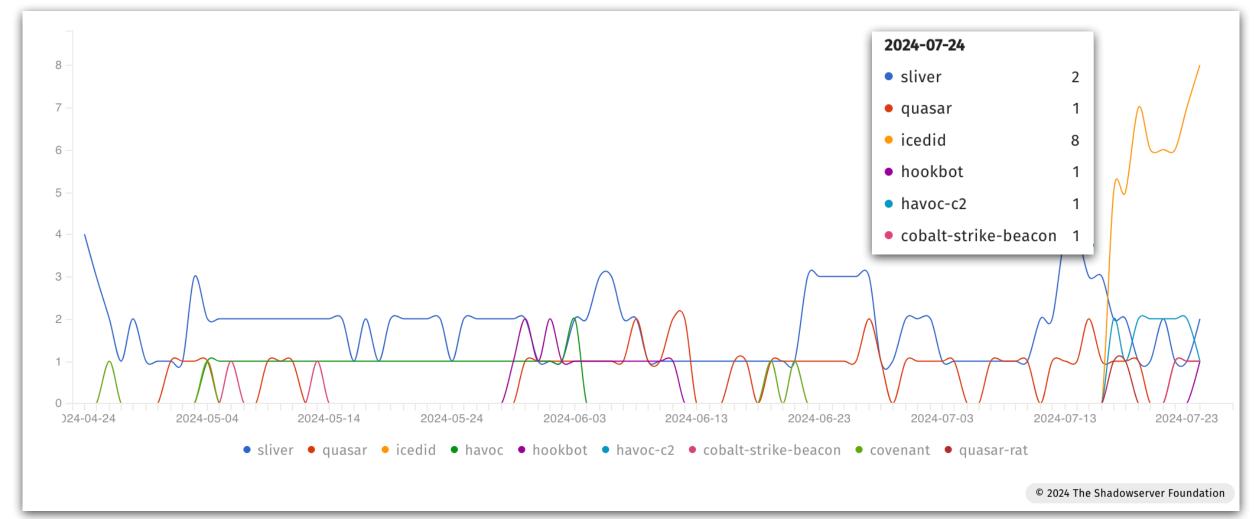






#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks by Type (South America)









#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks (South America - 2024-07-24)



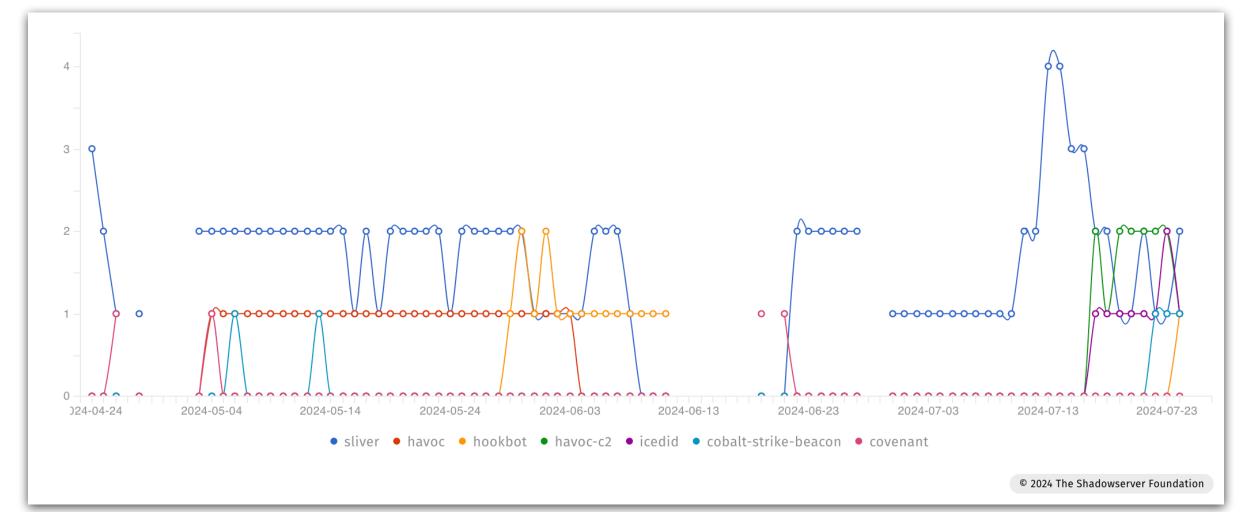






#### Post-Exploitation Frameworks - Brazil







# Malware URLs

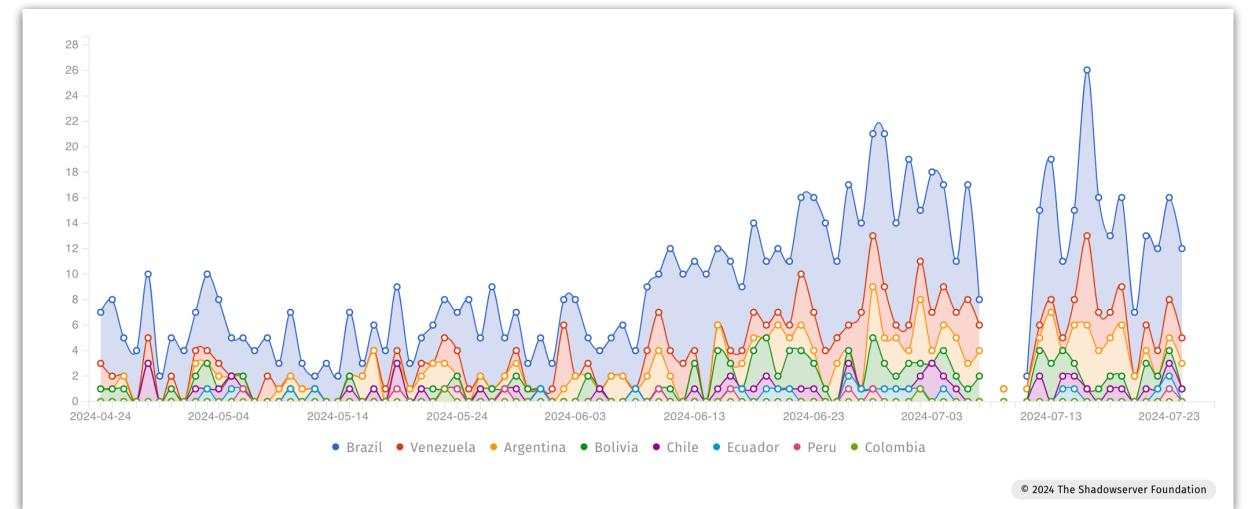
Callbacks, C2s, Spreaders - a View from Honeypot sensors





#### Malware URLs (Callbacks, C2s, Spreaders)







# Last comments ...

with a Summary





#### Better Insights? Host a Honeypot Sensor ...



- VM Sensor node spec
  - Ubuntu 22.04 LTS
  - 1 GB RAM
  - 30 GB disk
  - Preferably 4 publicly routable IPv4 (single NIC, no NAT, no network filtering) - but 2 is perfectly good too!
  - 1 Mbit/s uplink





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#### WE NEED YOU!





#### Takeaways







- There are free services available that can help the community understand new attacks/vulnerabilities as they emerge, serving as early warning
- These free services can help you understand your exposed assets (external attack surface) as well as identify potential compromised systems, for effective triage & victim notification
- The combination of Internet-wide scanning plus a global honeypot sensor network that can be quickly updated with new threat signatures enables rapid measurement and reporting of emerging threats
- Emerging or established threats can be disrupted by globally coordinated LEA actions, enabling new insights
- All the above helps to develop a "big picture" of the state of security/cyber-resilience of the Internet such as the one presented in this talk
- Everyone benefits through improved sharing subscribe to our free services, provide feedback & help us defend better against future threats. The more we receive local insights the more effective we can be!
- If your receive a report from Shadowserver please act!





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Your information	Your network	Report Recipient(s)
Your name		Enter the email(s) where reports should be sent.  Use a comma to separate multiple email  Idrasses.
Your organization		Your references
Your role within the organization	List the ASNs or CIDRs for the network space that you control (ASNs are preferred, but only if you control the complete ASN). Do not list the entire ASN of your ISP unless you are that ISP - list just the ranges the ISP allocated to you.  You can also list domain name space under your control. If you are not aware which IP ranges (CIDRs)	
Your email address	to list, ask your network administrator. Note you can also report <b>IPv6</b> ranges as well!  If you're a National CSIRT, simply list the country you represent.  We recommend requesting an <b>API</b> key to access our reports via the <b>API</b> , otherwise by default you will receive reports via e-mail which does not scale to larger networks.	Enter the name and contact information for one or more individuals in your organization, ideally someone listed on the whois for your network space. This will help us verify your identity.  How did you hear about us?
Your phone number	Please also consider signing up to our <b>public</b> mailing list where we make service announcements.	- Select one
		Please specify/Other
		If you selected a 'please specify' or 'other' option in the How you heard about us question.
	i,	View our <b>privacy policy</b> for details on use and storage of your personal data.
Your PGP key (for an encrypted reply)		

Email address where reports or download links will be sent

Network details, domains

Ask for an API key

https://www.shadowserver.org/what-we-do/network-reporting/get-reports/

#### Thank You!



- @shadowserver, @piotrkijewski
- @shadowserver@infosec.exchange
- in https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-shadowserver-foundation/
- contact@shadowserver.org