

# The Hacker Ecosystem Survey 2022

## Prepared by Immunefi

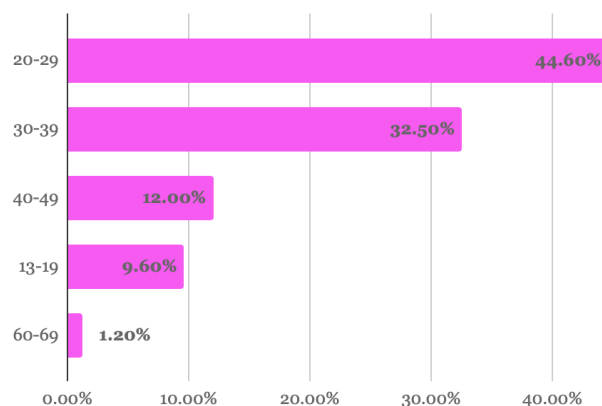
[Immunefi](#), the leading bug bounty and security services platform for Web3 protecting over \$100 billion in users' funds, releases the results of the Hacker Ecosystem Survey. With the largest community of security talent in the crypto space, Immunefi maps its landscape and shares the results received.

### Key takeaways

- Money does not act as a crucial factor driving hackers' interest — most of the respondents are interested mainly in **solving technical challenges**. Money takes the second place, then goes career opportunities and community.
- Among other motivating factors, they also name prestige of the work, opportunity to learn the future of the internet and be ahead of the curve, the desire to protect their own funds and build something in web3.
- **60.2%** consider hacking their primary job, while **39.8%** do it in their free time, spending most of their day as software developers within the Web3 or security industries.
- Most whitehats have been working with crypto for almost **4 years**.
- On average, they have been interested in web3 security for more than **1 year**.
- Top-3 whitehats by the reported Web3 bugs submitted **65, 60 and 44 reports**.

### Demographics and lifestyle

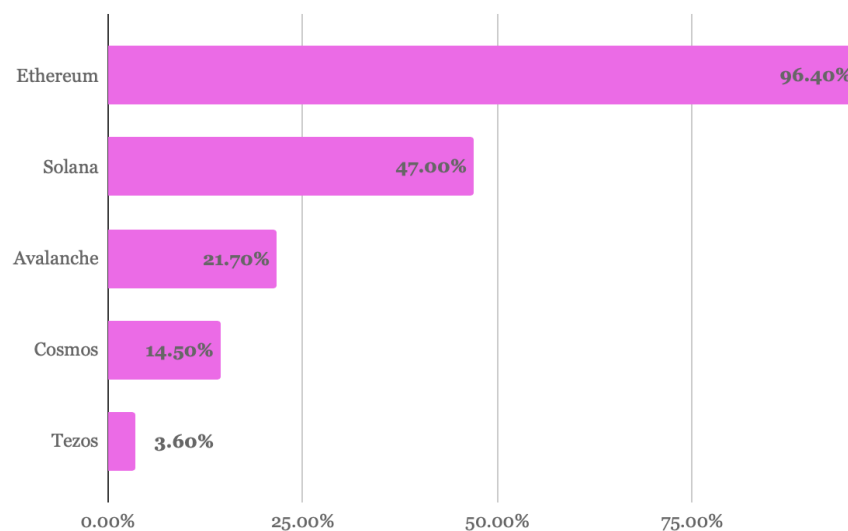
- The majority of whitehat hackers (**45.7%**) are 20-29 years old. **9.6%** of the respondents are between 13 and 19, and **1,2%** – 60-69.



- Although more women are joining the Hackers' community, **male whitehats** still take the largest share within the industry.
- Most of the respondents follow industry resources in Twitter, Discord and Youtube. They also read the corporate blogs, Medium resources and relevant Telegram channels.

## Tech

- **96.4%** of whitehat hackers are primarily interested in Ethereum, with Solana in second place at **47%**. Then comes Avalanche (**21.7%**), Cosmos (**14.5%**), and Tezos (**3.6%**).



- Among others, hackers also name Polygon, Binance Smart Chain, StarkNet, Solana, Terra, Algorand.

## Relevant Initiatives

In December 2021, Immunefi released its [Crypto Losses in 2021 report](#) where they assessed the volume of crypto funds lost by the community in 2021 — as per the report, losses resulting from hacks, scams and other malicious activities **exceeded \$10.2 billion**.

To contribute further to the security of the DeFi industry, Immunefi launched its [Whitehat Scholarship](#): with this Program the company empowers smart contract hackers interested in the space to work on finding vulnerabilities in DeFi projects full time.

## About Immunefi

Immunefi is the leading bug bounty and security services platform for DeFi, which features the world's largest bounties. Immunefi guards over \$100 billion in user funds across projects like Synthetix, SushiSwap, MakerDAO, Polygon, Nexus Mutual, Cream Finance, and more. Immunefi has pioneered the scaling DeFi bug bounties standard, and has paid out the most significant bug bounties in the software industry, amounting to over \$20 million. For more information, please visit <https://immunefi.com>