Prolific:

Screening job post:

Title: A study on the demographics of experienced developers

In this survey, we will screen for participants for a follow-up survey. We ask a series of questions about your experience, job, and general demographics. It should take approximately 2-3 minutes to complete.

Pre-screen criteria <prolific filters>

1. Computer Programming – yes

2. Knowledge of software development techniques –

- Cloud computing
- Shell scripting
- Background processing
- Search technologies
- Monitoring
- Caching
- Version control
- Virtualisation
- Debugging
- Functional testing
- Unit testing
- Web servers
- Database management
- Responsive design
- UI design
- A/B testing
- UX
- Don't know/Rather not say

3. Exclude participants from previous studies - <Participants from our previous rounds of studies excluded>

Estimated study completion time: 3 mins

Payment: $0.52

Final survey job post:

Title: A study on the demographics of experienced developers

In this survey, we will ask you a series of questions about your experience, job, workplace, and general demographics. It should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Pre-screen criteria <prolific filters>

Custom allowlist – participants who passed our screening

Estimated study completion time: 15 mins

Payment: $5

Upwork:

Screening and final survey job post:

Title: A study on the demographics of experienced developers

Job categories used: Back-End Development, Front-End Development, Full Stack Development

Description: We are conducting a research survey about participant sampling in security studies in a cooperation of researchers at the Leibniz University Hannover, the CISPA Helmholtz Institute for Information Security, the Max-Planck-Institute for Security and Privacy in Germany and Tufts University in the US. In this survey, we will ask you a series of questions about your experience, job, workplace, and general demographics. It should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

What does this job look like?
1. Fill out a online survey (~15 min)
2. After finishing the survey, send us the completion code to verify your submission.
3. Receive payment via Upwork

It is rewarded with an expense allowance of $5.
The results will be treated with strict confidentiality, and will be published in anonymized and aggregated form.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us. We will then provide you with further information.

You will be asked to answer the following questions when submitting a proposal:

1. Do you have experience as a software developer? [free text]
2. What is your current main occupation? (e.g. student, developer, freelancer, etc.). [free text]
3. Please indicate the term that most closely matches your software development skill level: Expert (recognized authority), Advanced (applied theory), Intermediate (practical application), Novice (limited experience), Fundamental awareness (basic knowledge). [free text]
4. Please tell us your gender: We use this information to be able to describe differences between genders and to increase visibility of less represented genders. [free text]

Preferred qualifications

1. Job Success Score: At least 90%
2. Include Rising Talent: Yes
3. English level: Conversational

Follow-up message 1 <after participant applies for our job and successfully passes our screening>:

Dear <participant name>,

We are happy to announce that based on your answers to our screening questions, you are eligible to take part in this task. Thank you for helping us.

Below is a link to an online survey we kindly ask you to fill out. At the end of the survey, you will be assigned a random completion code. Please make sure to copy it and send it back to us in the chat. This will help us to verify your submission and pay you.

Link to the questionnaire: <link to the main survey>

After the verification of the completion code which you send us back, we will transfer $5 using UpWork.com.

Feel free to contact us if there are any further questions.

Best,
The Research Team

Follow-up message 1 <after participant applies for our job and fails our screening>:
Hello <participant name>,

Thank you for your interest in our survey! However, as our survey aims at experienced software developers and you state that you do not have experience in this area we regret to inform you that we need to decline your proposal.

Best regards,
The Research Team

Amazon MTurk:

Screening job post:
Title: Demographics of experienced developers
Description: In this survey, we will screen for participants for a follow-up survey. We ask a series of questions about your experience, job, and general demographics. It should take approximately 2-3 minutes to complete.
Keywords: survey, demographics, screening, it experience, developer
Worker qualifications <MTurk filters>

1. HIT Approval Rate (%) for all Requesters' Hits > 95
2. Number of HITs approved > 100
3. Previous rounds' participants excluded

Payment: $0.52

Final survey job post:
Title: Demographics of experienced developers
Description: In this survey, we will ask you a series of questions about your experience, job, workplace, and general demographics. It should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.
Keywords: survey, demographics, it experience, developer.
Worker qualifications <MTurk filters>

1. Participants who passed our screening
2. HIT Approval Rate (%) for all Requesters' Hits > 95

Payment: $5

Freelancer:

Invite message to eligible participants:
<We selected eligible participants by using the built-in search to filter and review participants' profiles for software development experience>

Message 1:
Dear <participant name>,

We are currently conducting a survey about participant sampling in security studies, and think that you are a great match. In this project, you will need to fill out a 15 minute survey. There is no time limit, and we pay every participant $5.

If you are interested or have any questions, feel free to contact us! Visit our website <project website link> to find out more about this study.

Best regards,
The Research Team

Follow-up message 1 <after participant communicates back to us showing interest in our job>:
Dear <participant name>,

Thank you for your interest in this job - it really helps our research a lot!

Below is a link to an online survey we kindly ask you to fill out. At the end of the survey, you will be assigned a random completion code. Please make sure to copy it and send it back to us in the chat. This will help us to verify your submission and pay you.

Link to the questionnaire: <link to the main survey>

After the verification of the completion code which you send us back, we will transfer $5 using Freelancer.com.

Feel free to contact us if there are any further questions.

Best regards,
The Research Team