EXABEAM 2018 CYBER SECURITY PROFESSIONALS SALARY AND JOB REPORT:
COMPENSATION, JOB SATISFACTION, EDUCATION, AND TECHNOLOGY OUTLOOK
OVERVIEW

Compensation, Job Satisfaction, Education, and Technology Outlook

THE EXABEAM 2018 CYBER SECURITY PROFESSIONALS SALARY AND JOB REPORT is based on a global survey of 481 security professionals that was conducted in March 2018. The purpose of the survey was to gain insights into the trends with security professionals’ salaries (focusing on the median range of income earners according to this sample), their education levels, job satisfaction, and attitudes towards innovative and new emerging technologies.

Note: All salaries were converted to U.S. dollars after answering survey questions about salary. The resulting income numbers do not represent regional differences in income and cost of living, which can be a significant factor when evaluating salary.
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KEY INSIGHTS

Key Salary And Demographic Insights

SALARIES ARE HIGHEST IN NORTH AMERICA

Salaries in North America are 50-100% higher than reported salaries in Europe or Asia Pacific. Salaries are twice as much in North America as they are in Latin America.

SALARIES ARE HIGHEST IN THE RETAIL INDUSTRY

Salaries in the retail sector are the highest, while those in the education and telecommunication sectors are the lowest. While salaries do not continue to increase reliably with increased levels of education, participants with advanced degrees consistently earned more than those with only bachelor’s degrees.

SALARIES AT SMALL COMPANIES ARE LOWEST

Among companies with 101 employees or more, median salary ranges were $75,001-$100,000. Companies with 100 employees or less had median salary ranges of $50,001-$75,000. Participants reporting higher salaries also reported lower job security.
Key Survey Satisfaction Insights

Participants who graduated from high school, but did not go to college, reported the lowest satisfaction with their current salary.

Participants who reported not attending school, were some of the most satisfied with their salaries.

System and security admins, chief security inspectors, and security engineers are the most satisfied with their current salaries.

Security professionals with roles in risks, standards and compliance officers, security program managers, and SOC/security leads are the least satisfied with their current salaries.

Nearly one fifth of respondents said that continuous learning or defending their company and catching threats was the most satisfying part of their job.

A bachelor’s degree is the most common degree obtained by security professionals. However, SIEM content creators, security architects, cloud application, and security analysts most often have obtained master’s degrees.
Additional Insights

Most security professionals are male.

Security professionals are well educated. Along with a variety of certifications, the majority of participants reported having at least a Bachelor’s degree (72%). Almost 40% reported having completed post-bachelor’s work or an advanced degree.

More than 25% of participants said that constant interruptions were the least satisfying part of the job.

Overwhelmingly, participants (86%) said they would recommend a career as a security analyst to new graduates.

- 90% of survey participants identified as male
- 72% at least have a Bachelor’s degree
- 86% said they would recommend a career as a security analyst to new graduates
- 25% said that constant interruptions were the least satisfying part of the job
- 40% reported having completed post-bachelor’s or an advanced degree
SALARY TRENDS IN THE SECURITY PROFESSION
SURVEY PARTICIPANT PROFILE

Overall, the median salary range among all respondents participating in the survey was $75,000–$100,000 per year. However, the largest percentage of participants (24.7%) reported their salary range as $50,001–$75,000 per year, with 34% earning more than $100,000 per year.

Other security professional demographics include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENDER</th>
<th>EDUCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% Male</td>
<td>71% have at least a bachelor’s degree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARIES

- Less than $50,000 per year: 18.3%
- $50,001 – $75,000 per year: 24.7%
- $75,001 – $100,000 per year: 22.7%
- $100,001 – $125,000 per year: 13.3%
- $125,001 – $150,000 per year: 11.9%
- $150,001 – $175,000 per year: 5.8%
- $175,001 – $200,000 per year: 1.9%
- $200,001 or more per year: 1.5%

Median salary ranges were calculated by sorting the list of salary ranges for each of the 408 participants from least to greatest and selecting the middle salary range. Where there was no middle point, due to an even number of participants in a group, the mean of the two middle points was reported in most instances. If the mean was not representative due to higher discrepancy between the two middle ranges, the ranges of the two midpoints were reported.
### MEDIAN SALARY BY REGION

The median salary range was greatest for professionals working in North America, while those in Latin America reported the lowest median salary ranges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Median Salary Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>$75,001 - $100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia Pacific</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>&lt; $50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MEDIAN SALARY AND INDUSTRY

Reported median salaries were highest in the retail and consumer durables industry. Education, financial services, manufacturing, and telecommunications security professionals reported the lowest salaries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Median Salary Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retail &amp; Consumer Durables</td>
<td>$100,001 - $125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>$75,001 - $100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare &amp; Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>$75,001 - $100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$75,001 - $100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$75,001 - $100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy &amp; Extraction</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Financial Services</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecommunications &amp; Tech</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SALARY SATISFACTION BY INDUSTRY**

Based on survey responses, security professionals in the airlines and aerospace, and non-profit verticals are the least satisfied with their salaries. Industries that reported 0% satisfaction are not reported here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Satisfaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airlines &amp; Aerospace</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Support &amp; Logistics</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment &amp; Leisure</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Financial Services</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Beverages</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare &amp; Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail &amp; Consumer Durables</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecommunications &amp; Tech</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; Delivery</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy &amp; Extraction</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMPANY SIZE AND MEDIAN SALARY

About half (48.2%) of survey participants reported working for large Enterprise-sized companies with 2,501 or more employees, while only 13.9% reported working for small companies with less than 100 employees. Median salaries remained similar for companies with more than 101 employees. Only employees in the smallest companies saw lower salaries for the previous year.
Experience plays a significant role in salaries. Participants with more than 10 years of experience reported salaries of nearly twice that of entry-level analysts.

The number of years professionals have been with their employer did not seem to affect the median salary.

### MEDIAN SALARY LEVEL OF SECURITY PROFESSIONALS FOR THEIR EXPERIENCE LEVEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience Level</th>
<th>Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 - 2 years</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - 5 years</td>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 10 years</td>
<td>$75,001 - $100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 10 years</td>
<td>$100,001 - $125,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participants with titles of chief security inspector and security program manager reported the highest median salaries ($175,000-$200,000), while system/security admin, security analysts and SOC analysts reported lower median salaries ($50,001-$75,000).

Based on survey responses SOC/security leads are the least satisfied with their current salaries. System/security admins, chief security inspectors and security engineers are the most satisfied with their current salaries.
PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY AND THEIR MEDIAN SALARY

Security leadership positions reported the highest median salaries of all respondents.

Respondents whose primary responsibility was compliance and forensic also reported salaries that were higher than the overall median salary range of $75,001-$100,000.

Those whose primary responsibility was malware analysis or security researcher reported the lowest salaries.
SECURITY PROFESSIONALS’ SATISFACTION WITH CURRENT SALARY

Only 35% of survey participants reported being satisfied with their current pay, while nearly 40% reported being unsatisfied with their pay.

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SALARY AND JOB SATISFACTION

Overall, most survey respondents reported being satisfied with their current job regardless of their median salary.

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### Salary Trends in the Security Profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Very Unsatisfied</th>
<th>Unsatisfied</th>
<th>Neither Satisfied nor Unsatisfied</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Very Satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $50,000 per year</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>73.9%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,001 - $75,000 per year</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>77.3%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,001 - $100,000 per year</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>76.1%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,001 - $125,000 per year</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>73.7%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$125,001 - $150,000 per year</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>73.7%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,001 - $175,000 per year</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>73.7%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
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<td>73.7%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SALARY SATISFACTION BY EDUCATION LEVEL

Forty percent of those with bachelor’s and master’s degrees were satisfied with their current pay.

Participants who graduated from high school, but did not go to college, reported the lowest satisfaction with their current salary.

Participants who reported not attending school, were some of the most satisfied with their salaries.
TRENDS IN SECURITY PROFESSION ROLES, CERTIFICATIONS, AND EDUCATION
More than 30% of participants reported having a job title of security analyst or information security analyst, while chief security inspector, security program manager and system/security administrator were less common.
PRIMARY JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

Security professionals’ job functions are as varied as their titles. More than 14% of participants reported that their primary job responsibility is as a security architect.

It is telling that 12% of participants reported their main responsibility as something other than what was listed, exemplifying the diverse responsibilities of those in the security field.
ADDITIONAL JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

More than 60% of participants reported that their jobs also include incidence response and network security. Code review and adversary simulation are performed by participants less frequently.

TRENDS IN SECURITY PROFESSION ROLES, CERTIFICATIONS, AND EDUCATION

- Adversary Simulation: 11.4%
- Application Security: 39.9%
- Audit and Compliance: 49.7%
- Cloud Security: 28.5%
- Code Review: 10.4%
- Compliance Reporting: 40.3%
- Education and Training: 50.3%
- Endpoint Security: 54.3%
- Forensic Analysis: 31.2%
- Incident Response: 65.1%
- Leadership: 32.4%
- Malware Analysis: 28.5%
- Network Security: 63.4%
- Other: 4.4%
- Packet Analysis: 27.7%
- Penetration Testing: 38.3%
- Security Architecture: 53.4%
- Security Training: 47.8%
- SIEM Content Creation: 34.1%
- SOC Management: 27.7%
- Threat Hunting: 40.5%
- Threat Intelligence: 52%
CERTIFICATIONS

Security professionals hold a wide variety of certifications. Respondents listed more than 150 different types of held certifications. CISSP: Certified Information Systems Security Professional certification was the most popular certification reported by survey participants (33.9%), followed by CEH: Certified Ethical Hacker (23.7%), and CompTIA (22.7%).

Certifications that were held by fewer than 5% of survey participants are not shown.

33.9%  Certified Information Systems Security Professional certification
23.7%  CEH: Certified Ethical Hacker
22.7%  CompTIA

Other Certifications

SANS GIAC
Network Security
CEH: Certified Ethical Hacker
Comp TIA
CISM: Certified Information Security Manager
GSEC: Security Essentials
None
RAISES AND EDUCATION

Education did have some influence on raises that respondents received last year. However, most respondents reported receiving a raise between 1–5% in 2017.

Levels of education reported by less than 3% of participants are not shown.
OVERALL EXPERIENCE AND INDUSTRY

Survey participants who work in the agriculture, real estate, and the utilities industries reported having the longest security careers. Most participants, irrespective of industry, have worked in the cyber security field for at least 6 years.
JOB SECURITY AND SATISFACTION
Security professionals seem to be very happy with their career choices. Overall, they (83%) are satisfied with their jobs.

Nearly 30% of respondents reported being very satisfied and more than 45% reported being satisfied.

Less than 9% of survey participants reported being very unsatisfied or unsatisfied with their jobs.
OVERALL JOB SECURITY

Overall, nearly 80% of participants feel secure about the future of their jobs.

Only 6.3% reported that they felt their jobs may be in jeopardy.

- 80% of participants feel secure about the future of their jobs
- 6.3% reported that they felt their jobs may be in jeopardy

Very Secure: 49.9%
Secure: 29.9%
Neither Secure nor Insecure: 13.9%
Insecure: 4.6%
Very Insecure: 1.7%
**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Nearly 40% of survey respondents reported careers in the security industry spanning more than 10 years.

Nearly 45% of respondents reported working at their current company for less than 2 years.
Not surprisingly, respondents who felt more secure in their job also generally reported being more satisfied with their jobs.

However, it may be surprising that 50% of participants who reported having very little job security also reported high job satisfaction.

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**JOB SECURITY BY MEDIAN SALARY**

Participants reporting higher salaries also reported lower job security.

- Very Secure: $62,500 - $87,500
- Secure: $50,001 - $75,000
- Neither Secure nor Insecure: $50,001 - $75,000
- Insecure: $75,001 - $100,000
- Very insecure: $75,001 - $100,000
**EDUCATION AND JOB SATISFACTION**

Overall, survey respondents reported being satisfied with their current job regardless of level of education.

**COMPANY SIZE AND JOB SATISFACTION**

Job satisfaction does not significantly vary based on company size. Overall, the majority of participants were satisfied with their jobs regardless of the size of their company.

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** Did not attend school**
- Unsatisfied: 50%
- Satisfied: 50%

** Graduated from high school/GED**
- Unsatisfied: 12%
- Satisfied: 80%

** Some college**
- Unsatisfied: 14.3%
- Satisfied: 74.7%

** Bachelor’s degree**
- Unsatisfied: 19.9%
- Satisfied: 72.3%

** Post-bachelor’s degree work**
- Unsatisfied: 11.8%
- Satisfied: 82.4%

** Master’s degree**
- Unsatisfied: 17.6%
- Satisfied: 76.8%

** Ph.D**
- Unsatisfied: 20%
- Satisfied: 80%

** Post-doctoral work**
- Unsatisfied: 0%
- Satisfied: 100%

** Other**
- Unsatisfied: 21.4%
- Satisfied: 50%
JOB SATISFACTION AND EXPERIENCE

Satisfaction does not significantly vary with the amount of time that participants had been with their current company. However, participants who have been working as security professionals for less time (0–2 years) are more satisfied with their jobs than those who have been working for longer.

0-2 Years workers are more satisfied with their jobs than those who have been working for longer.
PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY AND JOB SATISFACTION

Respondents whose primary responsibilities are adversary simulation, cloud security, compliance security, and packet analysis are the most satisfied with their jobs. Those who are responsible for security training and forensics reported being the least satisfied.
MOST SATISFYING ASPECT OF JOB

Nearly one fifth of respondents said that continuous learning or defending their company and catching threats was the most satisfying part of their job.

16.8% of respondents said the people they work with is the most satisfying part of their job.

LEAST SATISFYING ASPECT OF JOB

More than 25% of participants said that constant interruptions were least satisfying part of their job.

- Interruptions: 27.9%
- False positives/dead ends: 22.5%
- Tedium: 11.5%
- Hours: 9.8%
- Never-ending tickets: 8.3%
- Nothing: 7.1%
- Lack of support from management: 4%
- Other: 3.3%
- Bureaucracy: 1.9%
- User non-compliance: 1.9%
- Budget cuts: 1%
- Competing priorities: 0.8%
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, MACHINE LEARNING, AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES
**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND MACHINE LEARNING UTILIZATION**

Nearly half, 46.4%, of respondents reported that they are not currently using AI or machine learning in their jobs, but are planning to utilize them in the future.

Approximately 32% of respondents reported currently utilizing AI and machine learning, while 21% of respondents reported not having any plans to use machine learning or artificial intelligence in the future.
CAN MACHINE LEARNING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) MAKE YOUR JOB EASIER?

Nearly 75% of respondents agreed that machine learning and AI can make their job better or easier. Only 7% of respondents believed that AI and machine learning could not make their jobs better.

75% agreed that machine learning and AI can make their job better or easier

7% believed that AI and machine learning could not make their jobs better
CAN MACHINE LEARNING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) IMPROVE SECURITY?

Overall, participants believe AI and machine learning can contribute to improved security in their organization. More than 75% of survey participants agreed that AI and machine learning can help with security, while approximately 5% said that it would not be helpful within their organizations. Eighteen percent of participants were unsure.

- 75% agreed that AI and machine learning can help with security
- 5% said that it would not be helpful within their organizations
- 18% were unsure
ARE MACHINE LEARNING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) A THREAT TO JOB SECURITY?

Most participants, nearly 75%, do not believe that AI and machine learning area threat to their job security.

However, more than 10% of participants feel threatened by the increased use of AI and machine learning in their field.

- 75% do not believe that AI and machine learning area threat to their job security
- 10% feel threatened by the increased use of AI and machine learning in their field
MACHINE LEARNING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) UTILIZATION BY INDUSTRY

Most industries utilize AI and machine learning to some extent. For those participants who are not currently using AI and machine learning, many have plans to implement them in the future.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Currently Using</th>
<th>Plan to Use Future</th>
<th>No Plans to Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Utilities, Energy, and Extraction</td>
<td>57.7%</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare &amp; Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecommunications &amp; Tech</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail &amp; Consumer Durables</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>52.9%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Financial Services</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>48.3%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>58.8%</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently Using  Plan to Use Future  No Plans to Use
THREAT TO JOB SECURITY BY INDUSTRY

Those surveyed in the insurance industry have the strongest belief that artificial intelligence and machine learning are threats to their jobs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Financial Services</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>65.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecommunications &amp; Tech</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>66.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>70.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail &amp; Consumer Durables</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td>94.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities, Energy and Extraction</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare &amp; Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>78.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Security professionals are always on the lookout for cutting-edge technologies to make their jobs better.

Endpoint detection and response (EDR) technologies and artificial intelligence are the technologies security professionals are most excited about.

**Endpoint Detection and Response** (EDR – SIEM, network forensics, DLP, threat detection and incident response, etc.)

**Artificial Intelligence**

**User and Entity Behavior Analytics** (UEBA), (data aggregation and advanced analytics, etc.)

**Machine Learning**

**Cloud Security** (data encryption, infra security, DDoS mitigation, identity & access management, penetration testing, etc.)

**Network Security** (monitoring, firewalls, security gateways, SDN, VPN, web security, network segmentation, etc.)

**Blockchain technologies** (encryption to address increased volume and sophistication of cyber threats, etc.)

**Internet of Things** (IoT)
CAREER ADVICE TO THOSE THINKING OF HAVING A CAREER IN CYBER SECURITY
WOULD YOU RECOMMEND A CAREER AS A SECURITY ANALYST?

Overwhelmingly, participants (86%) said they would recommend a career as a security analyst to new graduates.

While 9.4% said they were unsure or didn’t know if they could recommend the career, less than 5% of security professionals recommended against the career.
WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO NEW GRADUATES?

The most common advice security professionals would give to recent graduates wanting to enter the field is, “ALWAYS KEEP LEARNING.”

Professionals realize that the security field is constantly evolving, and to be successful they must keep current on new technologies.

Security professionals also recommended that new graduates focus on obtaining certifications. Many security professionals recommended getting certifications early in your career when there is more time to study.
Survey participants included 481 security professionals worldwide. Participants were recruited through mailing lists and technical forums. Participants self-selected into the survey and were not compensated for their participation. However, all who submitted email addresses were entered into a drawing for a variety of prizes. Participants were also promised they would receive a copy of the salary survey once the results were compiled. Responses were collected through an online questionnaire. All salaries were converted to U.S. dollars after answering survey questions about salary.
Exabeam provides security intelligence and management solutions to help organizations of any size protect their most valuable information. The Exabeam Security Intelligence Platform uniquely combines a data lake for unlimited data collection at a predictable price, machine learning for advanced analytics, and automated incident response into an integrated set of products. The result is the first modern security intelligence solution that delivers where legacy SIEM vendors have failed. Built by seasoned security and enterprise IT veterans from Imperva, ArcSight, and Sumo Logic, Exabeam is headquartered in San Mateo, California. Exabeam is privately funded by Norwest Venture Partners, Aspect Ventures, Icon Ventures, Lightspeed Venture Partners, and investor Shlomo Kramer. Follow us on Twitter and LinkedIn.