



NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
YING WU COLLEGE OF COMPUTING  
NJIT INFORMATION AND CYBERSECURITY CLUB  
ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY  
SECURE COMPUTING INITIATIVE

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## JERSEYCTF V: EVENT WRITE-UP

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Ying Wu College of Computing



NJIT Information and  
Cybersecurity Club



NJIT Association for Computing  
Machinery



NJIT Secure Computing  
Initiative

# 1 Overview

JerseyCTF V marks the fifth time the JerseyCTF competition has run. The competition lasted 24 hours and featured 55 challenges (plus an additional rules challenge) across six categories: Cryptography, Forensics, Binary Exploitation, Web Exploitation, Open Source Intelligence, and Miscellaneous.

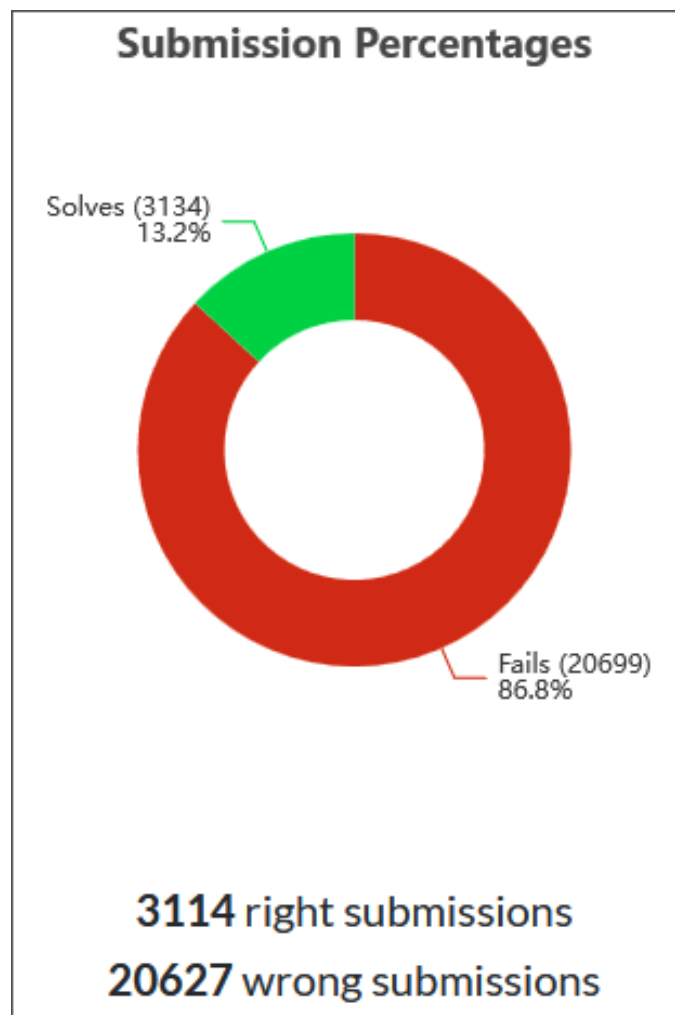
The event was moved to a larger venue in anticipation of a larger in-person presence, which occurred as the event featured 154 in-person participants from NJIT, NYU, Augusta University, George Mason University, Bergen County College, Rutgers University, and Princeton University, making it our largest event by in-person attendance yet. In total, there were 1,315 participants spread across 554 teams.

## 2 Event Information

### 2.1 Challenge Development, Testing, Ticketing, and Submissions

Fifty-five challenges were developed over three months by a mix of students from hosting organizations as well as guest challenge developers from the Rutgers Cybersecurity Club.

Challenge testing occurred during the month before the competition and consisted of a manual review of each solve path by a member of the team uninvolved in the creation of said challenge. To handle edge cases, confusions, and challenge errors not discovered during the testing phase, the JCTF Discord server featured a ticketing system in which participants could ask for clarification on challenges and report any errors they believed they found. Over 300 such tickets were submitted and handled during the event.



## 2.2 Budget

In total, JCTF raised \$29,500.00 from thirteen different sponsors: NJCCIC, Amazon, ADP, ISACA, SCI, Futurecon, Palo Alto, Github, Crowdstrike, Blackwood.ai/Splunk, Tekstream, Verizon, and Wiz. Of this, \$29,474.32 was spent on the event, being used to fund:

- Site Hosting
- Domain Renewals
- Prizes
- In-Person Food
- Marketing
- Merchandise
- Streaming
- Decor
- And other miscellaneous event infrastructure


## 2.3 Feedback

Of the 154 in-person participants, 37 filled out the in-person feedback form distributed at the competition. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with an average rating of 4.31 out of 5.00. Participants enjoyed the speaker talks, working in a team, and their experience with the official Discord server and ticketing system. Of the responders, 66.67% stated that this was their first JCTF, 22.2% stated they only participated previously in JCTF IV, and the remaining 11.1% comprised participants who had attended two or more previous JCTF events. Additionally, on CtfTime, the competition was given a perfect 37/37 score by all those who rated the event.

Overall, the reception to the event was overwhelmingly positive, with minor complaints mostly directed toward the venue and the average difficulty of some challenges being higher than expected.

## 2.4 Event Schedule

# JerseyCTF V



## SCHEDULE

10:30am Check-in

11am Opening Ceremony  
Featuring keynote speaker Michael Geraghty | CISO of New Jersey & Director of NJCCIC

12pm Ken Fishkin | President of ISC2  
Talk: When Cybersecurity meets Stranger Things! Learn How Being a Dungeon Master Can Improve Your Cybersecurity Program.

12:45pm Krish Latha | Lead STAT Analyst (Global Security) at ADP    Jason Sylvia | Sr. Dir. Information Security (Global Security) at ADP  
Talk: AppSec Pen Testing    Talk: Red Teaming

1pm Lunch

### SATURDAY

1:30pm Anthony Harvey | Sr. Security Solutions Architect at AWS  
Talk: From the Trenches to the Clouds: Active Incident Response and the Future of Security

2:15pm Alberto Carranza | Computer Scientist & Michael Drozdowski | Staff Operations Specialist  
Talk: FBI Cyber Program


3pm CTF Starts!

4pm Technical Skills Workshop 1

7pm Dinner

8:30pm Typing Competition

11:30pm Midnight Snack



### SUNDAY

12am Midnight Karaoke

7am Breakfast

10am Technical Skills Workshop 2

12pm Lunch

2pm Score Hidden

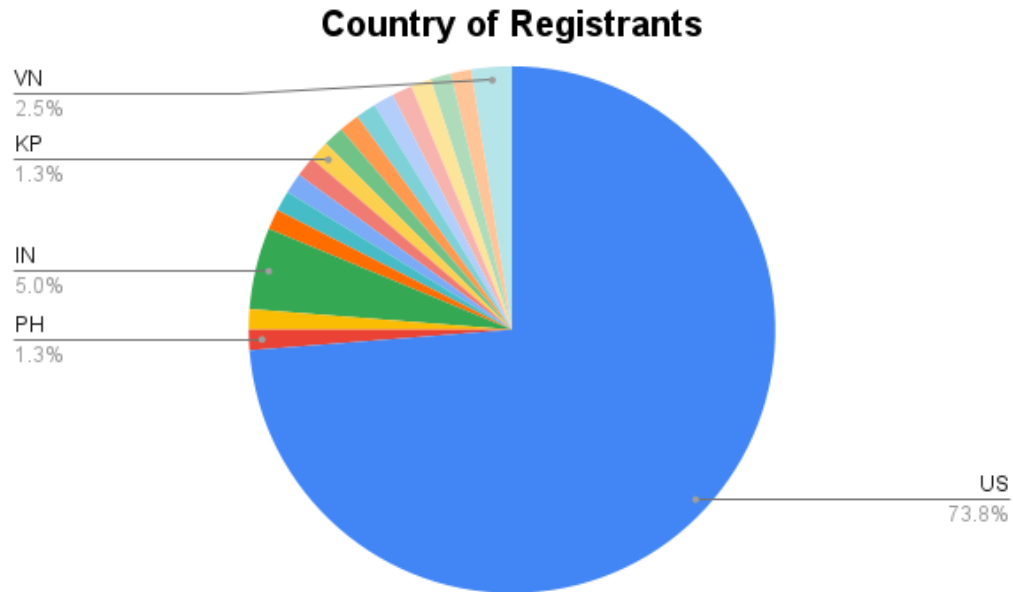
3pm CTF Ends!

3:30pm Closing Ceremony  
Winners Announced

### 3 Participant Demographics

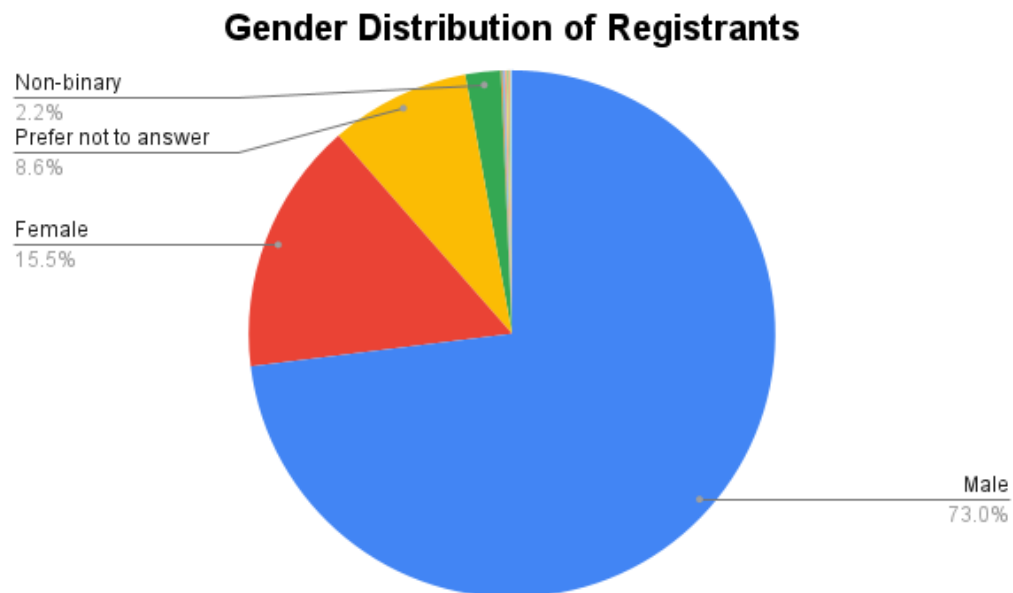
#### 3.1 Countries of Origin

The event features 1,315 participants from eighteen different countries: the United States, the Philippines, Algeria, India, Iraq, Malaysia, Puerto Rico, Canada, North Korea, Mexico, Antarctica, Greece, Bangladesh, the United Kingdom, Australia, Russia, Montserrat, and Vietnam.



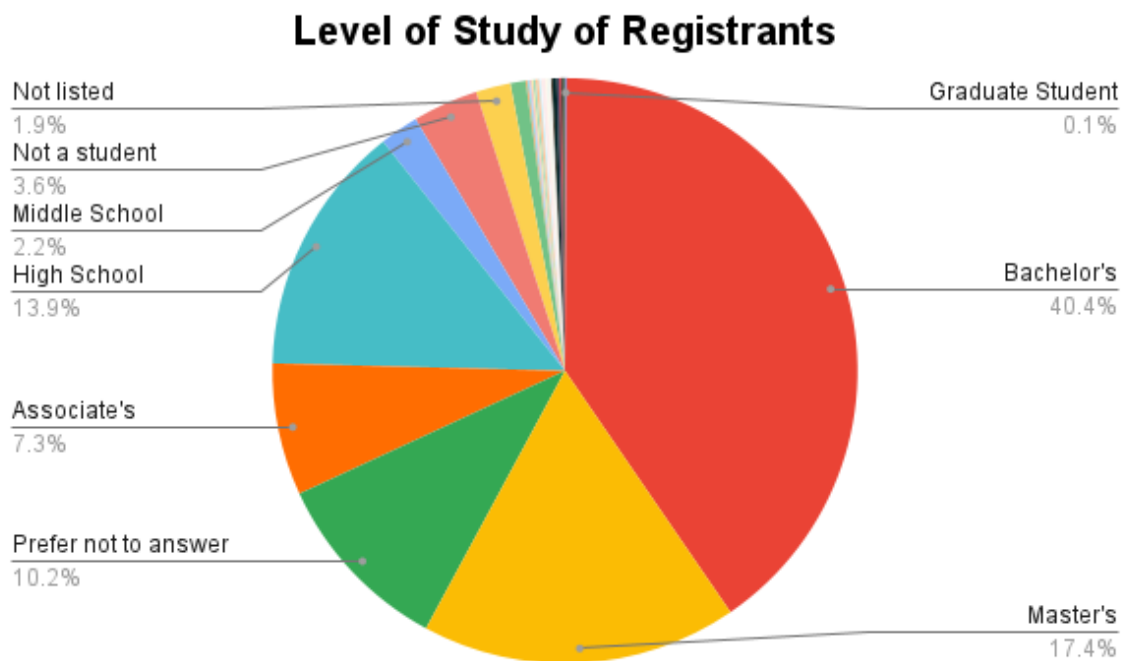
#### 3.2 Gender

73% of the registrants identified as male, 15.5% as female, and 2.2% as non-binary, with the remaining participants listing another option or choosing not to answer.





### 3.3 Education Level



### 3.4 Ethnicity

