

RECAP

Report



WOMEN IMPACT TECH

accelerate

CONFERENCE

Chicago

2024



Event Overview

Chicago, IL

On April 18, 2024, over 1,200 top female technologists networked with each other and with prestigious companies in the Chicago, IL, area that are committed to fostering diversity and gender equity in the workplace. Through keynotes, panel discussions, info sessions, and workshops, conference attendees engaged in meaningful and inspiring conversations about the impact of women in tech.



Highlights



**1,112 Total
Attendees**



**1,225 Database
Members**



**3 Keynote
Speeches**

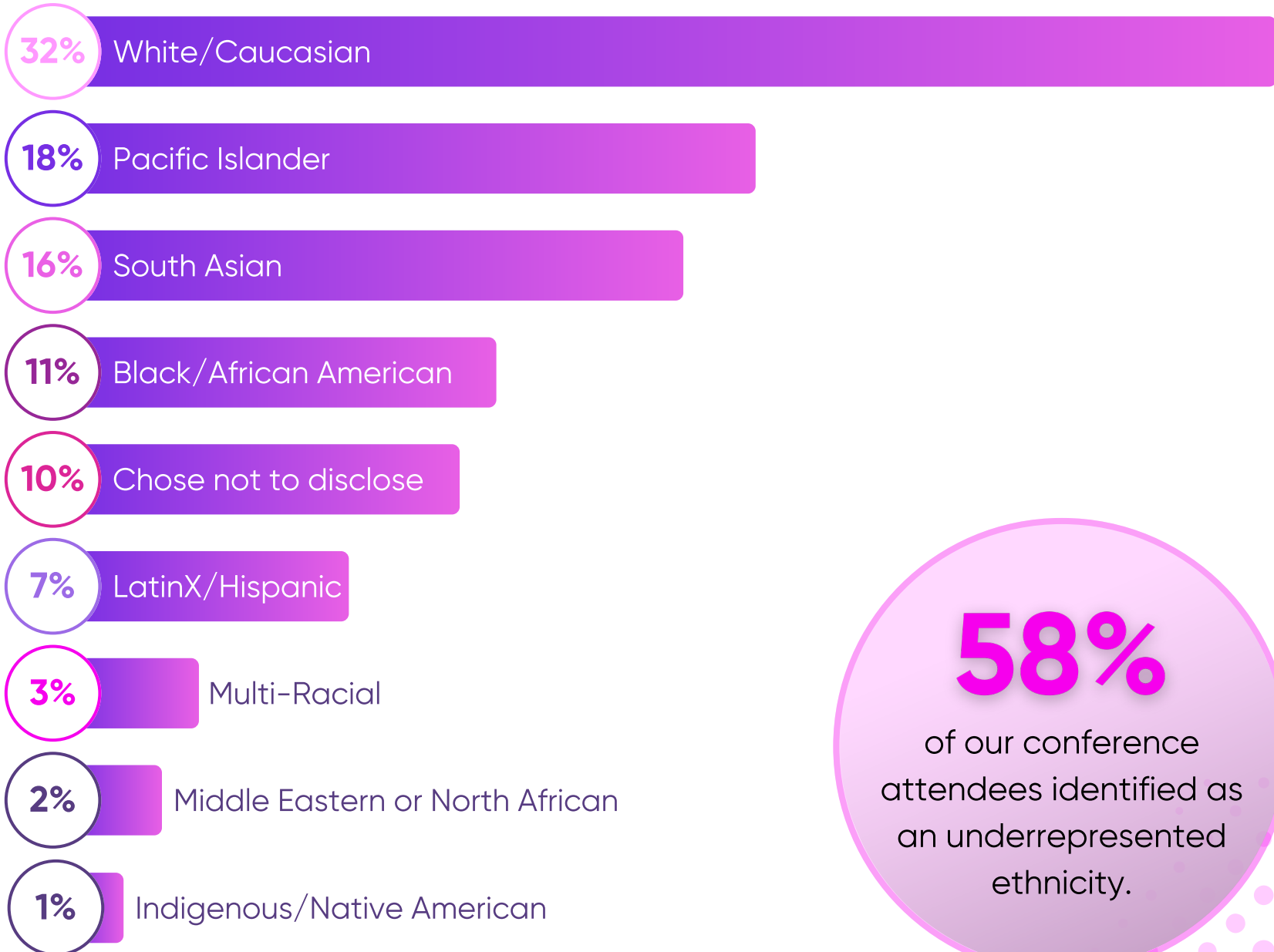


**9 Info
Sessions**



**3 Panel
Discussions**

Attendee Demographics

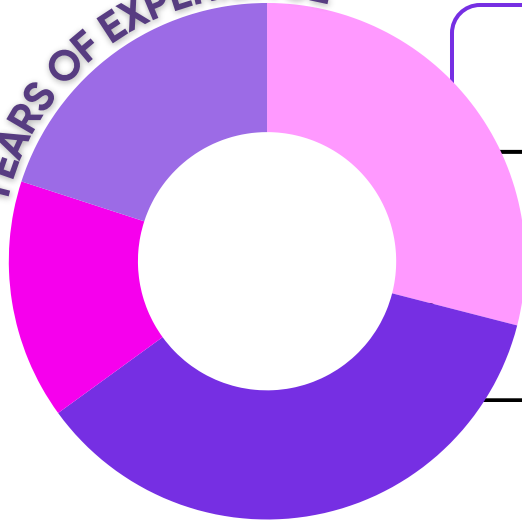


58%
of our conference attendees identified as an underrepresented ethnicity.

Attendee Experience

71% of our conference attendees had 5 or more years of experience in their field.

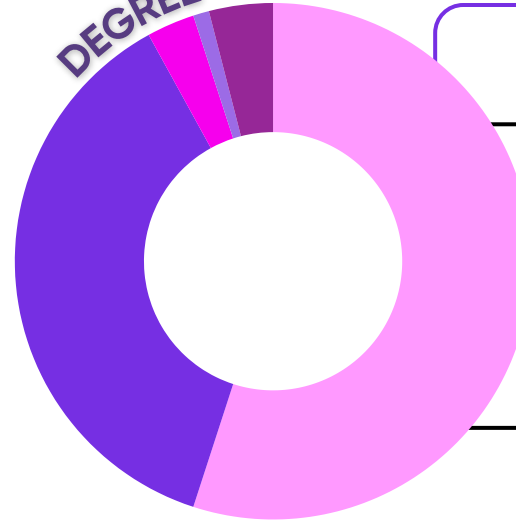
YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



- 29% **2-4 Years**
- 36% **5-8 Years**
- 15% **9-12 Years**
- 20% **13+ Years**

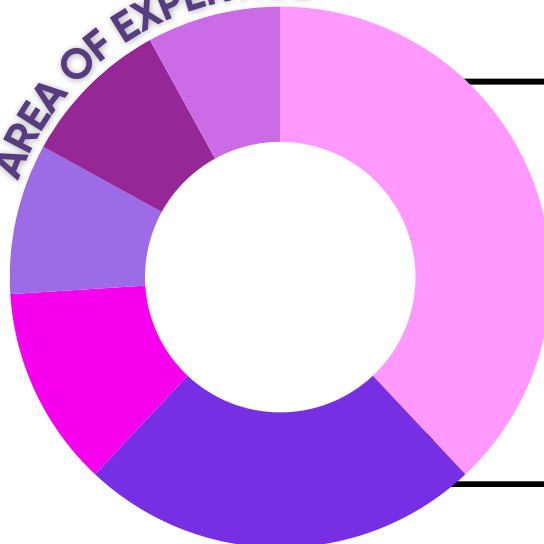
95% of our conference attendees had a Bachelor's Degree or higher.

DEGREE



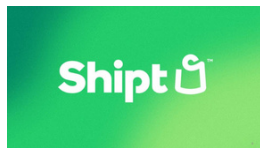
- 55% Bachelor's
- 37% Master's
- 3% PhD
- 1% Certificate/Associate's
- 4% Did Not Disclose

AREA OF EXPERTISE



- 38% Other (Product/Project)
- 24% Software Engineer
- 12% CEO, CTO, VP, Director
- 9% ML, DevOps, Architects, Big Data
- 9% Data Science
- 8% UI/UX Design

OUR Sponsors



OUR Sponsors

Smoothie Bar



Sponsored by:  **ATLASSIAN**

The Headshot Bar™



Sponsored by: 

Hand Sanitizer



Sponsored by: **PRESIDIO**®

Ribbons



Sponsored by: 

KEYNOTE

Speakers



Harnessing the Power of AI to Help More People in More Ways

Kristy Fisher, VP of Artificial Intelligence and Data Strategy



Discovering the Secret Sauce: Lessons Learned in Navigating a Career in Tech

Whitney McGinnis, CIO and Senior Vice President



Becoming an Intentional, Authentic Leader in Technology

Michelle Greene, EVP and Chief Information Officer



INFO *Sessions*

Take Flight in Tech



Molly Hennessy

Managing Director, Crew and Catering Technology



Raise Your Voice to Raise Your Pay



Raleen Gagnon

CEO



Chicago's Tech Awakening: Exploring Data, AI, and Innovation



Gayathri Rajan

SVP, Product



From Self-Care to Squad-Care: Elevating Women's Well-Being in the Workplace



Katie O'Malley

Founder & Principal Coach



Empowering Women in Tech: Prioritizing Wellbeing for Accelerated Career Growth



Brooke Daniels

Founder & CEO



From Literature to Large Language Models Navigating a Surprising IT Career



Nichole Meister

DVP, IT Medical Devices



INFO *Sessions*



Sahara Becker

Security Engineering
Manager I



Maris Hansen

Systems Engineering
Manager III

Don't Rush to Judgement!
Tips for Selecting Security Software



Corry Stanley

Director Infrastructure
Engineering Services



Sakthi Kasiramalingam

Director of Application
Development

**Discover and Harness Your
Superpowers for Success**



Amy Willard

IT Director, HR, Corporate Functions,
Strategy & Transformation



Tiffany Ingersoll

Senior Product Manager for
Application Automation

We Run For All:
Leaping Forward with Tech



JOHN DEERE

EVENT

Panel

How to Keep Your Technical Skills Sharp as a Leader in Tech



MODERATOR

Marrissa Helleesen

Senior Software Engineering Manager
Microsoft



Ari Krzyzek

CEO, Head of Strategy
Chykalophia



Maris Hansen

Systems Engineering Manager III
McMaster-Carr



Missy Fata

Senior Manager, Data Engineering &
Analytics – Abbott Diabetes Care
Abbott



Tope Sadiku

Strategic Planning Lead – Strategy,
Transformation, Agile and Revolution
The Kraft Heinz Company



Yasemin Blanton

VP, Risk and Fraud
Technology
Fiserv

The Technologies You Didn't See Coming



MODERATOR

Naomi Kaduwela

Head of Kavi Labs &
Value Engineering
Kavi Global



Hatice Unal

SVP, Infrastructure
Cboe



Jason Wallin

Senior Principal Architect,
IT Foundations
John Deere



Yarrow Diamond

SVP, Technology
Transformation
Informa Markets

EVENT

Panel

Boosting Your Employee Experience and Well-Being Where Does It Start?



MODERATOR

Kathleen Skallerup

CTO
AITX



Alisa Yu

Distributed Work Intervention
Lead, Team Anywhere Lab
Atlassian



Angela Campbell

AVP, Business Relationship
Management & Innovation
CNA Insurance



Cecelia Story

Team Lead, Development
Adyen



Christina Arnt

VP, Quality Compliance
Zimmer Biomet



Aisha F. Thompkins

Director, DEIA and Corporate
Social Responsibility
Paylocity



Taylor Guerin

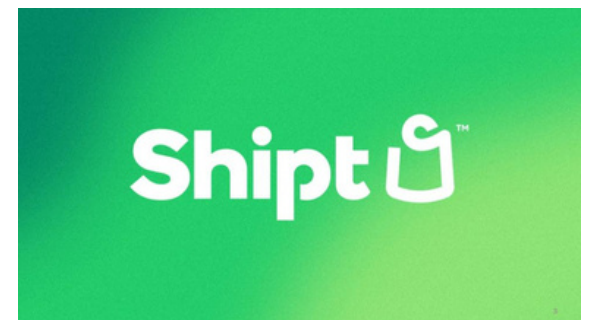
Senior Recruiter
Gallagher



TOP 100 COMPANIES
2024

AWARDS

Ceremony





WOMEN OF IMPACT
2024

AWARDS *Ceremony*



Bratati Das

Senior Manager, Strategy & Planning,
Global Integrated Solutions
TransUnion



Brianne Caplan

Founder & Executive Director
Code Your Dreams



Christina Fernandes-D'Souza

Director of Data Science
Three Arc Advisory



Deneen DeFiore

Vice President & Chief Information
Security Officer
United Airlines



Kristen DeLap

Vice President, Digital Product
and UX
MillerKnoll



Lulu Shan

Staff Technical Program
Manager
Iterable



Michelle Greene

EVP and Chief Information
Officer
Cardinal Health



Robin Damron

Security Operations
Manager
McDonald's



Sabina Ewing

SVP Business & Technology
Services, & CIO
Abbott



Michelle McBride

Group Product Manager
Uber Freight



Teresa Murphy

Global VP Data & Analytics, AI
& Enterprise Architecture
Smith & Nephew



TOP 25 TALENT
ACQUISITION LEADERS
2024

AWARDS *Ceremony*



Priscyla Temblador

Senior Manager, Management & Tech Recruiting
McMaster-Carr



Katherine Burnham

Recruiter, KNA Talent Acquisition
Kellanova



Katie Korrison

Manager, Diversity Recruitment
Abbott



Johna Little

Director Talent Acquisition
NiSource



Krystin McDermott

Manager II, Talent Acquisition
Ahold Delhaize USA



Nikisha Ramsey

Director Talent Acquisition
United Airlines

EVENT

Anecdotes

"The conference was super motivating. Hearing these executive women be so humble and kind was great. I met some beyond-smart people and made great connections."



"The most valuable aspect of the conference was the empowerment of women in technology. The building was enriched with stellar talent that provided great networking and engagement opportunities."

"Getting to meet such supportive recruiters and company participants was very uplifting. It was good to see their investment in women in tech."



"I am trying to get into tech and this was a great way to see what is happening in the industry. It made me excited to see the possibility of transitioning into a different career path as many of the speakers have."



"All women! Woman power. I loved the pink outfits. I love the feminine energy in the room. I felt so safe."

"The speakers and sessions were very powerful."



"The experience of being in a space filled almost entirely with women was so invigorating and refreshing! I loved the candid vulnerability of the speakers. I am a person who learns through stories, and your leaders are such amazing women, and they poured their hearts out for us."