

Next Generation Leaders
State of the Young Professional in the Columbus Region

Survey Results 2008

ColumbusChamber
go ahead

Summary

The Columbus Chamber surveyed young professionals in the region about their civic involvement, support for charitable causes, involvement with young professional and other organizations, and their feelings about the attractiveness of the region. The survey, conducted during late October and early November 2008, attracted 350 responses, giving the results a margin of error of ± 5.25 percent. Key findings of the survey are summarized below.

Young professionals are engaged in the community.

- 93 percent donate to charitable causes.
- 81 percent report involvement in young professional, professional, and civic organizations in the community.
- 90 percent voted in the 2004 presidential election. But because the survey included individuals aged 18 to 22, some respondents were too young to vote in that election.
- 93 percent planned to vote in the 2008 election.

Young professionals are overwhelmingly concentrated in the central city.

- 87 percent live in Franklin County, compared to 64 percent of all residents of the Columbus region.
- 33 percent of those who live in Franklin County live in central-city ZIP codes, compared to 13 percent of the general population. Nearly 10 percent of our total sample lives in the Downtown area (43215).

A majority of young professionals moved here from somewhere else.

- 64 percent were born elsewhere and moved to the Columbus region.

Young professionals are about as racially diverse as the population as a whole, but more diverse in other ways.

- 24 percent are members of racial or ethnic minority groups, a proportion comparable to that of the overall regional population.
- 61 percent are women.
- 10 percent are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender – a proportion slightly greater than that found by some studies of the general U.S. population.

Young professionals are much more highly-educated than the general regional population.

- 91 percent hold a college degree, versus 38 percent of the total population.
- 30 percent hold a graduate degree, versus 10 percent of the regional population.

Young professionals overwhelmingly support charitable organizations and donate to a variety of causes.

- The median annual donation is approximately \$5,000.
- Religious organizations got the largest share of donations. Education, health, and social justice were roughly tied for second place, followed by arts and culture and the environment.

Young professionals generally feel good about the quality of life in the Columbus region, but see room for improvement.

- When asked to rate a variety of attributes on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest), average scores were as follows:
 - Different viewpoints and ways of living are welcomed and affirmed in Columbus: 7.5.
 - Columbus's educational institutions and libraries are convenient and inviting: 7.4.
 - Columbus has a wide diversity of leisure-time activities, such as restaurants, bars, museums, concerts, spectator sports, and other events: 7.0.
 - It is easy to make a difference in my neighborhood and the Columbus community: 6.8.
 - It is easy to commute to work and leisure-time destinations in Columbus: 6.6.
 - Columbus airports offer convenient flights to places I want to go: 6.6.
 - Columbus offers convenient, attractive places to walk, bike, and play outdoor sports: 6.3.

- These scores serve as an initial benchmark. The objective is to work to increase them in future surveys. In some cases, all we have to do is do a better job calling attention to the assets and opportunities that are there already.

Although many respondents plan to remain in Columbus “for the long haul,” an equally large proportion do not.

- While 43 percent of the people in our sample see themselves staying in Columbus permanently, 47 percent expect to leave the region within ten years. This is likely implying that young professionals believe that while you can start a career here, you have to leave to go to the top.
- We need to call attention to the fact that one really can rise to the top in Columbus. There are currently 37,000 management professionals in Columbus, and we will need 14,000 more over the next decade. There is an even larger need for high-skill professionals in a wide array of technical occupations.
- It is important to tell the stories of those who are leaders in their fields and have developed a rich, meaningful career in Columbus, and continue to build the mentoring relationships and networks that are critical to young professionals’ success.

The State of Young Professionals in the Columbus Region 2008 Survey Results

Note: Confidence interval is $\pm 5.25\%$ at a 95% confidence level.

1. What is your relationship to Columbus?

Lifer: I have lived in the Columbus region my entire life.	63	18.2%
Boomeranger: I was raised here, moved away, and came back.	61	17.6%
Transplant: I did not grow up here, but I moved here.	223	64.3%

2. What is your ZIP code?

See attachment 1 for detailed results

Delaware County ZIPs	27	7.8%
Fairfield County ZIPs	7	2.0%
Franklin County ZIPs	301	86.7%
Licking County ZIPs	1	0.3%
Madison County ZIPs	3	0.9%
Morrow County ZIPs	0	0.0%
Pickaway County ZIPs	4	1.2%
Union County ZIPs	4	1.2%
Central city ZIPs (43215, 43201, 43203, 43205, 43206, 43212, 43222, 43223)	104	30.0%

3. What is your gender?

Female	212	60.9%
Male	136	39.1%

4. What is your age?

18-22	5	1.4%
23-27	121	34.9%
28-32	111	32.0%
33-37	61	17.6%
38-40	20	5.8%
41 or older	29	8.4%

5. What is your race/ethnicity?

White	266	76.4%
African-American	35	10.1%
Asian	23	6.6%
Hispanic	6	1.7%
Native American	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	1	0.3%
Two or more races	17	4.9%

6. Please indicate your marital and family status.

Single, no children	166	47.8%
Single, 1 child	5	1.4%
Single, 2 children	1	0.3%
Single, 3 or more children	0	0.0%
Single, total	172	49.6%
Married/partnered, no children	82	23.6%
Married/partnered, 1 child	35	10.1%
Married/partnered, 2 children	29	8.4%
Married/partnered, 3 or more children	8	2.3%
Married/partnered, total	154	44.4%
Divorced, no children	5	1.4%
Divorced, 1 child	5	1.4%
Divorced, 2 children	8	2.3%
Divorced, 3 or more children	2	0.6%
Divorced, total	20	5.8%
Widowed, no children	0	0.0%
Widowed, 1 child	0	0.0%
Widowed, 2 children	1	0.3%
Widowed, 3 or more children	0	0.0%
Widowed, total	1	0.3%

7. Please indicate your sexual orientation.

Heterosexual/straight	311	89.6%
Gay	23	6.6%
Lesbian	9	2.6%
Bisexual	4	1.2%
Transgender	0	0.0%

8. Please indicate your highest level of educational attainment.

Less than 9th grade	0	0.0%
9th-12th grade, no diploma	0	0.0%
High school diploma or equivalent	4	1.1%
Some college, no degree	27	7.8%
Associate degree	8	2.3%
Bachelor's degree	202	58.0%
Graduate/professional degree	107	30.7%

9. Are you currently enrolled at a college or university?

Yes, I am a full-time student.	15	4.3%
Yes, I am a part-time student.	15	4.3%
No, I am not a student.	316	91.3%

10. Are you currently employed?

Yes, I am employed full time.	327	94.2%
Yes, I am employed part time.	11	3.2%
No, I am not employed.	9	2.6%

11. What is the industry of your primary job?

Construction	8	2.4%
Manufacturing	6	1.8%
Wholesale trade, transportation, distribution, or warehousing	9	2.7%
Retail trade (direct consumer sales only)	29	8.7%
Publishing, sound recording, broadcasting, telecommunications, or internet services	13	3.9%
Finance, insurance, real estate, or any form of rental or leasing services	55	16.6%
Professional, technical, research, corporate management, employment, or waste services	83	25.0%
Public education	22	6.6%
Private education	9	2.7%
Healthcare	14	4.2%
Entertainment or recreation	12	3.6%
Hotels, motels, or food service	7	2.1%
Repair or maintenance services; personal care services; religious, grant-making, civic, social, professional, or labor organizations	24	7.2%
Government (other than education)	41	12.3%

12. Are you a homeowner?

Yes	200	59.0%
No	139	41.0%

13. Are you a business owner?

Yes	52	15.3%
No	288	84.7%

14. How many people do you employ (full-time equivalent)? (Business owners only)

1	32	61.5%
2	5	9.6%
3	1	1.9%
4	2	3.8%
5-9	4	7.7%
10 or more	8	15.4%

15. What is your PERSONAL annual income?

Less than \$25,000	21	6.2%
\$25,000 - 34,999	43	12.8%
\$35,000 - 44,999	75	22.3%
\$45,000 - 54,999	50	14.8%
\$55,000 - 64,999	48	14.2%
\$65,000 - 74,999	23	6.8%
\$75,000 - 84,999	20	5.9%
\$85,000 - 94,999	15	4.5%
\$95,000 - 104,999	10	3.0%
\$105,000 - 114,999	4	1.2%
\$115,000 - 124,999	6	1.8%
\$125,000 - 134,999	4	1.2%
\$135,000 - 144,999	4	1.2%
\$145,000 - 154,999	1	0.3%
\$155,000 or more	13	3.9%

16. Please indicate the approximate amount of money you have donated to charitable organizations (non-political) in each category IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

Total number indicating donations	327	93.4%
Approximate median donation to all causes:	\$5,000	

Detailed responses in Attachment 2.

17. Did you vote in the 2004 U.S. Presidential election?

Yes	313	89.9%
No	35	10.1%

18. Are you planning to vote in the 2008 U.S. Presidential election?

Yes	325	93.4%
No	12	3.4%
Maybe	0	0.0%
I am not registered to vote	11	3.2%

19. How much money have you contributed to a political campaign IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS?

Less than \$100	270	81.6%
\$100-250	35	10.6%
\$251-499	9	2.7%
\$500-999	8	2.4%
\$1,000-1,499	4	1.2%
\$1,500-1,999	3	0.9%
\$2,000-2,999	0	0.0%
\$3,000-3,999	0	0.0%
\$4,000 or more	2	0.6%

20. On a scale of 1 to 10, 10 BEING THE BEST, please rank the Columbus region in the following areas.

Columbus has a wide diversity of leisure-time activities (e.g., restaurants, bars, museums, concerts, spectator sports, and other events).

1	3	0.9%
2	9	2.7%
3	7	2.1%
4	12	3.7%
5	31	9.5%
6	40	12.2%
7	79	24.1%
8	95	29.0%
9	38	11.6%
10	14	4.3%
Average	7.0	

Columbus offers convenient, attractive places to walk, bike, and play outdoor sports.

1	7	2.1%
2	7	2.1%
3	19	5.8%
4	24	7.3%
5	36	11.0%
6	69	21.0%
7	76	23.2%
8	58	17.7%
9	26	7.9%
10	6	1.8%
Average	6.3	

It is easy to commute to work and leisure-time destinations in Columbus.

1	12	3.7%
2	10	3.0%
3	21	6.4%
4	16	4.9%
5	29	8.8%
6	40	12.2%
7	70	21.3%
8	72	22.0%
9	29	8.8%
10	29	8.8%
Average	6.6	

Columbus airports offer convenient flights to places I want to go.

1	9	2.7%
2	10	3.0%
3	16	4.9%
4	23	7.0%
5	32	9.8%
6	46	14.0%
7	65	19.8%
8	68	20.7%
9	42	12.8%
10	17	5.2%
Average	6.6	

Columbus's educational institutions and libraries are convenient and inviting.

1	2	0.6%
2	2	0.6%
3	6	1.8%
4	9	2.7%
5	31	9.5%
6	29	8.8%
7	69	21.0%
8	95	29.0%
9	57	17.4%
10	28	8.5%
Average	7.4	

Different viewpoints and ways of living are welcomed and affirmed in Columbus.

1	3	0.9%
2	2	0.6%
3	8	2.4%
4	9	2.7%
5	24	7.3%
6	29	8.8%
7	68	20.7%
8	81	24.7%
9	70	21.3%
10	34	10.4%
Average	7.5	

It is easy to make a difference in my neighborhood and the Columbus community.

1	2	0.6%
2	4	1.2%
3	14	4.3%
4	17	5.2%
5	49	14.9%
6	48	14.6%
7	64	19.5%
8	62	18.9%
9	48	14.6%
10	20	6.1%
Average	6.8	

21. How long do you plan to stay in the Columbus region?

Less than 1 year	8	2.4%
1-3 years	61	18.6%
4-9 years	86	26.2%
10-15 years	31	9.5%
For the long haul, more than 15 years	142	43.3%

22. Please list three local young professional, professional, and/or civic organizations which are most important to you and of which you are an ACTIVE member.

See attachment 3

23. What is your reason for involvement in young professional, professional, and/or civic organizations? Please check all that apply.

Total responding	258	80.6%
Business networking/career development	187	72.5%
Social networking	169	65.5%
Leadership/professional development	155	60.1%
Impact my community's quality of life	152	58.9%
Volunteer and service opportunities	140	54.3%
Get engaged in my community's arts and culture	96	37.2%
Philanthropy	78	30.2%
Other (please specify)	15	5.8%

Late-night social life

Not Applicable - not found one I wish to join yet.

Since we work with organizations around age diversity, I'm interested in how we stand multi-generationally in the Columbus region

Sports
 Support the network
 Not involved (5)
 Stay connected to my religion
 It's the right thing to do. With rights come responsibilities.
 Like to meet people
 To feel connected and find out about things in Columbus I may not know about
 Experience something different. Challenge

24. If you are not a member of a local young professional, professional, and/or civic organization, why not? Please check all that apply.

Total responding	132	41.3%
I am exploring my options, but have not found one that I am passionate about yet.	65	49.2%
I do not have time.	65	49.2%
I do not know where to look.	32	24.2%
I am not interested.	6	4.5%
Other (please specify)	14	10.6%
Of the groups that are available they all seem to be doing the same thing.		
I'm an older professional		
I am very interested in becoming more active in civic organizations and social networking, but find my work schedule and business travel to be somewhat overwhelming at this time for me to concentrate on a new opportunity. My hope is that the work schedule will lax in the near future or a new employment opportunity will give me more time to be an active/more impactful member of my community.		
I have attended the Central Community House young professionals group but because of scheduling conflicts I have not been able to participate as much as I would like.		
I find most of these organizations to be more social than career oriented and I have a social network of my own. Also, babysitters are expensive in order to attend events and functions.		
N/A (2)		
I need to get way more involved, but have been studying for a big test so am focusing my time on that right now. I plan to get more involved once that is done.		
Still exploring my options		
Not focused specifically on looking for a "young" group. I am involved in local school district and getting involved in Alzheimer association.		
I moved to central Ohio for a job three years ago. With no family or close friends here, I feel very disconnected from the community and would like to leave within the next year or two.		
I'm on the older side of the "young professionals" definition. Most people my age (40) live/work in the suburbs and raise families. That doesn't happen to be my life, so it's sometimes difficult to find involvement in civic/professional organizations outside the office.		
I just moved back to the city a month ago. I definitely plan to get more involved once I get acclimated.		
Not currently a member, let membership expire. no good reason why.		

25. In closing, please tell us what you most appreciate about Columbus.

See Attachment 4.

Attachment 1

2. What is your ZIP code?

Delaware			Franklin cont.			Licking cont.		
43003	Ashley	0	43202	Columbus	13	43056	Newark	0
43015	Delaware	4	43203	Columbus	1	43058	Newark	0
43021	Galena	3	43204	Columbus	12	43062	Pataskala	0
43032	Kilbourne	0	43205	Columbus	2	43071	St. Louisville	0
43035	Lewis Center	9	43206	Columbus	16	43073	Summit Station	0
43061	Ostrander	0	43207	Columbus	2	43074	Sunbury	0
43065	Powell	11	43209	Columbus	9	43080	Utica	0
43066	Radnor	0	43210	Columbus	1	43740	Gratiot	0
43240	Columbus	0	43211	Columbus	0	Madison		
Fairfield			43212	Columbus	17	43064	Plain City	2
43046	Millersport	0	43213	Columbus	3	43140	London	1
43102	Amanda	0	43214	Columbus	10	43143	Mt. Sterling	0
43105	Baltimore	0	43215	Columbus	34	43151	Sedalia	0
43107	Bremen	0	43216	Columbus	0	43153	South Solon	0
43112	Carroll	1	43217	Columbus	0	43162	West Jefferson	0
43130	Lancaster	0	43218	Columbus	0	Morrow		
43136	Lithopolis	1	43219	Columbus	7	43315	Cardington	0
43147	Pickerington	5	43220	Columbus	9	43317	Chesterville	0
43148	Pleasantville	0	43221	Columbus	12	43320	Edison	0
43150	Rushville	0	43222	Columbus	0	43321	Fulton	0
43154	Stoutsville	0	43223	Columbus	2	43325	Iberia	0
43155	Sugar Grove	0	43224	Columbus	5	43334	Marengo	0
43157	Thurston	0	43226	Columbus	0	43338	Mt. Gilead	0
43163	West Rushville	0	43227	Columbus	1	43350	Sparta	0
Franklin			43228	Columbus	19	44813	North Woodbury	0
43002	Amlin	0	43229	Columbus	5	Pickaway		
43004	Blacklick	4	43230	Columbus	9	43103	Ashville	1
43016	Dublin	10	43231	Columbus	4	43113	Circleville	0
43017	Dublin	5	43232	Columbus	5	43116	Commercial Pt.	1
43026	Hilliard	11	43234	Columbus	0	43117	Derby	0
43054	New Albany	10	43235	Columbus	14	43126	Harrisburg	0
43068	Reynoldsburg	3	43236	Columbus	0	43145	New Holland	0
43081	Westerville	5	Licking			43146	Orient	2
43082	Westerville	8	43001	Alexandria	0	43156	Tarlton	0
43085	Worthington	7	43008	Buckeye Lake	0	43164	Williamsport	0
43086	Westerville	0	43013	Croton	0	Union		
43109	Brice	0	43018	Etna	0	43007	Broadway	0
43110	Canal Winchester	1	43023	Granville	1	43029	Irwin	0
43119	Galloway	2	43025	Hebron	0	43036	Magnetic Springs	0
43123	Grove City	2	43027	Homer	0	43040	Marysville	2
43125	Groveport	1	43030	Jacksontown	0	43041	Marysville	0
43126	Harrisburg	0	43031	Johnstown	0	43045	Milford Center	0
43137	Lockbourne	0	43033	Kirkersville	0	43064	Plain City	2
43201	Columbus	20	43055	Newark	0	43067	Raymond	0
						43344	Richwood	0

Attachment 2

16. Please indicate the approximate amount of money you have donated to charitable organizations (non-political) in each category IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

	Arts & culture	Educa-tion	Environ-ment	Health	Religious	Social justice	Other	Total
Less than \$100	93	101	93	84	72	90	81	614
\$100-250	33	34	10	39	25	28	33	202
\$251-499	8	14	4	9	16	13	20	84
\$500-999	6	10	2	8	12	7	9	54
\$1,000-1,499	3	4	4	3	11	9	8	42
\$1,500-1,999	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	4
\$2,000-2,999	0	1	0	2	3	2	1	9
\$3,000-3,999	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	6
\$4,000 or more	2	2	1	2	16	1	3	27
Total	145	167	114	149	160	151	156	1,042

Attachment 3

22. Please list three local young professional, professional, and/or civic organizations which are most important to you and of which you are an ACTIVE member.

Meet Up group in Dublin		
National Association of Black Accountants		
Ekklesia		
Young Asian American Professional Network	OCA	
Columbus Urban League Young Professionals	Westside Community Center	OACAC
National Society of Black Engineers	Columbus Urban League Young Professionals	Builders Exchange Rising Leaders Institute
GenWex	Columbus Young Professionals Club	Young Professionals of Columbus
Columbus Community House		
Ohio University Young Alumni	Young Professionals of Columbus	GenNext
Urban League YPA	Ray Miller Leadership	Princehall Freemason
Association of Fundraising Professionals		
Big Brother/Big Sisters	Columbus AIDS Task Force	American Red Cross
Gen Next (united Way of Central Ohio)		
National Association of Black Accountants		
GenNext - Active	Columbus Young Professionals -	Young Republicans
Children's Defense Fund		
NABA	Urban League	Ray Miller Institute
Columbus Jaycees	Columbus Jaycees Youth Foundation	
Young Asian American Professional Network	Columbus Young Professionals	RDI (Retail Design Institute)
NABA, Inc.	The Ohio Society of Fraud Examiners	Toastmasters
Young Asian American Professional Network	Rotary Club of Dublin Worthington	
Columbus Young Professionals	Young Asian American Professional Network	
National Society of Black Engineers		
Young Asian American Professional Network		
Young Asian American Professional Network		
Young Asian American Professional Network	Habitat for Humanity	
Columbus Urban League		
Young Asian American Professional Network	Asian Festival	
Central Community House Young Professionals		
United Way	Toastmasters	

Big Brother Big Sister	CAIR Ohio	
sigma chi alumni chapter		
ArtNetwork		
Happy Hour Tuesdays	Weekday Golf	
Circle of Business	Columbus Arts Marketing Association	GenNext
Columbus Symphony		
Columbus Young Professionals	WELD	Human Resource Association of Central Ohio
Circle of Business Advisory Board an offshoot of Action for Children	Junior Achievement of Central Ohio	
Young Professionals of Columbus		
Friends of St. Jude	Columbus Metropolitan Club	
Public Relations Student Society of America		
Columbus Alumnae Panhellenic Association		
Operation Smile	OSU College Republicans	
Columbus Young Professionals		
Ohio State Moritz College of Law		
Hope Street Kids Young Professionals		
MPI		
Columbus Urban League YPA		
Central Community House Young Professionals		
Central Community House Young Professionals		
Young Asian American Professional Network	United Way GenNext	
GenNext- United Way of Central Ohio	United Way Young Leadership Group	
Asian Festival	Asian American Commerce Group	
Gen Y - YWCA Columbus		
Young Professionals of Columbus		
Christian Women's Job Corps		
Columbus Young Alumni www.ColumbusYoungAlumni.com	The Breathing Association	The Grandview Heights Chamber of Commerce
Ohio University Columbus Young Alumni	NAACP	
Ohio University Young Alumni Association	Alpha Phi Omega Alumni (Community Service)	
Society for Human Resources Management		
Ohio University Young Alumni	America Votes	Delta Gamma Advisor Council
The Central Ohio Arthritis Foundation - Executive Board Member	ELKS	Circle of Business
HRACO - Human Resources Association of Central Ohio	SHRM - Society for Human Resource Professionals	
Ohio University Young Alumni		
Franklin County Young Democrats	Collegiate Alumni Network of Central Ohio	

Columbus Young Professionals	YWCA	
Young Professionals of Columbus		
Green Columbus/Green Drinks	Columbus Hispanic Professionals	LULAC
Columbus Bar Association		
Columbus Metropolitan Club	Drinking Liberally	Other Enviro Groups
Columbus Children's Choir	Young Professionals of Columbus	Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Young Professionals of Columbus	Leadership Columbus Alumni	Women's Transportation Seminar
Emily Williams Violin Studio	Public Broadcast Stations	COSI
Columbus Young Professionals	OU Alumni Network of Central Ohio	Columbus Metropolitan Club
Williams Duo	Ohio Federation of Musicians Local 103	
SHRM member		
Columbus Rotary	Workforce Development Board	
Columbus Adventurers Club/Meet Up		
Hispanic Chamber of Columbus		
Columbus Rotaract		
The Women's Fund of Central Ohio	Latino Empowerment Outreach Network	
Vineyard Community Center-Career Development	Junior Achievement	CFMA
Leadership Columbus		
Columbus Young Professionals Club		
Create Columbus Commission	Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.	
Columbus Ski Club	Big Brothers Big Sisters	
Columbus Urban League Young Professionals		
Institute Of Internal Auditors		
YPC	Columbus NAACP	
Columbus Young Professionals		
North Market - I'm on the Volunteer list for helping out in their monthly activities.	Pi Phi Alumni organization - it's for all the Pi Phi's that live in Columbus	
Young Buckeyes Alumni Club		
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Columbus	Young Professionals of Columbus (prospective member)	
LinkOut Columbus		
Network Columbus	HRC	
Columbus Young Professionals		
GenNext		
March of Dimes, Komen Race for the Cure		
heart walk		
breast cancer	epilepsy	
Young Professionals of Columbus		
Planned Parenthood		
Columbus Metropolitan Club		
CEAN	Franklin County Democratic Party	

Ohio State University Alumni Association	Chi Theta Pi Sorority Alumni Association	
Phi Beta Psi	REAN	Human Resources Association of Central Ohio
young professionals association	Hunger Alliance	Columbus Young Professionals
OD Network of Central Ohio		
Columbus Social Media Cafe		
ColumbusUnderground.com		
Colonial Hills Civic Association		
Human Resources Association of Central Ohio	North Market Board of Trustees	Columbus Metropolitan Club
LinkOUT		
GLBT Issues in Medicine (OSU College of Medicine Student Interest Group)	Family Medicine Interest Group (OSU College of Medicine Student Interest Group)	
Big Brothers Big Sisters		
LinkOUT		
Human Resources Association of Central Ohio	Network Columbus	
Beta Phi Omega Sorority Inc		
Stonewall Columbus	Order of Eastern Star	
CEA-Columbus Education Association		
Cap City Volleyball - Gay Volleyball League		
Move On PAC	OEA-Ohio Education Association	
Stonewall Columbus		
gay and lesbian community		
Columbus Young Professionals	Columbus Music Community	Community Festival Organization
the ohio splash		
NexGen (Dublin Chamber of Commerce)		
City Year		
LinkOUT		
Columbus Social Media Cafe		
UA Arts	Leadership UA	
Young Adult Division of the Columbus Jewish Federation		
Young Professional Exchange-National Kidney Foundation		
Kidney Foundation - YPE		
Charity Newsies	Big Brothers Big Sisters	
Young Professionals Exchange		
Volunteer Administrator's Network		
Ohio Business Week Foundation	YWCA	
Community Recreation Council		
CORA		
ACF		
Create Columbus Commission (Mayor's YP Commission)		
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	Central Ohio Restaurant Associations	Short North Business Association
Save Darfur Now		

Big Brothers Big Sisters	Centro Esperanza Latina	
PETA	ASPCA	
OSU Dance Alumni		
BL Young Professionals		
Wexner Center for the Arts	cm2	
Columbus Young Professional	Columbus Young Professionals	
PNA Columbus - JPMorganChase	Ohio Arts Council	Kaleidoscope GLBT Youth Center
Big Lots Young Professionals		
Big Lots Young Professionals		
Create Columbus Commission		
Ohio University Young Alumni		
Big Lots Young Professionals		
Big Lots Young Professionals Group		
Columbus Young Professionals Club		
TechColumbus	Columbus Audubon	Women's Fund
Big Brothers Big Sisters		
CMCpm		
Columbus Young Professionals	Ohio Right to Life	Brain Injury Association of Ohio
Columbus Young Professionals		
Honor Flight	Center for New Directions	
CANCO	PNA	
Capitol Square Rotary		
Grandview Heights Events Committee		
Rosemont Center Young Professionals		
Columbus Young Professionals		
Toastmasters		
Mid Ohio Food Bank	Young Business Professionals	
Central Ohio YWCA		
Junior League of Columbus		
Ohio Planning Conference - Columbus Chapter		
Capital City Young Republicans		
New Albany Presbyterian Church		
Capital Area Republican Women	Columbus Young Professionals	
Direction for Youth & Families		
IABC/Columbus		
Mercator Club		
Columbus Jaycees	Columbus Social Media Cafe	
Short North Business Association	OSU Organizations	
Sierra Club		
Junior League of Columbus	YWCA	Chamber
DRAC	Friends of the Columbus Zoo	Friends of COSI
Columbus Young Professionals		
Columbus Young Professionals		
Columbus Young Professionals		
YP Commission		
Franklin County Young Democrats		

Greater Columbus Arts Council	Connexions Lofts Homeowners Association	
Central Ohio OU Alumni Association	Columbus League of Young Voters	
Area Commissions and Civic Associations		
Human Resources Association of Central Ohio	Columbus Young Professionals (CYP)	
YPC	ULI and APA - professional organizations	Green Drinks - young professional/environmental organization
Columbus Young Professionals		
Columbus Society for Communicating Arts		
Society of Women Engineers		
AdFed Columbus	National Association of Women Business Owners	
Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae	German Village Society	
Urban Cultural Arts Foundation		
Columbus Metropolitan Club	Greater Linden Development Corporation	Columbus Urban League Young Professionals
Citizens for Humane Action		
The Links, Incorporated	Gen Y Leadership Project (YWCA)	
Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries		
Association of Fundraising Professionals		
Hilliard Arts Council		
Equality Ohio		
Columbus Free Clinic		
Worthington Chamber of Commerce	LinkOUT	
International Health Interest Group		
Young Professionals of Columbus		
Columbus Young Professionals		
Columbus Young Professionals Club	Columbus Arts Marketing Association	
GLUE - Great Lakes Urban Exchange	Wexner Center for the Arts	Experience Columbus CVB
Human Resources Association of Central Ohio	Pancreatic Cancer Action Network	Capital Area Humane Society
Miracle League of Central Ohio	YP Forum	
Leadership Columbus	COASTD	
Lifeline of Ohio (a nonprofit that promotes organ and tissue donation)	Goodwill Golf Tourney Board	Art Fusion Event plan
United Way	United Way YLG/Cinquefoil	
Young Professionals of Columbus		
YPC	Directions for Youth and Families	Women's Fund
GenNext Columbus		
Big Brothers Big Sisters		

Ohio Art League	CCH	
Columbus Young Professionals	young professionals	Hispanic Chamber of Columbus
Columbus Young Professionals	Wexner Center for the Arts	Downtown Resident's Association of Columbus
Columbus Jaycees		
MORPC		
Young Professionals of Columbus		
Collegiate Alumni Network of Central Ohio (CANCO)		
Resurrection Catholic Church	Public Relations Society of America	Columbus Young Professionals Club
Columbus Young Professionals (CYP)		
CAPA	Adventures For Wish Kids	
Columbus Alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.		
Columbus Young Professionals	National Association of Black Accountants	Expanding Visions Foundation
Columbus Young Professionals		
Columbus Young Professionals		
CANCO	International Special Events Society	
IT Martini		
Columbus Young Professionals		
Young Professionals of Columbus		
Volunteering at the Mid-Ohio FoodBank	Columbus Bar Association	
Columbus Cancer Clinic Young Professionals Group		
Central Ohio Sigma Chi Alumni Association		
Independent Insurance Agents - Young Agents Group	St. Charles Prep - Alumni Board	
LinkOUT	ACC Young Professionals	Downtown Residents' Association
Americans for the Arts	Human Rights Campaign	
Create Columbus		
Franklin County Democratic Party	Jazz Arts Group Board	
Women's Fund of Central Ohio		
Public Relations Society of America		
Young Professionals of Columbus		
Create Columbus Commission	Gen Wex	

Attachment 4

25. In closing, please tell us what you most appreciate about Columbus.

- Family oriented environment.
- The bigger city 'feel' without living in the city.
- The historic qualities / beauty of many neighborhoods near downtown, i.e.: Grandview, Victorian Village, Harrison West, German Village, Goodale Park, - I also enjoy the multitude of restaurants and bistros along the short north.
- The vast variety of educational opportunities. If you want to get a degree in just about anything you can do it within easy commuting distance of this town.
- I really like how "small" Columbus feels even though we are a big city. I think we offer a lot of opportunities for families but our young adults need more available to them. OSU may bring them in, but how can Columbus be "Cooler" for young adults. I think the downtown living options help and our philanthropic opportunities. But we are not seen as a big thriving city like Chicago or Atlanta, so how can we get there or do we want to get there?
- I love the diversity of arts that come through Columbus! I also see many opportunities for young professionals to grow and thrive in downtown Columbus. I will be staying here for a long time.
- I grew up in Cleveland but love living here. I find it to be much more diverse and accepting. It is a young city because of OSU and other universities and there is a lot to do here.
- Affordable cost of living Family oriented - lots of free community events The change in seasons, esp. Fall - love the leaves changing colors
- cost of living
- Franklin University and being able to make friends rather quickly.
- It's a friendly, down to earth city that is accommodating for young people.
- Friendliness of the people yet there needs to be a mass overhaul of the public transportation system as well as rethinking our neighborhoods so it is easier to walk to different parts of the city. With more people thinking about our carbon footprint, this would substantially reduce our dependency on our natural resources and also establish a better community-oriented mindset and overall personal and environmental health.
- OSU
- I can not spit without hitting a golf course around town. There are tons of great sunrise and sunset locations to enjoy nature. Small Division III schools in the area have strong academics and Athletics.
- I appreciate the diversity. One street may have arts, the next sports, the next may have a great restaurant. Turn and you are where you want to be.
- The family values and friendly people
- I appreciate how easy it is to live here. After living in bigger metropolitan areas like Boston, Washington DC, and Chicago, I can say from personal experience that this is what Columbus definitively has over all of these places. The cost of living is reasonable; travel time between locations is minimal; and the central location allows easy access to other cities inside and outside of Ohio. I also appreciate the strong youthful, forward-looking energy that exists here. We need to continue to "mine" this energy to transform Columbus into a GREAT city on a world-class level.
- I enjoy Columbus because there are a lot of young people that live here. Plus the cost of living is pretty reasonable compared to other cities.
- having lived in larger cities Columbus is a "manageable" city with varying points of view, ethnic backgrounds and interests
- Big city, small town feel
- Job opportunity in comparison to the rest of Ohio, and the nation for that matter.
- Columbus has a lot of potential. The physical layout of our infrastructure (highway system/downtown connections), make it easier to navigate than many older cities which were built around an already established city system. I like the university community, state government, and size of the city. The combination of these three add even greater potential to a city if it can maintain its young, well educated students, they can be members of a community which can greatly impact the state and region, making it one that has the potential to be a national spotlight in the eyes of those who have never been drawn to the city for any other reason. We have much potential!

- It's decent.
- It is a growing city - I'm excited to see where we go from here!
- Columbus is very diverse, forward thinking and full of fun things to do, yet it maintains a nice Midwestern, clean, well kept atmosphere. The entertainment district by the river that is under development is just what the city has been missing, so it is very exciting that the project is finally underway.
- North Market and my community
- The great restaurants and the relatively low cost of living.
- There is a noticeable respect for diversity whether its religious, racial, sexual orientation, age, art, personal tastes or other opinions and ways of life.
- It is very family oriented, we have a great college (OSU) and great football team.
- It's diversity. It is a good place to live and raise a family and there is something here for everyone regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual preference or interests.
- I like that I have a small town feel with all of the conveniences of a city. There's great shopping, delicious food, and activities/events galore. I choose to live near the city because of the numerous activities and events available to me and the ease of getting most anywhere in the city within 20 minutes.
- A great place to bring up children
- That they are always developing new things and places to make the community better and more enticing to younger citizens.
- There is always something going on here. I especially appreciate the great number of awesome musical acts attracted by this city and the other access to the arts.
- The Columbus area is still a great Midwestern city that holds many conservative values that are needed in a very liberal and sometimes ruthless nations of folks that continue to live off of us that work hard.
- It is a nice, clean city that offers ample career opportunities, wonderful neighborhoods and great schools. There is a lot of pride in Columbus Ohio.
- it's easy to make a difference here
- I really enjoy the bike path and think that the public library system is pretty good.
- Its fertile ground here, subtract the lack of sun during the winter season, we have all the necessary resources to water, nurture and even prune our garden of success.
- Livability and opportunity to make a difference.
- The people are generally educated, genuine and good-hearted. Columbus is a growing city with lots of opportunities, a reasonable cost of living, and with many of the benefits of the bigger cities without the drawbacks (such as major crime or traffic issues). Columbus is also very family-friendly.
- Family, the diversity of the residents, OSU academics, Bexley Schools, changing seasons, cultural institutions and life long learning opportunities.
- the people
- Downtown offers a variety of activities and is easy to get to, but you do not have to live right in downtown Columbus to take advantage of what the city has to offer.
- Living in Columbus, I most appreciate the unending spirit and optimism of its residents and city officials alike. We are lucky to have an administration interested in furthering not only our downtown area, but our educational providers, the addition of affordable housing, and a control on crime. Columbus residents love their town, it shows throughout.
- diversity
- I appreciate Columbus' proximity to other major cities and states. It definitely has a city feeling, but it is very easy to leave Columbus on the weekends and visit beautiful outdoorsy places, such as Hocking Hills.
- The people! It has a little bit of Everything - the gallery hop, Blue jackets, great festivals, Arena District, Harrison West, Grandview, German Village etc. The best part is that it's all very easy and accessible to get to and there is always something fun and interesting to do. Columbus has great strong minded supportive women who help each other personally and professionally. It is a very special place.
- The people!

- The beauty, the restaurants, the money that is being put into the city and the young professional industry and its growth.
- I really appreciate the convenience of the Columbus Airport. Being from the east coast, I find the ease of travel to/from the airport and direct flights to places I want to go (i.e. Vegas, Chicago, LA, NY, Baltimore, Phoenix and DC) very appealing.
- The rich diversity of culture
- People are kind-hearted and genuine about what they believe in and what is important to them in their lives!
- lots to do
- There is a lot to do in Columbus and it keeps growing more and more every day which is great! It's especially fun to see since I've lived here my whole life. I think people are very friendly, there is very affordable living, lots of city activities going on etc etc. It's overall a great place to live, work and play!
- Ohio State Football, the spirit of all the local fans!
- Variety of things to choose from, be it professional organizations, restaurants, civic outings, etc....
- Everything seems so close to me!
- good opportunities- but only an hour & a half from my home town.
- N/A
- I love that Columbus is a small, big city. Columbus is a friendly major city that provides the big city opportunities but with the feel of a small town.
- The corporate retail opportunities and cost of living.
- This City is very diversified and growing to meet our needs. We are always trying to improve our look to other top cities in the nation. We are doing an excellent job in education, commute, environmental friendly, and improving our overall appearance.
- The education I obtained here from The Ohio State University. The whole experience made me who I am today!
- I like Columbus mainly because I have lived here my whole life. It is a warm, inviting city that also has some excitement to it.
- The night life and the family things they have that you can do
- OSU and the football program.
- Stable economy and low cost living.
- I appreciate Columbus being a welcoming place for all people and offering a little bit of everything. I think we have people in our community who care greatly for this city and desire to make it the best it can be.
- A few things that my wife and I appreciate are the fact that there seem to be alot of young couples like ourselves. The suburbs seem to have good school systems which make them good places to raise a family. Traffic is very manageable. Being close to OSU and the sporting events is great. The city seems to be much cleaner than others we've visited. I think Columbus tries to cater too much to Downtown initiatives. Columbus has great communities on the outskirts as well as their suburbs and I think by growing the mainstream the city would see an expansion within that small group that seeks downtown living also.
- The opportunity to get involved in such a wide range of organizations and causes.
- Low cost of living with lots of fun things to do.
- Great dining and shopping Safe environment to raise my children
- The laid-back attitude of the community and ease of commuting just about anywhere. I'm also a huge fan of the local dining establishments... for a Midwestern city, we have some fantastic chefs!
- Columbus has a lot to offer and everything is easy to get to.
- The many choices of places to live, work, socialize, etc.
- The opportunity and potential in and around Columbus is great. I visited often in years past and did not realize the diversity and untapped potential for the entire region. Unlike many other areas in Ohio, Columbus is not tied to an incumbent past. Looking ahead with the expectation of optimism is a reality here.
- Quality of life is perhaps the strongest draw to Columbus. Its clean, safe, convenient and affordable. Add to that a population that is friendly and outgoing and it makes Columbus one of the best places I've ever lived.

- The ability to get engaged at any level.
- Big city, small town feeling
- I love the diversity of the neighborhoods such as German Village, Short North, etc. I like being at the state capital near the center of it all.
- Columbus is a young, vibrant city. There are a lot of opportunities here if you know what to look for. And even in this weakened economy there are still advantages to living here than other mid-to-large cities. I have been to many of the large cities in the U.S. and it seems no matter what my reason for travel I am always excited to get back to Columbus.
- The people
- The scenic beauty and the friendly people
- The Ohio State University....GO BUCKS!!!!
- The Buckeyes--they bring so much life and excitement to the area every year. I also appreciate the Arena District, Grandview, the Short North and my town, Powell.
- The libraries, shopping, dining.
- This is a great city where one can engage in numerous cultural activities . Along with being a wonderful place to raise a family
- It's acceptance of diversity!
- I appreciate the diversity and large supportive gay community. I like the Columbus is a big city but still has somewhat of a small town appeal.
- I appreciate the cost of living, size of the city (big enough, but not overwhelming), the breadth and depth of the gay and lesbian community, convenience of traveling to other places from Columbus. You don't ask this question, but I believe it is critically important to make it safer for bikers who commute on the public streets and to spend city taxes on infrastructure (new roads, sidewalks, parks, etc) BEFORE spending money on street cars or making Gay Street two ways (what a waste of money).
- It's a big city with a small town feel. It's diverse and fully in tune with the arts. I love everything about it and would have a hard time leaving.
- It's a young community (especially with OSU being here) lots of activities aimed at this age group.
- You didn't ask about kids, that is the most important thing. It is cheap and good for kids.
- The city and developers are doing a lot to freshen places like the Short North and German Village up.
- I appreciate the ability to make a change in the community, the number of volunteer opportunities. I think Columbus has great potential it is striving towards but hasn't yet reached. I will always hate the label "young professional" - seems like a total wanker title or something, my life is about so much more than being the yuppie of the 2000s.
- Its a small city with very little traffic, but has most of the things you would find in a big city and has lots of young people
- It has the feeling of a small town in a large town setting. i can go places with my family and feel safe and see others that I know and enjoy being around
- My friends but I would probably move out of Columbus if I had the opportunity. I don't think that there is much diversity in the City.
- It's relaxed... a good hometown
- Variety of cultures, backgrounds and experiences of its residents
- The entertainment aspect of the city. There is normally always something to do.
- Live in a great community. East commute downtown.
- Columbus is more diverse and has more opportunities than my home town of Canton. I rarely find that I'm "bored" and have nothing to do.
- Columbus is a very welcoming city that receives all lifestyles
- I appreciate the variety of things to do.
- The abundant opportunities and potential greased by organizations and local government that support it.
- Many diverse options for social activities: arts, entertainment, sports, restaurants, etc.
- My job. I like my job. But Columbus needs1. public transportation that is cheap, convenient and fast and that goes to the suburbs. 2. a vibrant living downtown. Don't get me wrong. I appreciate the strides that the city has taken in recent years, but we need a grocery store that sells milk, bread,

vegetables, meet and beer and wine and a restaurant, coffee shop, or breakfast joint that's open on Sat. and Sun. Not that I don't love Tip Top but some variety would be lovely. (The recent events held downtown have been wonderful - Wexner Centers movie on the State House Lawn is excellent, so was the CAPA movie series, the kickball and the summer concerts by San Fran Oven - all exceptional) 3. the development of safe affordable housing that could replace the apartment complex on Long St. across from the YMCA.

- Low cost of living at a premium quality, which enables frequent travel and leisure opportunities.
- I moved to Columbus from New York City and really appreciate that Columbus has a strong GLBT community and a growing arts community. The Short North is a fantastic example of the kind of neighborhood that supports cultural activities and civic programs that draw a wide range of people from across Columbus and beyond. I would love to see more support for the arts and alternative and sustainable lifestyles, like bike commuting, recycling, community engagement projects, etc. Columbus has so much potential to become the next Austin or Portland -- keep up this important work!!
- What I most appreciate about Columbus is that it is a nice place, to live, work and play.
- The diversity of cultures.
- The people. I have traveled the country and parts of the world, there is nothing like mid-west hospitality. Our community cares.
- It is a large city with everything that has to offer but still feels like a small town in some ways. You don't get lost in the numbers here. You can really make a difference.
- It is a new and clean city. The suburbs are a great place to raise a family.
- It's mindset of growth and change
- Appreciate the diversity, educational opportunities and the community/neighborhood "feel". Needs improvement: water fountains on the Olentangy Bike Trail! At least at the Trail Heads, Antrim Lake, OSU -come on, help us runners/bikers out!
- I like that there are a large number of events that are continuously occurring around the city where I can interact with new groups of people and involve my existing circles of friends.
- The city has made some major improvements in the last 15 years. There are a lot of things to do no matter your interests. It's not so big that you feel like you get "lost" but it's still a city. I think we do a good job competing against posh cities like Chicago and Boston because of the improvements on night life and shopping.
- You have downtown and city living without the annoyances of a "big" city. You get to enjoy the bars, restaurants and events that a big city would have to offer and get to be close to it without giving up some of the advantages of the 'burbs.
- I appreciate the lack of traffic, the availability of events and the cost effectiveness of this city. I would love to see better area's for parking downtown and especially in the short north.
- It is a big city with a hometown feel to it.
- I appreciate that Columbus is a growing and evolving city. They are constantly making improvements and additions that will benefit me now and well into the future.
- Safe community, ideal to raise children, diversity in people and openness / tolerance to differing views, wide variety of recreational activities (e.g. sporting events, plays, libraries, parks, etc.)
- Clean environment; downtown improvements, potential to be a great city
- The size, and diverse population.
- That Columbus is open to people that did not grow up here because most people were not raised here. That is not the case in Cincinnati and Cleveland where you can be treated as an "outsider."
- Columbus is a comfortable place to live. If you are not from here it is very inviting and welcoming. It has the glamour of a big city but the feel of a small town.
- I appreciate how Columbus , as a whole, has welcomed me. I do feel that Columbus is doing great things for it's communities, but I still need to figure out how I fit in. I also need to find out how I can make a difference and assist in improving our home.
- Columbus is an undiscovered goldmine of opportunities --- the people of this city are doing great things... you just have to get out there and meet them. I didn't truly appreciate Columbus until I moved away (went away for school and kept going). Upon returning 5 years ago, I discovered a rich arts community and through it, a city that is constantly evolving. There is always something to do in Columbus. From arts to sports to nightlife to philanthropy --- Columbus is constantly engaging its citizens. And lately, it's nice to see the people return the favor.

- People are friendly. It is a great place to raise a family. Life is easy - affordable lifestyle, minimal traffic, good nightlife, sporting events.
- good quality of life in a reasonably priced area
- It is easy to have a business here as opposed to other cities where the barriers of entry are much higher. The core population is open minded, creative and community oriented.
- I appreciate the diversity (Multicultural) of the city. The ability to go to limited attractions such as concerts and the theater. The reasonable cost of living. There is one thing about Columbus that I've noticed that other major cities have that is lacking here; and that is better public transportation. Such as a subway or train transit. It is almost imperative for residents of Columbus to have a car. How much traffic would be cut down during rush hour if there were some other type of mass transportation other than the COTA.
- Cultural diversity, city life, parks and recreation, arts, and youthfulness of the city. It's generally safe and very clean. The revitalization of downtown is also exciting and attractive.
- I appreciate the convenience of activities within a short distance
- I appreciate the opportunities that have been afforded to me by living in Columbus.
- affordable
- The cost of living is comparable to where I lived before, so the sticker shock wasn't too bad when I moved here.
- Columbus is the perfect blend of a fortune 500 business climate and a college town. Combine this with its inviting neighborhoods, sports crazy mentality, diverse culture, great art, science, and educational institutions, and Columbus is the perfect city to raise a family...
- It's an easy city to make a big name for yourself (and/or your company) in a short amount of time.
- I really like how convenient everything is by driving (nothing is more than 15-20 minutes away), although a stronger system of public transportation would be a great improvement.
- It is easy to get around (although walking paths are often difficult), low cost of living, welcoming, and fun
- Columbus is a great place to raise a family, very accepting of a diverse population and affordable to live...I do wish there were more venues to meet other single people my age though.
- What I love most about Columbus is the small town personal interaction I get between people, but with a smattering of big city amenities. It's not really all one or the other, it's a little bit of both, which means it's a place I can feel comfortable, get along with people who I don't know, and do more than drink on the porch and play board games, and it means I will see the people I do know more often and get to know them better. Columbus is a place for chance encounters, if you want them, or hiding among the commotion. It's a city of choices. Some might argue that choice is the equivalent to "American". Therefore, Columbus is an all American city.
- Everything from downtown is 15 to 20 minutes away, low gas, and affordable housing in good neighborhoods (summary - good standard of living). Entertainment options are endless and appeal to everyone.
- I appreciate the cost of living.
- It's an easy place to live, with great cultural, arts, entertainment, dining and other things to do. And things are accessible and affordable so you can take advantage of all those things.
- It is accessible - easy to get around and not too hard to figure out what is going on. People are generally friendly and helpful.
- I enjoy that it is an up and coming city and everything is new or newly built. There are great job opportunities here with a lot of corporate home offices within the city of Columbus. It's a good place to potentially raise a family with good schools.
- It's my hometown and I'm proud of it!
- It is user-friendly, easy to navigate getting from one place to another. Big city and small town feel at the same time, a lot of activities, friendly, civic-minded people.
- availability of recreational activities: Love biking, hiking
- My wife and I moved here from LA because we thought we could have a voice in retail here that we would not be able to develop there. We have had some tremendous ups and downs in the past two years. I still feel like there is a huge road block in the "good old boys" of Columbus. We almost went under for daring to try and enforce the parking situation in our old location. We eventually had to risk

a tremendous amount of money and move, also making several powerful enemies in our neighborhood on account of it. We were even told by your organization not to join, that the chamber could not do anything for a company of our size. My uncle has been the head of several chambers and was shocked by that. I still believe in Columbus. I believe in the entrepreneur's ability to change his community. We recently purchased a house in Westgate and are working to develop an investment strategy to get a coffee shop in the area. Eventually we will probably do something on that side of town as well. I think Columbus is a special place, but it needs to start appreciating ideas and the people that have them more. The YP focus in this town is too heavy on corporate jobs. I am not opposed to corporate jobs, so don't try and peg me as some anti-establishment guy. I am as pro big business as they come. My point is, I feel we cannot establish more of an identity and get more people to lay down roots here because we give too much attention to people that Columbus was only meant to be a run on the ladder for. I think the best thing about Columbus, for someone like myself, is how penetrable a market it is. Retail is a tough gig in most cities. We're turning a profit within two years in a bad economy, which is pretty unheard of. The market is so attainable and ripe for change, now is the time to get other people who want to capitalize on it.

- I moved from Columbus to Ft. Myers, FL about two years ago due to a job offer. After two years, I realized I was not happy and began to re-prioritize. When I knew I needed to move closer to my family (in Northwest Ohio), I knew I was moving back to Columbus. I truly didn't appreciate the city for all it has to offer until I moved away. I have much more appreciation for the arts and culture communities in Columbus, as well as all of the entertainment opportunities in the city. What I most appreciate about the city is how there is something for everyone - from a six-year-old child to a single twenty-something to a married couple in their 60's.
- Lifestyle, laid back attitude. Growing city where the opportunity to create real change exists.
- I appreciate the diversity in our leadership.
- The fact that we have many non-chain restaurants that are excellent.
- stable jobs, good cost of living
- Columbus is cosmopolitan and friendly with a strong arts community and interesting chefs and restaurants. Anything that can be done to make it easier for people to connect both socially and professionally, would be good. And yes, more affordable housing geared at young professionals.
- In comparison to other cities in the state of Ohio I think it is still very much an up and coming city. I think tolerance and diversity is making Columbus a very attractive destination and community where people want to visit and live. I have really enjoyed growing up here and I hope to continue to live here for a very long time.
- I appreciate the diversity in Columbus. I also think that, by-and-large, Columbus is a very generous community and supports those that are in need. It is also very easy to access elected officials and to let your voice be heard.
- The quality and diversity of life is well balanced as it provides leisure opportunities, good schools, diverse perspectives and a city that did not grow up with significant heavy industry. This gives us a city that doesn't have bad traffic nor significant pollution given its size.
- Its Potential.
- Great place to raise a family; easy to get around; lots to do
- Columbus to me means a network of close friends from college, coupled with the opportunity of meeting new and diverse people in the professional world. I also appreciate that I live in a neighborhood close to downtown where my neighbors include an array of ages, ethnic backgrounds, income levels and interests. I take pride in the fact that on one Saturday you can wear scarlet and gray, and the next you can see a one-of-a-kind Andy Warhol Exhibit. I value our multi-use trail systems, that allow me to get to and from a destination, or simply enjoy the greenways on a beautiful day. I have lived in Columbus for almost 7 years now and haven't got bored yet--there are endless possibilities to experience whatever it is I'm in the mood for. I am proud to say I'm from Columbus, Ohio.
- The fact that it is easy to get involved in community activities.
- I can't explain this though in full but Columbus has a feeling of "Home".
- Most? The people. Also, Columbus is a welcoming community with a high quality of life and low cost of living. There is a great independent arts scene here and I can afford to live in a thriving and vibrant downtown neighborhood. It is easy to get involved in the community and support causes in a way I

know makes a difference. I do wish we would stop apologizing for being who we are (a mid-size Midwestern city without an ocean and mountain range - yeah we know) and stop comparing ourselves to other cities to try to define ourselves (please Experience Columbus... we can do better).

- Overall a safe and friendly city
- Small city feel, big city opportunities
- I love that it is turning into a big city but still has the small town feel. It is very modern but still have some old-fashioned values. There is a wide variety of people in Columbus, and it feels as if you can do anything you put your mind to in Columbus. There is a wide variety of opportunity here.
- I appreciate that there is usually always something to do in Columbus. If you want to do something different, it's fairly easy to take a day trip to another city and flights are relatively inexpensive.
- I like the fact that it is a progressive city, and is going somewhere in comparison to the rest of Ohio. However, the reality is Columbus is not doing that much better in comparison to the rest of the country. The only way Columbus is truly going to grow is if the mayor's office does a better job of attracting new businesses to Columbus. And the street-car idea is the most stupid thing I have ever heard of in my life. Penalizing season ticket holders of the Blue Jackets in order to build trollies is idiotic and shows just how much the city continues to follow the lead of other cities without thinking or what Columbus can do to lead. Without the hockey team, there would be no reason for streetcars.
- comfortable Lifestyle
- That it's so close to so many other places to visit.
- First and foremost, the open and affirming nature of the city (as a whole)... as well as it's proximity to OSU.
- this is an entertaining, young, diverse city. i really do enjoy it. i feel like there are diverse people and opinions in the city. i wish there were more job opportunities however.
- I appreciate the opportunities that exist in Columbus and the vibrancy of our community.
- It's home
- Affordable quality of life and openness
- It's home.
- The cost of living
- I don't really appreciate Columbus too much. If I could find a job elsewhere, I would leave.
- All the conveniences and luxuries of a big city, without the traffic and expenses.
- I appreciate that I live in a big city but still feel that I am able to make a difference.