

Yellow Springs Economy Survey

Q7 In what ways is the Yellow Springs economy NOT "healthy?"

Answered: 179 Skipped: 102

| # | Responses | Date |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Losing major businesses, not attracting new ones, naive views on economics and the realities of costs of govt. services are in the majority, fantasy that we will get money by having artists and empty land | 5/11/2014 10:08 AM |
| 2 | We are told we need to replace our lost industries for a tax base. I find that the cost of houses has driven a lot of blue collar workers, artists, musicians, small business owners, and young folks who grew up here to have to locate elsewhere, and many were the heart of the community. It could almost be seen as gentrification, based on what I knew in the 70's. To me, that is not healthy at all. | 5/11/2014 2:26 AM |
| 3 | There seems to be a lack of jobs that will provide a living wage | 5/10/2014 10:36 PM |
| 4 | Its hard for new shops/businesses to move in...the town is 'cliquey' and hard for new businesses to thrive. There are not enough jobs in the town other than retail. | 5/10/2014 9:25 PM |
| 5 | We have lost employment opportunities within the village | 5/10/2014 1:48 PM |
| 6 | Lots of low-skilled workers competing for low-paying retail and service jobs. Loss of major employers (Vemay, Antioch Publishing) that have not been replaced. Antioch Univ. and the new Antioch College in precarious condition. | 5/10/2014 12:43 PM |
| 7 | We as residents don't support our local businesses as much as we need too. This is especially true if we are trying to move away from tourism. The importance of this center meeting place is vital to the appeal and success of our village. If the tourist stop coming on the beautiful days, how will these business stay open. What will replace them with? I cannot fathom what downtown would be like with out them so we must figure out how to keep the heartbeat of our town center going. Nothing is more saddening and repelling than a village with a town center that is depressed, vacant and crumbling. | 5/10/2014 11:09 AM |
| 8 | limited variety of housing - some employed still cannot live here | 5/10/2014 11:05 AM |
| 9 | I don't know for sure that it's unhealthy. | 5/10/2014 10:39 AM |
| 10 | More expensive taxes than neighboring communities, but I'm not sure that a significant problem. We are not particularly friendly to "outsiders". There are outspoken folks in YS who convey an attitude that anyone with a capitalist dream is the enemy. Who would want to start an enterprise in an expensive place where they are seen as the enemy? | 5/10/2014 9:10 AM |
| 11 | Need more diversity within the population, larger school population, Too many very small privately owned shops that require shopkeepers to work 7 days a week, | 5/10/2014 9:03 AM |
| 12 | loss of manufacturing and other similar industry, need more business tax base less burden on the people of the community | 5/10/2014 8:54 AM |
| 13 | Very few jobs that are not minimum wage. | 5/10/2014 8:38 AM |
| 14 | Lack of corporation cornerstone businesses, to up the tax base | 5/10/2014 8:35 AM |
| 15 | My wife's company had to leave to Fairborn because they could not find affordable space to grow. | 5/10/2014 7:24 AM |
| 16 | Not enough "living wage" jobs | 5/10/2014 6:53 AM |
| 17 | One guy pretty much controls the real estate downtown. This needs to be broken up. Yeah, I know... rights, etc. But, really? | 5/10/2014 1:42 AM |
| 18 | The jobs in the village are mostly service-type, which usually are not high paying jobs. | 5/9/2014 11:33 PM |
| 19 | It has not completed development of the CBE. The Vemay "brown" property is not open yet for anything. No new business has come to town except Enviroflight and that keeps being featured in the YS News over and over and over, | 5/9/2014 9:34 PM |
| 20 | Very few living wage jobs within the Village, particularly in the private sector. | 5/9/2014 9:15 PM |

Yellow Springs Economy Survey

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| 21 | It relies too much on tourism activities which is not diverse and pays poorly. How many jobs are available in town for people who hold college degrees (let alone advanced degrees) and have families to support? Very few. | 5/9/2014 8:54 PM |
| 22 | Limited employment in the Village, especially in terms of jobs which have good benefits | 5/9/2014 7:17 PM |
| 23 | over priced | 5/9/2014 7:01 PM |
| 24 | All the alcohol in town is not healthy. | 5/9/2014 5:48 PM |
| 25 | Need more medium sized businesses for jobs and tax revenue. Need better infrastructure for public works- be decisive and make a commitment on water supply. It could be tangible asset to recruiting businesses. | 5/9/2014 5:41 PM |
| 26 | It is not healthy in that we don't seem to offer jobs that pay a good living wage. We just don't have those kinds of enterprises - those have mostly left the village, except for Xylem and Morris Bean. | 5/9/2014 5:07 PM |
| 27 | Not sure. | 5/9/2014 5:02 PM |
| 28 | We do not seem to have jobs for the 20 and 30 year old demographics. We need jobs that will attract and keep young people and young families in the village. | 5/9/2014 4:55 PM |
| 29 | Although there are many small establishments do thrive; there is a need for employment of local area residents in larger establishments. This would assist in bringing back some of the employment base lost when Vernay Labs & Antioch Publishing closed, or moved out of town. | 5/9/2014 4:53 PM |
| 30 | Over dependance on Tourism. | 5/9/2014 4:50 PM |
| 31 | Tax receipts are insufficient to balance the budget. Water plant must be fixed, a bond issue will be needed and water rates must double. Council fears raising income taxes. | 5/9/2014 4:39 PM |
| 32 | Does not have many larger business organizations of any variety. | 5/9/2014 4:34 PM |
| 33 | Everything except tourism | 5/9/2014 4:30 PM |
| 34 | We are losing population. Median age is getting higher. Jobs are scarce. Demographics is changing - older, poorer, less diverse. Income is not in keeping with needs of many. Housing is too expensive. | 5/9/2014 4:00 PM |
| 35 | We don't have enough larger businesses to support our tax and utility base. | 5/9/2014 3:35 PM |
| 36 | Not a lot of high paying jobs in YS, although as a percentage of population maybe it is closer to good than I realize. | 5/9/2014 2:49 PM |
| 37 | YS is not friendly to industry | 5/9/2014 2:33 PM |
| 38 | Most wages are too low. | 5/9/2014 2:32 PM |
| 39 | Unknown. | 5/9/2014 2:22 PM |
| 40 | I can't afford to live here. My wife and I live with my parents. If it were not for them, we could not have our own home. I grew up here; most of my friends have moved away because they cannot afford a home the way our parents did 30 years ago. | 5/9/2014 2:14 PM |
| 41 | Home prices out of reach for average worker. | 5/9/2014 2:03 PM |
| 42 | Too many businesses have left and not been replaced. | 5/9/2014 2:00 PM |
| 43 | Lack of industry such as Vernays, Antioch Publishing and Creative Memories. Lack of a nice hotel and moderately priced dining. It appears that restaurants want to be high-end to a degree. | 5/9/2014 1:49 PM |
| 44 | Development directed by realtors and others whose homes and price appeal to a upper middle class, less diverse, less steeped in the ethos of the village purchasers. | 5/9/2014 1:46 PM |
| 45 | YS seems to perceive itself as superior and/or more innovative than other communities, which can make us unteachable and slow to recognize needed changes. Our tendency to overestimate our contributions to the area and to rest on our perceived laurels is causing us to lag behind in education and community development. YS can have an adolescent mindset...all rights and no responsibility...overestimating our contributions...wanting to have our cake and eat it too. A lot of talk, but little action. | 5/9/2014 1:35 PM |
| 46 | Housing prices expensive | 5/9/2014 1:30 PM |

Yellow Springs Economy Survey

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| 47 | Overall attitude of villagers is a major turn off "if you're not exactly like us then you're against us" also if shop owners treated their stores as actual businesses instead of over priced hobbies that might help. | 5/9/2014 1:24 PM |
| 48 | There are not enough good paying job opportunities here and not enough affordable business spaces. | 5/9/2014 1:24 PM |
| 49 | Many residents that resolve to work in town (whether or not they are degreed individuals) have to juggle multiple jobs to be able to afford to live here. This ultimately puts stress on the individuals and their family (spouses, children) or in their domestic situations. | 5/9/2014 1:17 PM |
| 50 | We have too many gift shops and novelty shops that don't staff many locals, stocking goods that are of little use to the local community. Tourism is good, but tourists really come here for the atmosphere, not the kitsch. That atmosphere suffers when we lose innovative local businesses like Norah's or Main Squeeze. | 5/9/2014 1:00 PM |
| 51 | few viable businesses; not a diversified community; | 5/9/2014 12:58 PM |
| 52 | Not enough diversity regarding types of business. We have restricted ourselves into craft goods and unhealthy food | 5/9/2014 12:52 PM |
| 53 | Stuff costs more in YS (groceries particularly). | 5/9/2014 12:41 PM |
| 54 | Most of the jobs available in town are low paying retail and service jobs. We don't have enough "knowledge economy" jobs. Too much has spent on things like the CBE. | 5/9/2014 12:32 PM |
| 55 | I personally do not think the yellow springs is unhealthy. | 5/9/2014 12:25 PM |
| 56 | Similar to most small towns in that there aren't all that many jobs available for certain backgrounds with necessary pay ranges. | 5/9/2014 12:24 PM |
| 57 | Large employers are in decline. No new large employers to replace them. | 5/9/2014 12:21 PM |
| 58 | Too tourist oriented. Too many "consultants" and major money spent on "visioning" . Council oriented to tourist activities, hiring someone else to do the job they are supposed to do. Council sent major industries packing. Small business project behind Antioch Midwest is a joke. Xenia did one of those. Still vacant years later. Council giving away green space land to "affordable housing" PRIVATE enterprise. Council has members that are chamber of comerace and part of "affordable" housing. CONFLICT OF INTEREST!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! | 5/9/2014 12:05 PM |
| 59 | Does not have jobs that provide living wages and adequate tax base | 5/9/2014 12:03 PM |
| 60 | Reliance on tourism as a major source of income. | 5/9/2014 12:02 PM |
| 61 | The retail business's are shaky in that the customers are not ALWAYS there to buy. Tourists are flighty and may choose to browse but not shop due to shoddy retail infrastructure that has been largely neglected. There are high taxes for those who work in town and the council is totally focused on attracting a large corp to bring tax dollar back. They miss the fact that the most healthy growing part of the economy is the small business with small business ideas that have a strong need for space- either industrial or other that they can incubate and grow in. Those are "easy" to create space for micro business relative to big business which would not pay taxes anyway. | 5/9/2014 11:58 AM |
| 62 | It is doing too many things for too many people in too many ways for not enough money. | 5/9/2014 11:55 AM |
| 63 | Many jobs are minimum wage service jobs. | 5/9/2014 11:51 AM |
| 64 | We anticipate rising costs with water service, but by how much remains unknown. Antioch College and Antioch University Midwest are both fairly unstable. | 5/9/2014 11:47 AM |
| 65 | There are few jobs other than retail. | 5/9/2014 11:39 AM |
| 66 | No comment | 5/9/2014 11:35 AM |
| 67 | The hardware store is dying. Antioch University is shrinking. | 5/9/2014 11:33 AM |
| 68 | I think some businesses would thrive if the population of our village would grow to reach somewhere around 7000 people. | 5/9/2014 11:31 AM |
| 69 | Vernay and Antioch Publishing failed not only financially, but ethically, and they were homegrown / incubated "with our values". Morris Bean may be the next shocking disappointment. The Center for Business and Education 'Hail Mary' to protect the now-failing 'flagship' of AU, was of questionable wisdom at the time, and that seems unlikely to change. | 5/9/2014 11:25 AM |

Yellow Springs Economy Survey

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| 70 | ? | 5/9/2014 11:06 AM |
| 71 | The village (citizens and council) has failed to attract replacement industries for the ones who have left. The village (citizens and council) has not consistently promoted development plans which would support economic growth. | 5/9/2014 10:47 AM |
| 72 | Alot of businesses seem to fail or are currently struggling. We lost Chens, No Common Scents had to go to mail order, not much survives at the old KFC. I'm told by friends who own stores that high rent and lack of maintenance is part of the problem. We seem to have this strong desire to have unique shops, but yet there's wavering support for the owners, and high prices of the products (possibly due to the high rent) that makes most townies shop outside of town. | 5/9/2014 10:47 AM |
| 73 | Local business pay barely a living wage; local jobs are saved for the locals accepted; tourists are criticized continuously; the housing market doesn't coincide with the wages/ jobs offered. | 5/9/2014 10:47 AM |
| 74 | See #6. YS is insular!!! The attitude of the rich 99.9% of the residents is "I've got mine, you get yours." Folks have absolutely no idea what it's like to work at a job for 16 years & only make \$11.71 with NO opportunity for advancement or raises. | 5/9/2014 10:46 AM |
| 75 | Lack of employment options in the local market. | 5/9/2014 10:46 AM |
| 76 | Lack of a plan from Village leadership to supplement the tax burden on residents with tax income from (future) new and expanding non-retail businesses. | 5/9/2014 9:33 AM |
| 77 | Not enough business. Not enough younger people | 5/9/2014 9:07 AM |
| 78 | No longer have major employers i.e. Vernet, Kettering, Fels, YSI, contributing to tax base | 5/8/2014 11:37 PM |
| 79 | Many of those good jobs are being filled by non-residents | 5/8/2014 10:41 PM |
| 80 | Too many people piece-mealing their jobs together to stay living in this community... 3 jobs at once. I like the creativity involved in order to make this happen, but it's hard on people. | 5/8/2014 10:39 PM |
| 81 | Some people think local shops are too expensive and prefer big box stores | 5/8/2014 10:34 PM |
| 82 | More business friendly decisions from leaders. | 5/8/2014 10:15 PM |
| 83 | Workers are not paid a living wage so that they can live in Yellow Springs. | 5/8/2014 9:26 PM |
| 84 | Taxes very high for residents . | 5/8/2014 9:19 PM |
| 85 | We rely heavily on the tourist industry and that does not provide living-wage employment jobs. | 5/8/2014 4:39 PM |
| 86 | Very limited professional opportunities. The community is small and there can only be so many job opportunities. | 5/8/2014 4:00 PM |
| 87 | We are becoming a service based economy which typically are low-wage jobs without benefits. We haven't replaced are big employers who have left. And Antioch College, a large employer, is not yet stable and not paying great wages yet. | 5/8/2014 3:33 PM |
| 88 | Too much dependence on home owners for operational taxes. | 5/8/2014 3:07 PM |
| 89 | We could have more to offer besides your typical import stores. A nice co-op grocery would be good. More clothes besides kismet. | 5/8/2014 2:53 PM |
| 90 | Too many low-paying retail jobs with no professional growth for young people with families. | 5/8/2014 2:51 PM |
| 91 | Lack of alternative housing styles: duplex/townhome/condo | 5/8/2014 2:26 PM |
| 92 | Manufacturing companies have closed. Antioch U. M. is said to be faltering. Dependence on discretionary spending of tourists, which could be reduced. | 5/8/2014 2:16 PM |
| 93 | Low paying jobs far out weight professional/skilled job. | 5/8/2014 2:13 PM |
| 94 | Not many good wage jobs | 5/8/2014 2:13 PM |
| 95 | Too dependent on jobs outside of Yellow Springs. Low-income types of jobs. | 5/8/2014 1:33 PM |
| 96 | Not sure. Seems healthy and could be healthier by focusing on authentic beautification, embracing its territorial assets further (outdoor rec, shops, caring culture...). It's isolation hurts in terms of growing the population because I hear so often that people think it is too far away from things...isolated. We know it isn't. | 5/8/2014 1:27 PM |
| 97 | Relies fairly heavy on tourism | 5/8/2014 1:14 PM |

Yellow Springs Economy Survey

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| 98 | Losing jobs through industry loss. Retail rents downtown are too high, resulting in high tum-over. | 5/8/2014 1:07 PM |
| 99 | High property tax, high cost of housing, lack of jobs in town | 5/5/2014 2:01 PM |
| 100 | Seems the community itself is no longer as racially or economically diverse as in years past, its become "homogenized" over the years. The high expense to live here is pushing many of us out, and if we left town earlier in life, its now too expensive to try and move back. | 5/3/2014 12:25 PM |
| 101 | not diverse enough - it seems to be that wealthy people have more advantages here | 5/1/2014 10:14 PM |
| 102 | few local jobs and not in diverse sectors, mostly for service industry and not well-paid. For working families, housing is not affordable, and not in good shape. Decrease in socio-economic, cultural and racial diversity. Village needs to support small businesses and entrepreneurs to create incubators and models for sustainable, creative economies. Widen breadth and depth of funding opportunities, leverage larger state and national grants for multiple initiatives including affordable housing, creative entrepreneurship and small business development. | 5/1/2014 9:29 PM |
| 103 | Not enough jobs that can support the house hold in town. | 5/1/2014 9:24 PM |
| 104 | We are seeing some shops close doors because they cannot "make it" here. As much as we can, we need to support local businesses. It is easy enough to take or dollars to nearby Dayton, Springfield, Fairbom or etc. but we need to encourage local spending as much as possible. More jobs in Yellow Springs is another point that would make the YS economy thrive. Also offering a wider and relevant choice of majors at the two local colleges would help grow our economy. | 5/1/2014 9:22 PM |
| 105 | Lack of affordable housing/apartments. | 5/1/2014 1:11 PM |
| 106 | Not enough employment opportunities for younger adults or older adults; a degree of "small town" thinking and cliqueiness that gets in way of making best choices for the town's future. | 5/1/2014 10:31 AM |
| 107 | Taxes are outrageous. And what the hell do we get for them? Rents are exorbitant, and small businesses fail as a result. 3 restaurants in the old KFC in as many years?!? Come on! A sock store?!? Really? A shop that sells 5 cent candies by the piece? And we wonder why these places fail? Is the Chamber doing anything to discourage this nonsense??? | 4/30/2014 8:58 PM |
| 108 | too many businesses don't last taxes are ridiculous | 4/30/2014 8:56 PM |
| 109 | The neglect of major infrastructure is not healthy. Existing street and side walks are in need of repair. Also the fresh water distribution pipes are old. Of course, the water plant itself is not good right now. . | 4/30/2014 12:33 PM |
| 110 | not | 4/30/2014 12:07 PM |
| 111 | Normal people cannot afford to buy a home and live here due to high home values, high property taxes and the additional 1% School Income Tax. | 4/29/2014 11:54 PM |
| 112 | Expensive to live. Availability of Everyday items is limited | 4/29/2014 10:08 PM |
| 113 | No industry, no real medical nor professional office space available. | 4/29/2014 9:23 PM |
| 114 | There is not enough office space for new business | 4/29/2014 7:00 PM |
| 115 | Fewer good jobs in the village so people can support a family and live in the village. | 4/29/2014 4:58 PM |
| 116 | NO tax base | 4/29/2014 4:32 PM |
| 117 | Too many low wage jobs, poor collaboration with college | 4/29/2014 4:19 PM |
| 118 | Affordability of housing for people who already live here. | 4/29/2014 3:51 PM |
| 119 | For many people who live and work in the village, it is difficult to cobble together enough work to make ends meet. The gap between cost of living and pay/work makes living and working here difficult. Also, we are missing a few key components. One of our major attractions is the hiking around the village, but there is nowhere to buy that type of equipment. Where is the clothing for men and children? Those sorts of oversites keep us reliant on other economies to fill basic needs. Finally, I think we would be well served to promote green technology and uniquely made products as those are two things tourists have in mind when they visit Yellow Springs. We are known for being environmentally concious and and unique, so let's make our strengths stronger! | 4/29/2014 3:32 PM |
| 120 | many jobs pay slave wages | 4/29/2014 3:24 PM |

Yellow Springs Economy Survey

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| 121 | Most of the jobs available are part time and do not offer wages reasonable enough for people to survive or raise a family in town. Our economy is based on tourism which leaves few jobs for the population and instability in the economy. | 4/29/2014 3:06 PM |
| 122 | Too exclusive. | 4/29/2014 11:39 AM |
| 123 | Many small business owners can't afford to pay employees a living wage; a small area restricts business growth; opposition to the education business park makes investing in growth risky | 4/27/2014 5:13 PM |
| 124 | 1. Deficit spending especially when Council largesse goes to non-profits and squeaky wheels while basic service and infrastructure goes begging. 3. Council has regularly put hurdles in the way of the CBE. Stupid doggie in the manger! 2. The no-growth faction has damaged our reputation in the area and Council treats village businesses they don't like Millworks, and Antioch Midwest with disdain. | 4/27/2014 4:54 PM |
| 125 | There is no local banker who understands the needs of businesses and individual in the area. The policies outside banks bring into the Village do not account for the nature of the locality. The Credit Union is a good resource for individuals, but is not a full-service institution for businesses. The resources needed for a businesses and individuals are not in place. There are too many goods people need to buy out of town, or online. Once that money is flowing out of the Village for one item, people tend to buy most of the items they need when there at that sales location virtual or real. There are too few residents to support businesses that would be able to provide the variety of goods that would stem the flow of money outside the Village. The infrastructure in Yellow Springs is lacking. Electrical system is not robust. Limited broadband and wireless. There isn't an economic engine in Yellow Springs. Dependency upon tourism is fine, but even those who depend upon tourists for their living are lucky to break even and have severe cyclical dependencies. | 4/27/2014 1:45 PM |
| 126 | Very NOT healthy in regard to better paying jobs and NOT healthy in regard to income tax being collected | 4/27/2014 8:57 AM |
| 127 | Too many Service industry jobs...which is less tax revenue. | 4/27/2014 1:42 AM |
| 128 | No one else can afford to live here and actually thrive. Demographic keeps getting older and we are losing diversity. | 4/26/2014 6:43 PM |
| 129 | Cost of living. | 4/26/2014 4:16 PM |
| 130 | The entire downtown economy is dependent on slave wages | 4/26/2014 3:53 PM |
| 131 | Service employees make the tourist economy profitable yet they are paid low wages and expected to relocate if they cannot afford to live off their wages in town. | 4/26/2014 3:35 PM |
| 132 | There are very few professional jobs available. | 4/26/2014 1:42 PM |
| 133 | Lack of large employers, lack of manufacturing. | 4/26/2014 11:50 AM |
| 134 | The most frequented local businesses, aside from the grocery store and gas stations, are duplicates: coffee shops, Asian imports, jewelry stores, book stores. Some skilled trades, too, flood our local market. How many certified massage therapists live in town? How can any one business thrive in a town of 3,500 if each store must combat competition on two fronts? | 4/26/2014 10:58 AM |
| 135 | Refer to the vision document | 4/26/2014 8:16 AM |
| 136 | 1. The cost of living is becoming a very real issue for elders 2. A very aggressive repression of those who do not agree with the prevailing thinking (especially politically with candidates supported "en block") 3. A vocal, and often nasty, minority, making it difficult to have real and open dialogue 4. A lack of non-retail investments into the area 5. A forced non-growth attitude in housing (all kinds) and businesses (non-retail) 6. A lack of support for EVERY attempt to do development (CBE lately) | 4/26/2014 7:35 AM |
| 137 | Not enough jobs and really no variety of jobs! | 4/26/2014 6:21 AM |
| 138 | High rates of un-and-under-employment, low wages, few benefits, sky high rents. | 4/26/2014 12:06 AM |
| 139 | Cronyism, lack of good leadership from council. Need real jobs, not just service industry or artist jobs. | 4/25/2014 11:45 PM |
| 140 | Property taxes continue to escalate. An economy based solely on taxation limited homes is not healthy. | 4/25/2014 11:19 PM |
| 141 | Technological enterprises and federal installations not adequately accommodated. | 4/25/2014 10:40 PM |
| 142 | Too dependent on "the arts." | 4/25/2014 10:11 PM |

Yellow Springs Economy Survey

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| 143 | I am not informed enough on this topic. | 4/25/2014 9:08 PM |
| 144 | College and University struggling; recently lost manufacturing jobs have not been replaced; too many unsuccessful "artists" without real jobs. | 4/25/2014 7:53 PM |
| 145 | Yellow springs is not healthy, there are hardly any full time jobs, many people struggle with multiple jobs just to stay in the village we all love. But at the cost of life outside of 2-3 minimum wage (or below) jobs. | 4/25/2014 7:38 PM |
| 146 | Not enough living-wage jobs...Most jobs are unskilled/minimum wage...Much of the economic focus and movement seems to be around making YS more of a tourist destination, as opposed to a place where one could actually live and work. | 4/25/2014 7:32 PM |
| 147 | Jobs,Housing | 4/25/2014 7:24 PM |
| 148 | There are not enough well paying jobs in the village. And, there aren't enough restaurants. This community could easily support four to five more restaurants. | 4/25/2014 7:18 PM |
| 149 | Not enough understanding about what it takes to own and run a business, or businesses. Villagers are often more willing to spend big bucks out of town. | 4/25/2014 6:53 PM |
| 150 | Council wastes the village's money on Home Inc. projects and green space fund when it needs to fix its infrastructure. | 4/25/2014 6:46 PM |
| 151 | Too reliant on tourism, which is subject to the whims of the economy. | 4/25/2014 6:39 PM |
| 152 | We keep raising taxes and cost for a flat or shrinking tax base. | 4/25/2014 5:58 PM |
| 153 | Lack of corporate HQs and other businesses such as Vemay and Antioch bookplate. We need more labor-type jobs to accompany professional jobs. Also, 2-5 growing companies with employment needs. Also, we ought to be cognizant of the number of non-profits we have and how that impacts our tax base. | 4/25/2014 5:52 PM |
| 154 | A contentious atmosphere, loss of large employers, signs of drift towards a monoculture economy too reliant on day shoppers, deteriorating infrastructure, lack of cellphone coverage and high speed data are among the negatives. | 4/25/2014 5:48 PM |
| 155 | It's very limited. Outsiders face more judgment and challenge than encouragement and welcoming. It's also difficult to bring growth and change here. We're in our own bubble, which is great in many ways, but it's also caused boundaries that hurt us economically. | 4/25/2014 5:41 PM |
| 156 | Too few full time full-benefits opportunities for those who want to live and work in the same community. | 4/25/2014 5:41 PM |
| 157 | not enough affordable housing; not many attractive locations for vusiness expansion. | 4/25/2014 5:04 PM |
| 158 | The college and the university seem to be struggling. I don't see an engine of innovation which helps add more jobs year to year to the economy. | 4/25/2014 4:56 PM |
| 159 | It's not inclusive enough, there needs to be more small business incubation, and we need to have more affordable housing and jobs at all income levels. Too reliant on tourism. We also have infrastructure needs. | 4/25/2014 3:52 PM |
| 160 | Dependent upon tourism-- I don't mind this, but during the winter I think local businesses have some very tough months, which also leads to needing less staff, almost seasonal employment in some ways Level of pay-- most jobs in town, outside of the big 3 employers, are service / retail that do not keep up with the cost of living in town Low tax revenues-- affects school, funding of town projects Real estate prices-- so much more to live here, many who work in town seem priced out | 4/25/2014 3:28 PM |
| 161 | Lack of diversity in job opportunities which also equates to lack of diversity in local business. | 4/25/2014 2:58 PM |
| 162 | In adequate or expensive space for commercial expansion. High property tax. | 4/25/2014 2:44 PM |
| 163 | Lots of people move to town thinking they can live on much less than it costs to be here. People start businesses of all kinds with no business plans to speak of and no contingency funding. | 4/25/2014 2:05 PM |
| 164 | There are few employment opportunities for people living in Yellow Springs to earn a living wage-- one that will allow them to live in the community. | 4/25/2014 2:04 PM |

Yellow Springs Economy Survey

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| 165 | We have a great many folks in the service industry who find it difficult to make ends meet. Because of the lower wages of service jobs they provide less revenue to the tax base also. Having a broader array of entry level and trade professions would provide a wider array of opportunities for graduates and others and allow for a track to move up the professional and economic ladder. WE have a large number of retirees who can become financially stressed as our cost of living increases. Also because retirement income does not have income tax assessed, we need to rely on property tax more. | 4/25/2014 1:59 PM |
| 166 | Eroding tier 1 employment base, Upstart college with significant barriers in a changing academic environment less receptive to the value of private liberal arts education, further complicated by significant structural deficiencies in their capital assets, cultural mindset that is anti expansion in the community hurts economic growth and diversity by constraining competition | 4/25/2014 1:39 PM |
| 167 | Jobs here are low.paying and few and far between. | 4/25/2014 1:33 PM |
| 168 | Too much focus on the tourism industry. The tourists will come no matter what, it is more important to focus on the citizens and the lives they are living here. After all, that is what the tourists are really showing up to experience not just the shopping and food services. | 4/25/2014 1:22 PM |
| 169 | YS has increasingly become an economic monoculture, relying on tourism dollars which can fluctuate widely depending on the state of the nation's economic health | 4/25/2014 12:58 PM |
| 170 | We have a small amount of businesses that will not be able to support the long-term growth needed in village revenue, taxes are high for home owners, rent and housing prices are often too high to support economic diversity, there is a problem within the community that the status quo will keep us afloat (we need to think about smart growth and attracting industries that will support the village), we are not as diverse income-wise or people-in-general-wise as a small, inclusive community should be | 4/25/2014 12:07 PM |
| 171 | Not enough diversity in the economy. Downtown should not get all the attention (how many streetscape projects do we need). | 4/25/2014 12:06 PM |
| 172 | little incentive for locals to "shop local," as some basic needs can't be met by what is provided by village shops, most of which are specialty and geared toward tourists. | 4/25/2014 12:00 PM |
| 173 | There are people who want to force their agendas on the village. Examples: the CBE, the Barr Property. | 4/25/2014 11:57 AM |
| 174 | The majority of the entry level jobs in town are in the service industry. Due to the nature of the industry and our tourism-based economy, these jobs are too often low wage and seasonal. I don't believe it is the fault of the business owners as some have stated. They would pay more if they could. | 4/25/2014 11:51 AM |
| 175 | Housing is expensive for what you get. Rentals are on the high side. Big gap between the poor and the well off in town. Things within town are expensive, but I imagine that is the challenge. It cost a lot to run a shop, and we rely heavily on tourism. We are picky about what we will allow to be a business here, so we limit our options. Back on the housing point, the expense of buying run-down homes has to be a limiting factor here. When I came to town I thought the town looked pretty dumpy. I learned there was a lot more to the town than the run down looking downtown and housing, but some others might not. | 4/25/2014 11:45 AM |
| 176 | cost of living is high, lack of affordable housing, not enough rental housing, lack of living-wage employment, lack of employment opportunities with the ability to move up in a company. | 4/25/2014 11:44 AM |
| 177 | No living wage employment, or very little. And the people in those positions are not always residents. Tax base is not stable. | 4/25/2014 11:38 AM |
| 178 | few living-wage jobs available in town | 4/25/2014 11:37 AM |
| 179 | My position was recently eliminated. It's virtually impossible to find a job offering a living wage. Housing is expensive compared to the job opportunities available. | 4/25/2014 11:36 AM |