In 2018, Amazon and third-party marketplace vendors sold $189 billion of retail goods in the U.S. Since estimates say third-party sellers likely collect and remit only between 14 percent and 33 percent of potential sales taxes to state and local authorities, this resulted in $5.5 - $7 billion in uncollected sales taxes.

In 2018, Amazon’s third-party marketplace sales displaced the equivalent of...

- **62,410** storefronts
- **412 million** square feet of commercial space

Between 2014 and 2018, Amazon’s sales and operations accounted for a loss of more than $17 billion in sales tax revenue to state and local governments.

In 2018, Amazon achieved dominance over the book industry equivalent to Standard Oil’s share of the refined oil market just before it was broken up in 1911.*


Amazon received the benefits of local subsidies, tax breaks, road improvements, and other government considerations to build its distribution centers, notwithstanding the net loss in jobs, property taxes, and downtown vitality.

Amazon has cheapened the value of printed and electronic publishing, and dampened opportunities for new authors and diverse ideas, by discounting books to lower than wholesale price and bullying publishers and its marketplace sellers.

Amazon’s total sales and operations revenue have increased, meaning the above 2018 figures are likely to be understated.

For more information, visit indiebound.org/spotlightamazon.
For questions, email advocacy@bookweb.org.

Data source: Civic Economics, Prime Numbers: Amazon and American Communities, 2018