

HERE'S WHAT AMAZON JUST DID

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



In 2018, by avoiding sales tax and quashing the viability of local bricks-and-mortar retail, Amazon deprived thousands of communities of tax revenue necessary for **schools, roads, and police and fire safety**, as well as of **vibrant downtowns and main streets**.

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 produced a net loss of **700,000+** retail jobs nationwide



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.*

*Paul Krugman, "Amazon's Monopsony Is Not O.K." (New York Times, 2014)



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 **cheaped 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.

In our state, Amazon accounts for a sales tax gap of \$ _____ and the displacement of _____ square feet, which is the equivalent of

_____ **retail storefronts**

_____ **jobs**



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

