

Here's What Amazon Just Did:

- 1** In 2014, Amazon avoided paying \$625 million in much-needed local and state tax revenue in 23 states and Washington, D.C., all while selling \$44.1 billion worth of retail goods nationwide.
- 2** In 2014, Amazon's retail sales displaced the equivalent of more than 30,000 storefronts and 107 million square feet of commercial space, estimated to be worth \$420 million in property taxes for local and state governments.
- 3** In 2014, 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.
- 4** In 2014, Amazon operated 65 million square feet of distribution space, employing both full-time workers and part-time and seasonal workers, yet still, Amazon's dominance produced a net loss of 135,973 retail jobs nationwide.
- 5** In 2014, Amazon's sales and operations accounted for a loss of more than \$1 billion in revenue to state and local governments.
- 6** Amazon received the benefits of local grants, tax breaks, road improvements, and other government considerations to build its distribution centers, notwithstanding the net loss in jobs, property taxes, and downtown vitality.
- 7** 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.*
- 8** Amazon has cheapened the value of both 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.
- 9** Amazon isn't involved in the communities where most of its customers live.
- 10** In 2015, Amazon's total sales and operations revenue increased by 20%, meaning the above 2014 figures are likely to be grossly understated.

Where We Spend Shapes Where We Live—CHOOSE LOCAL



See more at
www.indiebound.org/spotlightamazon

Sources: Civic Economics, "Amazon and Empty Storefronts: The Fiscal and Land Use Impacts of Online Retail," 2016.
*Paul Krugman, "Amazon's Monopsony Is Not O.K." (*New York Times*, 2014)