

Position Points: Jobs

Pro-Amazon Position	CRED4GI Position
<p>Amazon will be good for workers in Western New York. There will be higher level jobs, management jobs that would pay higher salaries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amazon is headquartered in Seattle.• That's where its well-paid executives and tech workers live, and where it sources most of the other goods and services that it needs to operate.• Meanwhile, the cities and counties where Amazon locates its warehouses don't get any spin-off benefits from being in its orbit.• This contrasts sharply with a development strategy focused on growing local businesses, which inevitably source goods and services — such as printing, accounting, and design — in the immediate area, creating local supply chains that strengthen the regional economy and sustain a wide range of jobs. (Courtesy of the ILSR)

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<p>It's not just the jobs associated with Amazon, it's the spinoff jobs that result from it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amazon via Phillips Lytle & the MRB Group have stated the median wage will be \$32,640 for 1,000 workers.• They are basing an indirect benefit of 570 new jobs on workers with \$32,640 salaries spending 63% of their gross income in discretionary spending back into the economy to indirectly create 570 new jobs worth \$20,563,200 total. This is simply not feasible.• For every \$1 in wages paid by Amazon, warehouse workers receive an estimated \$0.24 in public assistance benefits. The average annual amount of public benefits per worker is \$5,245. (Courtesy of the Economic Round Table)

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<p>It's not just the jobs associated with Amazon, it's the spinoff jobs that result from it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• According to the Economic Policy Institute's 2018 study, Amazon fulfillment centers do not generate broad-based economic growth.• What this report finds: When Amazon opens a new fulfillment center, it gains roughly 30 percent more warehousing and storage jobs but no new net jobs overall, as the jobs created in warehousing and storage are likely offset by job losses in other industries.• Why it matters: State and local governments give away millions in tax abatements, credits, exemptions, and infrastructure assistance to lure Amazon warehouses but don't get a commensurate "return" on that investment.

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<p>Amazon warehouse jobs are good for the long-term growth of our community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amazon has stated publicly that they are committed to fully automating their warehouses.• Amazon actually destroys more jobs than it creates.• While local brick-and-mortar retailers employ 47 people for every \$10 million in sales, Amazon employs just 19 people per \$10 million in revenue.• This means that as Amazon grows and crowds out other businesses, the result is a net decrease in jobs. <p>(Courtesy of ILSR, based on US Census Data and Amazon's Annual Reports)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For every 1,000 Amazon jobs you lose 200 UPS/USPS jobs with good salaries and benefits through attrition or layoffs.• 14 percent of warehouse workers are below the U.S. poverty threshold and 31 percent are just above the poverty threshold. <p>(Courtesy of the Economic Round Table)</p>

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<p>Amazon warehouse jobs are good for the long term growth of our community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="800 358 1898 802">• The rate of serious injuries for Amazon Facilities was more than double the national average for the warehousing industry: 9.6 serious injuries per 100 full-time workers in 2018, compared with an industry average that year of 4, according to an Atlantic article in December of 2019.<li data-bbox="800 889 1898 1398">• A former Amazon senior safety manager said it's well known internally that the injury rates are too high, but there's no way Amazon will slow down. "It's not a conversation that can be had," the former manager said. "We're never going to fix safety at Amazon because we're never going to fix what the real issue is."

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“When and if it actually comes up to the Erie County Industrial Development Agency for a vote you will see that the program that has been agreed upon is no different than if it had been Perry’s Ice Cream.”
-Mark C. Poloncarz

CRED4GI Position

- Perry’s ice cream is a local company that pays taxes and employees around 250 employees with revenues of around \$112 million dollars.
- Amazon earned over 10 billion dollars in net income in 2018 compared with 3 billion the previous year and paid nothing in federal taxes in 2018. Amazon’s current valuation is over \$1 trillion.
- These two companies could not be any more different.

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<p>We know that Amazon is going to be around for decades and decades to come.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Olive Is an Amazon warehouse that handles “Small Sortable” products.• Another Amazon Small Sortable Facility was Coffeyville, Kansas and employed 1,000 workers.• 15 years after opening in 1999, the Coffeyville warehouse was closed in October of 2014, leaving 1,000 people jobless.• The owner of the warehouse filed for bankruptcy on April 13, 2016.• 15 years is the length of Amazon’s proposed lease and the length of its Payment in Lieu of Taxes benefits.• There are no guarantees for this building beyond that lease period and no provision to return the land to its prior state if the facility is abandoned.