

November 17, 2021

Dear Andy Jassy, Amazon President and CEO

As public health practitioners, we firmly believe that all people deserve a work environment in which their health and safety are valued and protected. The unsafe working conditions at Amazon are causing debilitating [injuries](#) to workers' backs, limbs, joints, and mental health. According to Amazon's own records, [warehouse workers are injured at double the average rate](#) of the general warehousing industry and triple the average rate across all private employers. Warehouses that use automated technologies are even more dangerous for workers, with [50% higher rates](#) of serious injuries in warehouses with robots than in ones without.

A recent study from Human Impact Partners on the [health impacts of pace of work and quotas](#) for Amazon warehouse workers and delivery drivers in California found that the inhuman pace of work at Amazon, coupled with the constant surveillance of workers, is taking a heavy toll on the physical health and mental well-being of both warehouse workers and delivery drivers.

With the 2021 holiday season ramping up, Amazon's expansion of [Black Friday](#) into a two-month event, and the recent announcements that Amazon is [hiring 150,000 new temporary](#) seasonal workers along with [125,000 warehouse and transportation](#) workers, **creating better working conditions for warehouse workers and delivery drivers has never been more important.** In the past, injuries among Amazon workers increased dramatically during "peak times" like the holiday season and Amazon's Prime Day. In 2018, Cyber Monday, the Monday after Black Friday, was one of two periods with [the most injuries during the year](#).

As public health practitioners, we **demand better health and safety protections for warehouse workers and delivery drivers. We urge Amazon to immediately implement the following actions to prevent injuries:**

1. Prohibit inhumane and hazardous production standards at Amazon and throughout the warehouse industry
2. Prohibit continuous surveillance that is used to track, discipline, and fire workers
3. Ensure working conditions are within an ergonomic framework
4. Implement stronger COVID-19 precautions at all Amazon warehouses and for subcontracted delivery drivers, including unlimited time for hand washing, proper and regular sanitizing of workstations, and accessible restrooms for drivers

Companies like Amazon have the power to set the standard for working conditions across the country. We are asking you to do more to ensure the health and safety of your workers.

Sincerely,

*The undersigned public health practitioners and organizations*

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Worksafe  
Berkeley Media Studies Group  
Collaborative for Health Equity Cook County  
SOPHE Midwest  
Montgomery County Department of Health  
Reproductive Health Access Project  
Campaigning Group for Social Equity  
Communities of Solution  
Hispanic Health Council  
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