

DOCUMENT 1

Robots on the rise as Americans experience record job losses amid pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic has left millions of Americans unemployed – including many in the hospitality industry, which has seen a rise in the adoption of new tech. While
5 people have had a hard time in the coronavirus pandemic, robots are having a moment. And as humans are experiencing record job losses and economic uncertainty, robots have become a hot commodity. They can check you in, deliver orange juice to your hotel room and pack up thousands of subscription boxes. And, perhaps most importantly, they are completely immune to Covid-19. While an
10 increase in automation can be good for educated workers and help to stimulate the economy, studies have also shown that new technology tends to leave low-wage workers behind. “Automation has been a major driver in the increase in inequality,” said Daron Acemoglu, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Low-wageworkers are not only more susceptible to job loss and wage depression
15 due to automation, but they also experienced the most job losses due to shutdowns.

By Lauren Aratani

<https://www.theguardian.com/>

November 27, 2020

DOCUMENT 2

The robot revolution has arrived

If you're like most people, you've probably never met a robot. But you will. Already, in
20 2020, robots take inventory and clean floors in Walmart. They shelf goods and
fetch them for mailing in warehouses. They help autistic children socialize and stroke
victims regain the use of their limbs. They patrol borders and, in the case of Israel's
Harop drone, attack targets they deem hostile. Robots arrange flowers, perform
religious ceremonies, do stand-up comedy, and serve as sexual partners. And that
25 was before the COVID-19 pandemic. Suddenly, replacing people with robots—an
idea majorities of people around the world dislike, according to polls—looks medically
wise, if not essential. The pandemic has made more people realize that automation is
going to be a part of work. The workplace of the near future “will be an ecosystem of
humans and robots working together to maximize efficiency,” said Ahti Heinla, co-
30 founder of the Skype internet-call platform.

By David Berreby

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com>

August 18, 2020

DOCUMENT 3



35 ANYmal, a robot that can climb stairs, step delicately over debris, or crawl through
tight spaces. Source : National geographic