

170,000 UK manufacturing jobs lost during pandemic



Race to net zero could revolutionise UK manufacturing – but Ministers let the jobs disappear overseas

The UK lost 170,000 manufacturing jobs during the pandemic, GMB analysis shows.

The damning statistics are revealed alongside GMB's Annual Congress, which takes place in Harrogate today [June 13, 2022].

They show 170,400 jobs in the sector disappeared between 2019 and 2021, a fall of almost 6 per cent in just two years. [1]



In 2019, the UK supported 2.9 million permanent and temporary manufacturing jobs

By the start of this year, the had fallen to 2.7 million.

Every region and nation in the UK has experienced a decline in manufacturing employment



building

The worst affected region by total job losses – the East Midlands – lost more than 31,000 manufacturing jobs. This was a loss of one in ten manufacturing jobs in the region.

Charlotte Childs, GMB National Officer, said:

“Almost 200,000 jobs manufacturing jobs lost during the pandemic is devastating for communities.

“Unless Ministers address this urgently there could be worse to come.

“The race to net zero could revolutionise UK manufacturing; tens of thousands of new, green jobs in wind, solar, nuclear, and more.

“Instead, this Government seems determined to let them all disappear overseas.”

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