



Shock figures show 150,000 UK steel jobs gone

23 May 2019

The UK has hemorrhaged more than 150,000 steel jobs – 80 per cent of the industry’s former workforce – even before the collapse of British Steel

In 1981 the industry employed 186,000 people, down to just 32,000 in 2017.

Yorkshire and the Humber was the worst hit region with 40,000 jobs, followed by the West Midlands with 25,800.

	Great Britain
1981	186,000
2017	32,000
Change (n)	-154,000
Change (%)	-83%

"The decline of the UK's steel industry is devastating to see.

Ross Murdoch, GMB National Officer, said:Yesterday British Steel, the UK's second biggest steel company, collapsed putting a further 5,000 steel jobs at risk.

"Consecutive UK governments have failed to protect our proud steel heritage, and now Theresa May is overseeing its demise.

“ Ministers must be prepared to make use of all the options – including nationalisation – in order to save British Steel and the wider steel industry.
pic.twitter.com/gmkmKV0N6s

— GMB UNION (@GMB_union) May 22, 2019

“Ministers must be prepared to make use of all the options – including nationalisation – in order to save our steel industry.

"We need a genuine commitment to manufacturing in the UK which focuses on investment in infrastructure and improvements to technology and training.

"It's time the Government took its hands out of their pockets and stood up for steel."

