

The Changing Economic World: Industry in the UK

The UK's economy has the **6th largest economy** in the world. However, the sectors have shifted in size over time. Now, the largest sectors of the economy are:

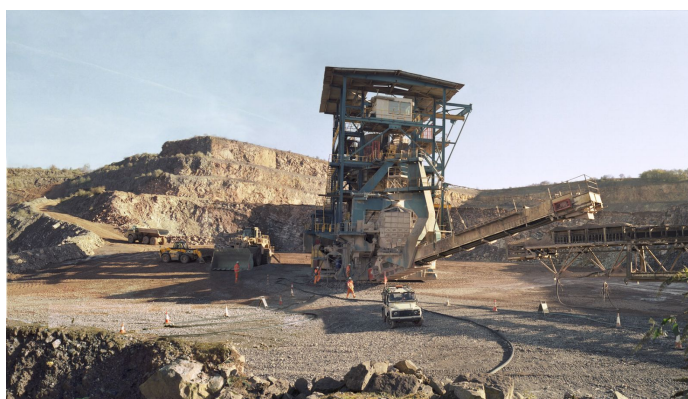
 <p>Source: IB Times</p>	 <p>Source: Youtube</p>	 <p>Source: Scotsman</p>
<p>Finance & Banking</p>	<p>Construction</p>	<p>Oil & Gas</p>
 <p>Source: ITV</p>	 <p>Source: The Conversation</p>	 <p>Source: BBC</p>
<p>Healthcare</p>	<p>Retail</p>	<p>Education</p>

The industry has changed drastically over the last century. There are several examples we can look at to show the change in the UK's industry.

Torr Quarry

This is one of eight **limestone quarries** in Somerset. Quarrying began in the 1940s and limestone is in great demand across the UK: for **road construction**, in high-importance buildings, to treat waste & contamination.



Quarrying industry has mixed benefits and disadvantages for the local and national area:



Source: Christina White

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Advantages:	Disadvantages:
<p>💰 Quarrying provides thousands of regular jobs and a single quarry can contribute £15 million to an economy each year.</p> <p>🌳 Transport of limestone is becoming more environmental, using trains and trams rather than lorries.</p>  <p align="center"><i>Source: Geography.co.uk</i></p> <p>🌳 Following quarrying, some quarries are restored to nature reserves to increase wildlife diversity.</p>	<p>🌳 Quarrying involves heavy machinery and sometimes explosives, which contributes to noise and dust pollution.</p>  <p align="center"><i>Source: Youtube</i></p> <p>🌳 Agricultural land is lost and valuable habitats can be lost during quarrying and to construct roads for transportation.</p>

Hydrogen Industry

There is a growing industry of **hydrogen production** in the UK. Hydrogen is useful as it is a **renewable** source of energy, and the production of hydrogen can be **carbon neutral**. As with all industries, there are advantages and disadvantages:

Source: Caloric



Advantages:	Disadvantages:
<p>💰 Hydrogen will contribute £320 billion to the UK's economy</p> <p>💰 Production of hydrogen will provide 120,000 jobs - from machine operators to engineers.</p> <p>🌳 Carbon neutral means no additional carbon dioxide or greenhouse emissions will be released into the atmosphere, and so hydrogen production won't contribute to Global Warming</p>	<p>🌳 Hydrogen production involves large quantities of energy. Will this energy be produced using renewable or non-renewable sources?</p> <p>🌳 Hydrogen plants are constructed from concrete, metals and the high technology machinery will require precious materials. All of these materials have environmental impacts.</p>

