A summary of labour market conditions in the twentieth century. In 1900 the population was around 38 million and gross domestic product (GDP) stood at just under £125 billion at constant 1995 market prices. By the end of the century, the population had increased by 50 per cent to 59 million, and GDP had risen fivefold to £800 billion. The estimated employment rate for 15 to 64-year-olds in 1902 was around 69 per cent.
Force Survey data the employment rate in 2000 was 71 per cent. By 2000, the figure had risen to 13 million, 46 per cent of the total workforce. The average weekly hours of a manual worker fell from 53 hours in 1943 to 43.5 in 1987. In 1900 trade union membership represented 11 per cent of those in employment. anyone seeking information on the labour party would be well advised to start here and it will become a invaluable resource and reference for researchers. An enjoyable read for anyone who wonders how the Labour party evolved up to Blair, clearly based on reliable source material. I have several titles covering the party's history and the main players, and this is easily the best summary I have found to date. Read more. Comment| 2 people found this helpful. The Labour Party was created in 1900: a new party for a new century. Its formation was the result of many years of struggle by working class people, trade unionists and socialists, united by the goal of working class voices represented in British Parliament. The late 2000s saw a global economic crisis and for Labour the loss of power at the 2010 election. Faced with a Conservative government which was pressing forward with an austerity agenda, the leadership of Ed Miliband saw Labour prioritise working people and the protection of public services. Just like the early pioneers of the Labour Party over 100 years ago, Labour today is leading the way with a vision of hope – that by working together we can transform Britain for the many, not the few. Up next. How We Work.