

# Hopes fade of getting a job

**Cobus Coetzee**

**SOUTH Africans are more pessimistic about finding a job next year than they have been during the past nine years.**

A new study, by the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR), found that 45.9 percent of people believed they would probably be unemployed within the next year.

This is the highest percentage response to this question since it was first asked in 2004.

Nine years ago only 34.4 percent of people were pessimistic about finding a job and between 2005 and 2009 more than 40 percent of people thought they would not get a job.

In 2010 and 2011 the size of this group declined to 36.7 percent but it shot up this year.

IJR researcher Kate Lefko-  
Everett said “the economy has

not yet recovered the jobs lost in the recession and people might still be feel the impact of high unemployment, slow job creation and constrained growth prospects”.

Despite the pessimism the report also found 34.9 percent of people believed their chances of finding a job had improved the past 12 months, while 44.9 percent thought their financial situation would improve.

And 41.4 percent of people who were unemployed and looking for work felt the new year would bring them better fortunes.

The poorest are the most critical of the government and its ability to create jobs. More than half, or 53.1 percent, of all lowest earning households believed the government had not created enough jobs.