



iLembe District vs National

The tough economic conditions had a significant impact on business confidence in the iLembe District with the combined hybrid iBCI shedding 1.9 index points in the 3rd quarter of 2015.

The optimism recorded in Q2 was nearly all wiped out with the Q3 2015 iBCI being recorded at 47.6 index points, entrenching itself firmly in the negative.

The SACCI BCI lost a further 2.5 index points between the 2nd and the 3rd quarters of 2015. National business confidence worsened notably since February 2015 and was recorded at its worst level in 22 years.

In Summary

The quarterly iBCI for 2015 Q3 mirrored lower consumer and corporate confidence nationally resulting from lower economic growth forecasts.

It was especially businesses in the Manufacturing and Assembly sectors where the outlook remains negative over the next 6 months.



Q3 2015

iBCI

iLEMBE BUSINESS CONFIDENCE INDEX

Business Outlook

The business outlook for the 6 month period ahead, including the "golden" period over the December/January peak holiday season, was recorded at its lowest level and has for the first time ventured into negative territory (49.4).

Top Constraints

Skills & Labour



Service Delivery & Infrastructure



Competition & Market Size



6 Month Outlook Employment



Sales Volumes

Finance & Business Services



Manufacturing & Assembly



Six Month Outlook

The negative sentiment expressed for the 6 months ahead was dominated by an expected reduction in employment levels.

Business Constraints

- Skills Shortages & Other Labour Related Issues topped the list of perceived business constraints.
- Concerns around a stumbling economy have elevated Competition & Size of Market as a significant perceived constraint.
- As a result of these market concerns Service Delivery and Infrastructure is perceived as less of a constraint.