

## Eye Witness News 02 February 2012

### 80% of S.Africans can't afford homes

Catherine Rice | 4 Day(s) Ago

Over 80 percent of South African households do not qualify for home loans.

The South African Institute of Race Relations said this placed additional pressure on government to provide housing.

Researcher Kerwin Lebone said the information was sourced from a report by the Financial and Fiscal Commission.

About 60 percent of households earned R3,500 a month and qualified for full housing grants.

“The remainder of the householder are either dependent completely on the state because they earn less than R3,500 a month or partially dependent on the state.”

He adds the survey showed that about seven percent of households earned between R7,000 and R10,500, enough to qualify them for bank finance in the affordable housing sector.

“There's a further one million households that the government and the private banks are trying to help.”

The survey also shows that the number of informal backyard dwellings rose by over 80 percent between 1996 and 2010.

(Edited by Lindiwe Mlandu)

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