

A TALE OF TWO TENSIONS



John Endres
Biznews #8, Hermanus
12 March 2026

AGENDA

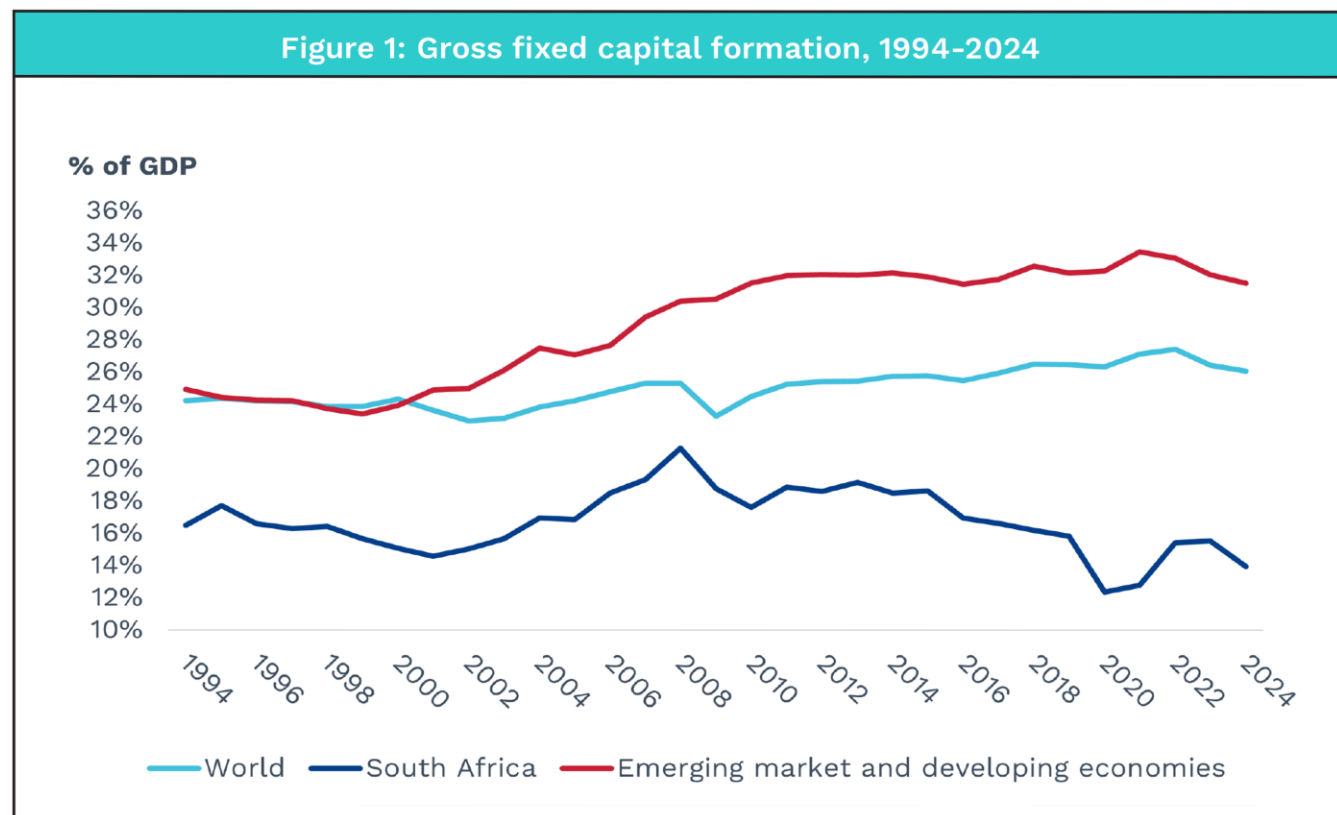
- 1** A Tale of Two Tensions
- 2** Why SA Has NOT Turned the Corner
- 3** A Shift in the National Debate
- 4** The Real Shift – Politics
- 5** What Needs to Change
- 6** Risk & Opportunity

A Tale of Two Tensions

- Two tensions:
 - Hope vs gloom
 - What to do vs what can be done
- Government says: turning point reached
- Mixed reaction: optimism vs caution



Why SA Has NOT Turned the Corner



Source: International Monetary Fund (IMF); Own illustration

A Shift in the National Debate



- Criticism of BEE becoming mainstream
- Focus shifting to outcomes vs policy structure
- Corruption and inefficiencies highlighted

news24

BEE and EE: Criminalise cronyism, focus on the poor

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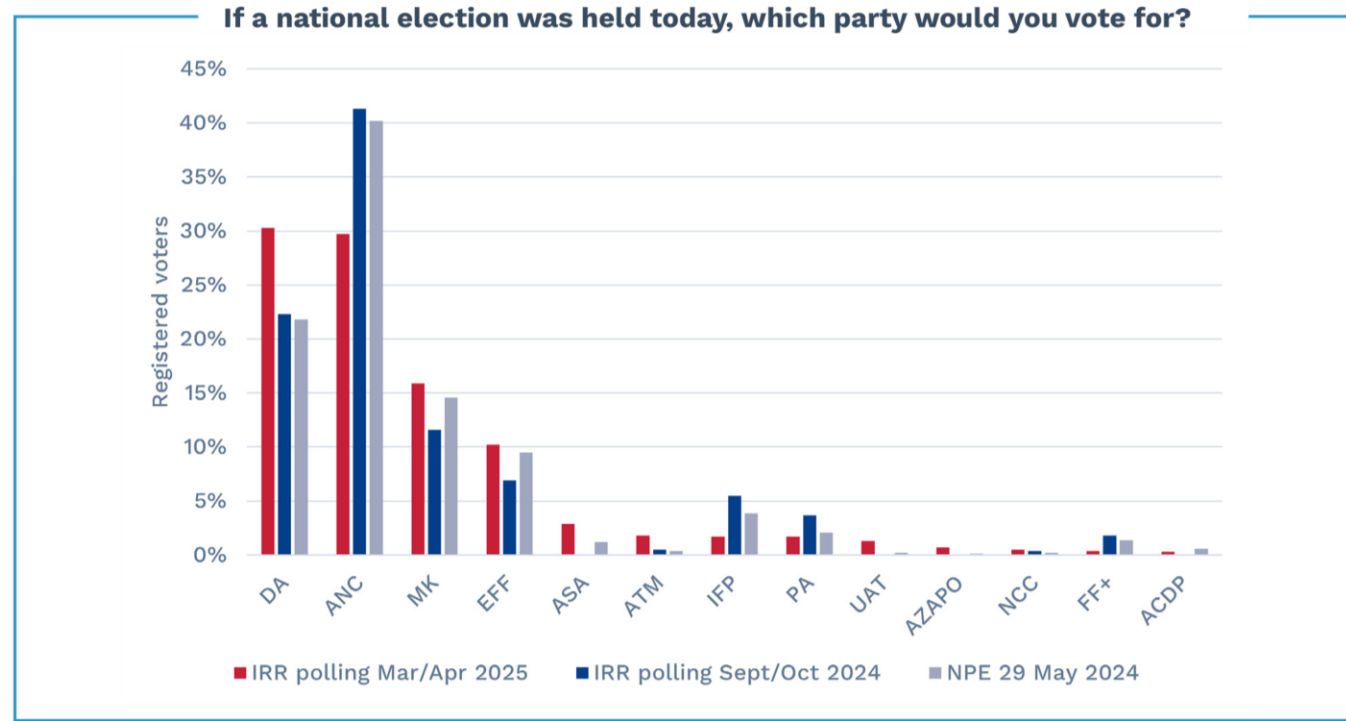


BEE has been successful in deracialising the rich and the middle class, but now, resources that went into BEE must be redirected into lifting the bottom half of the population out of poverty.

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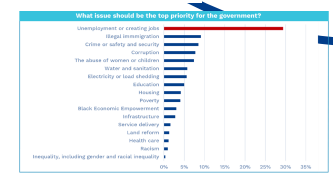
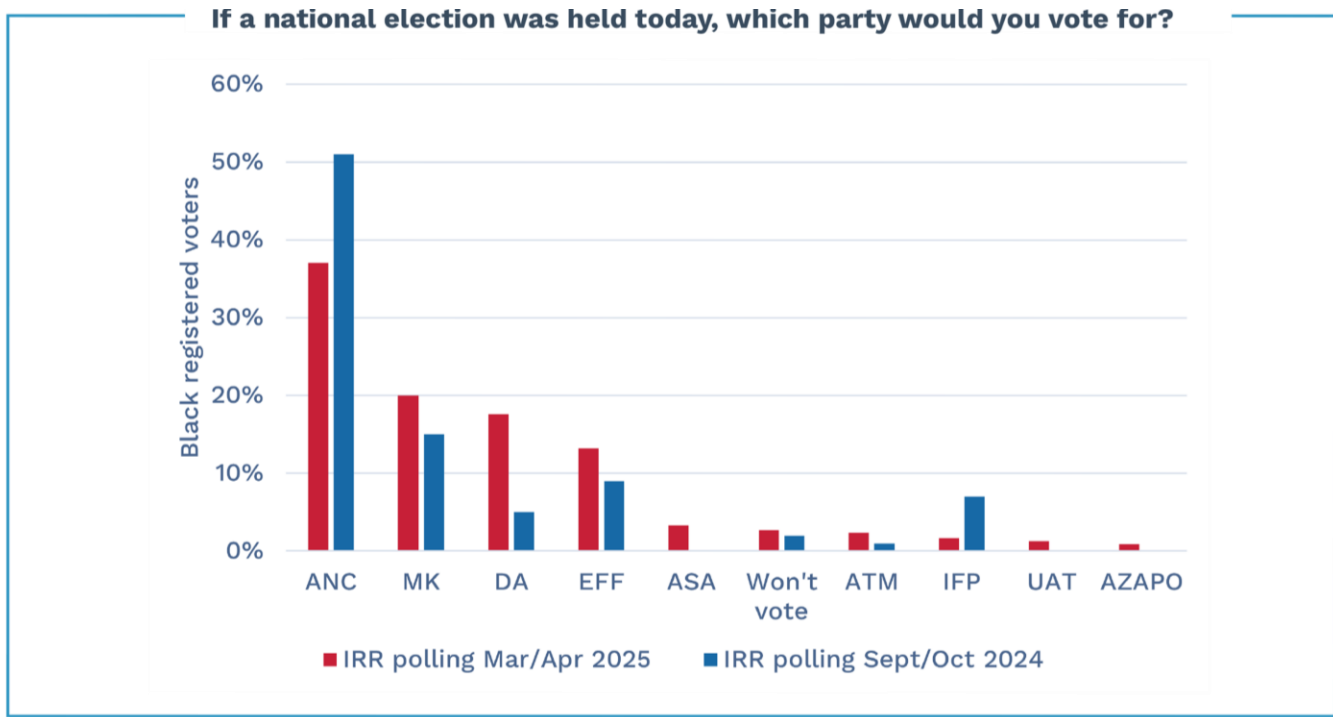
The Real Shift – Politics

2024 election ended
ANC dominance



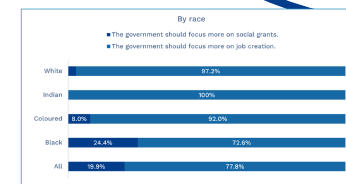
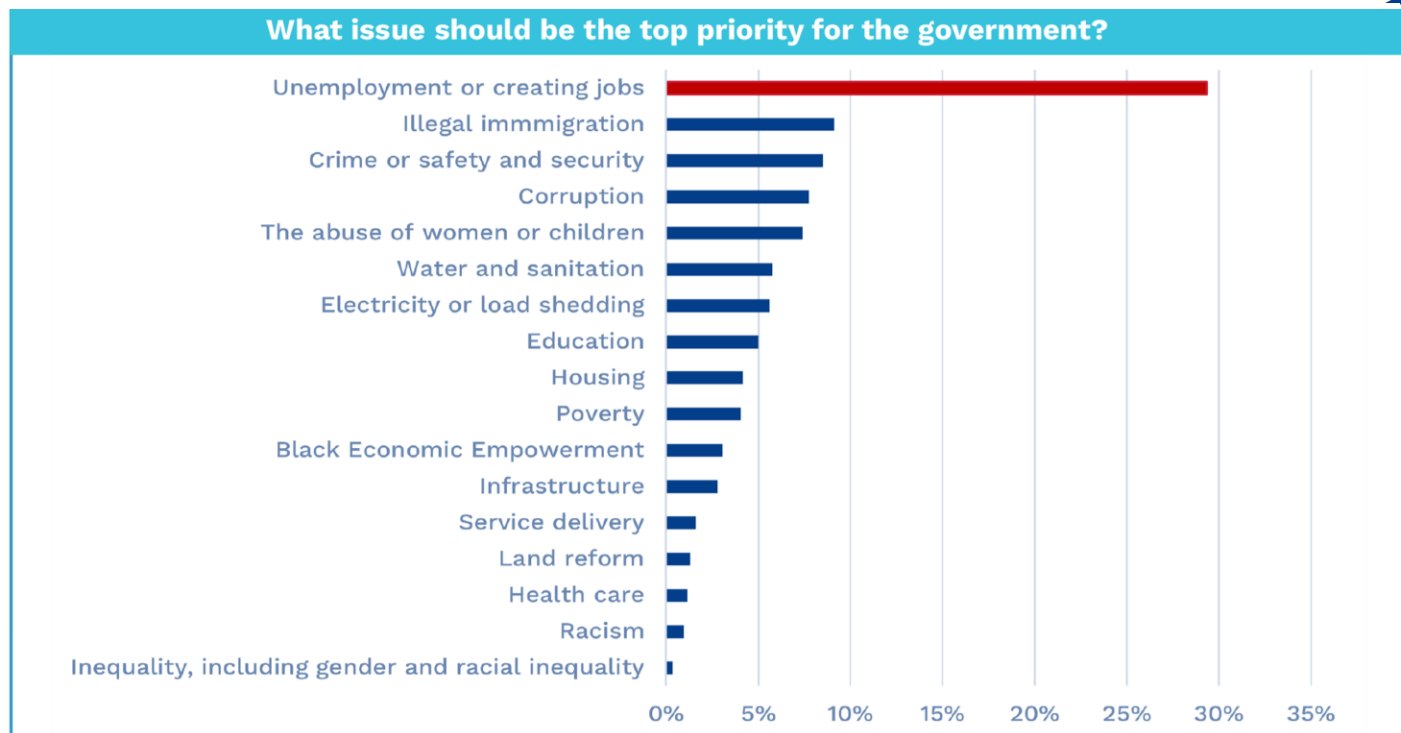
The Real Shift – Politics

Political landscape shifting



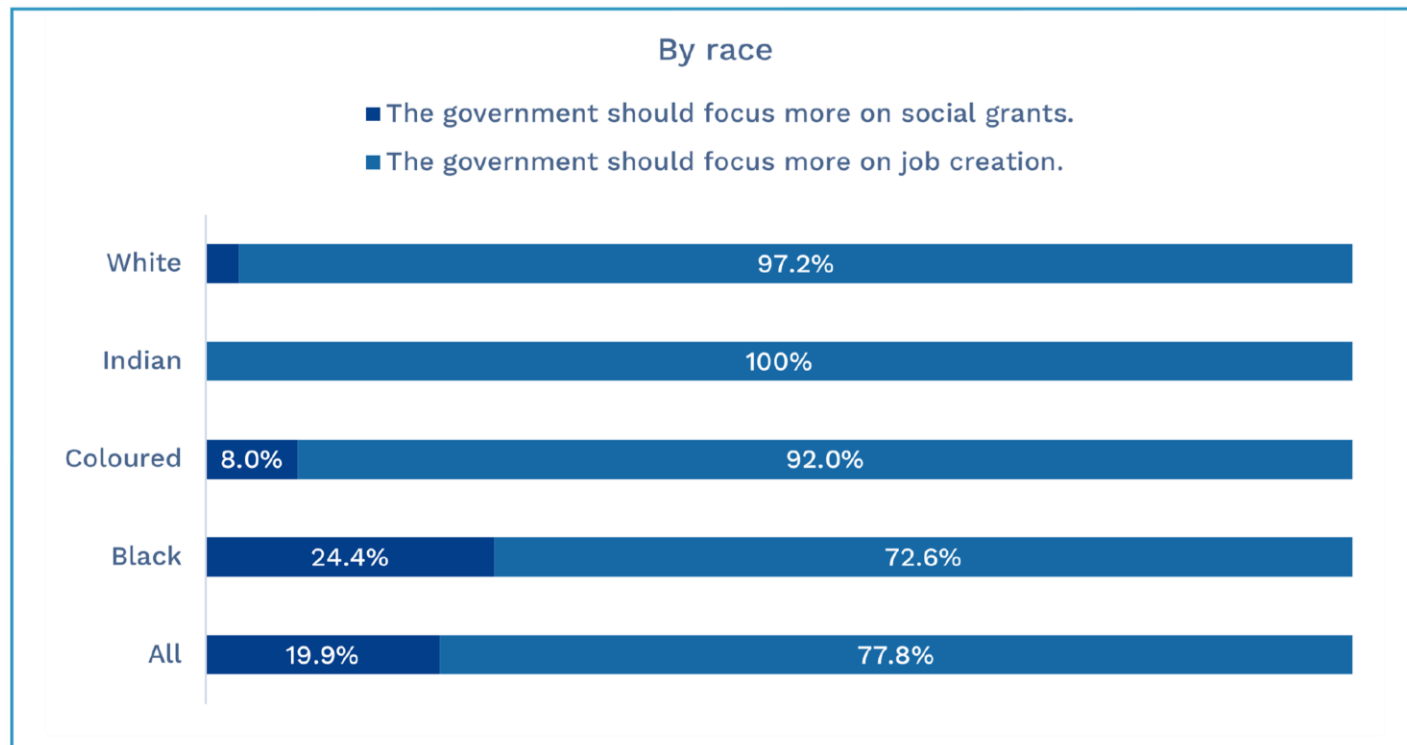
The Real Shift – Politics

Jobs = top voter
priority

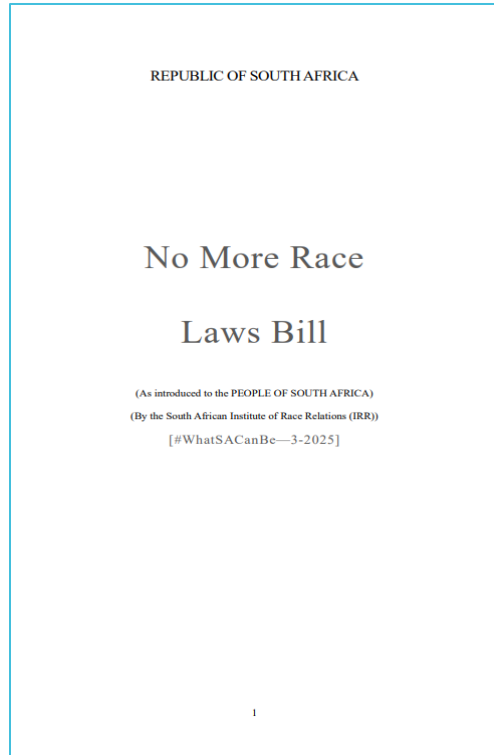


The Real Shift – Politics

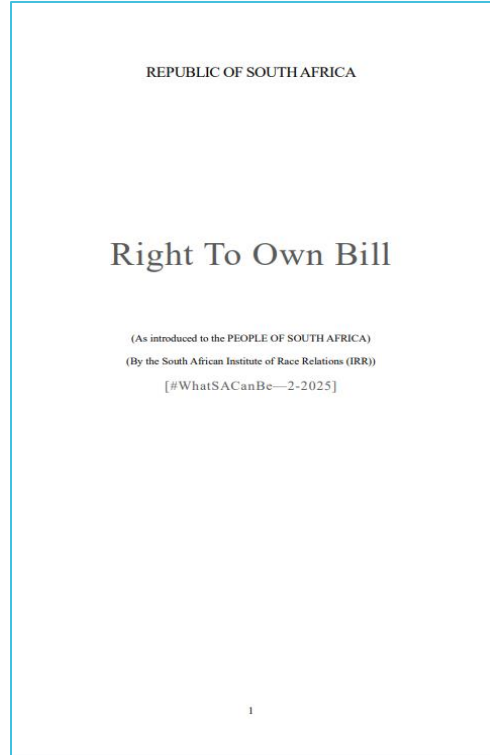
Gap between **voters** and **political elite**



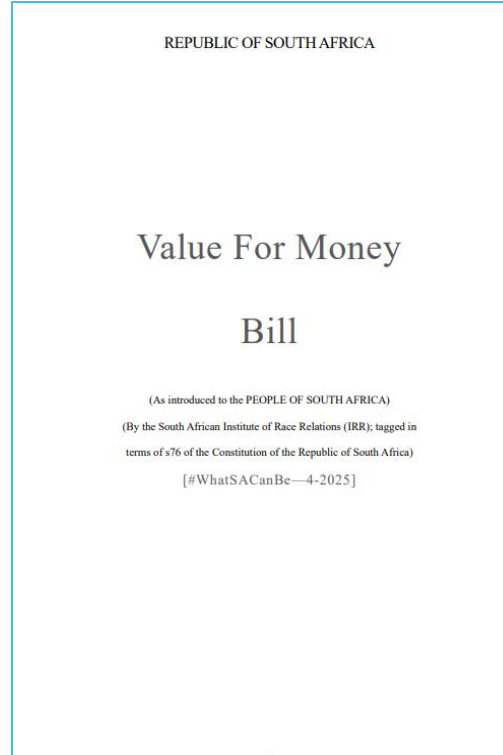
What Needs to Change



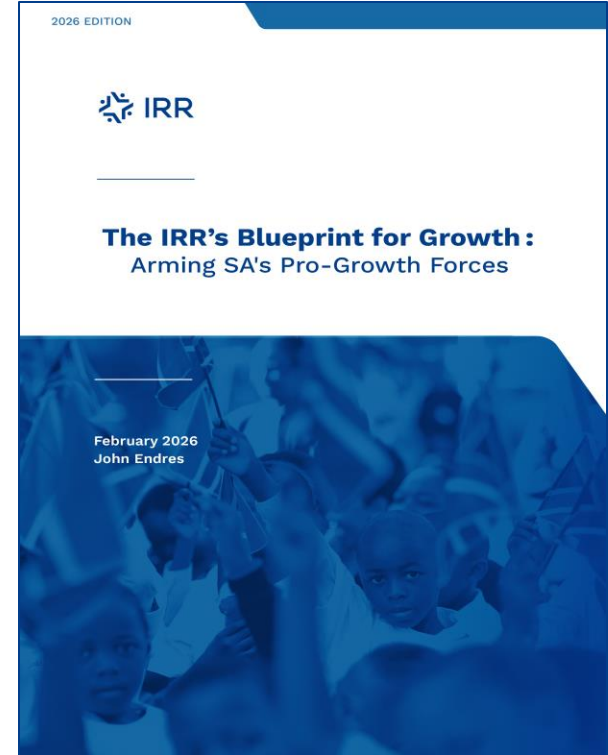
End race-based laws



Strengthen property rights



Ensure value-for-money governance



Blueprint for Growth paper

“Yes, we comply with BEE because the law forces us to. But we do so under duress. BEE is harming our business and it is harming the economy. We are investing less and creating fewer jobs because of it. We find it abhorrent to classify our employees by race. We do not support this kind of fake transformation.”

Risk & Opportunity

- High national pessimism
- Despondency affects growth
- Action required:
 - Vote
 - Speak up
 - Support reform



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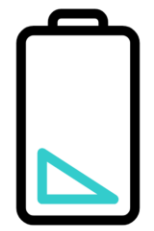
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Why SA Has NOT Turned the Corner



Growth still too low ($\pm 1-2\%$)



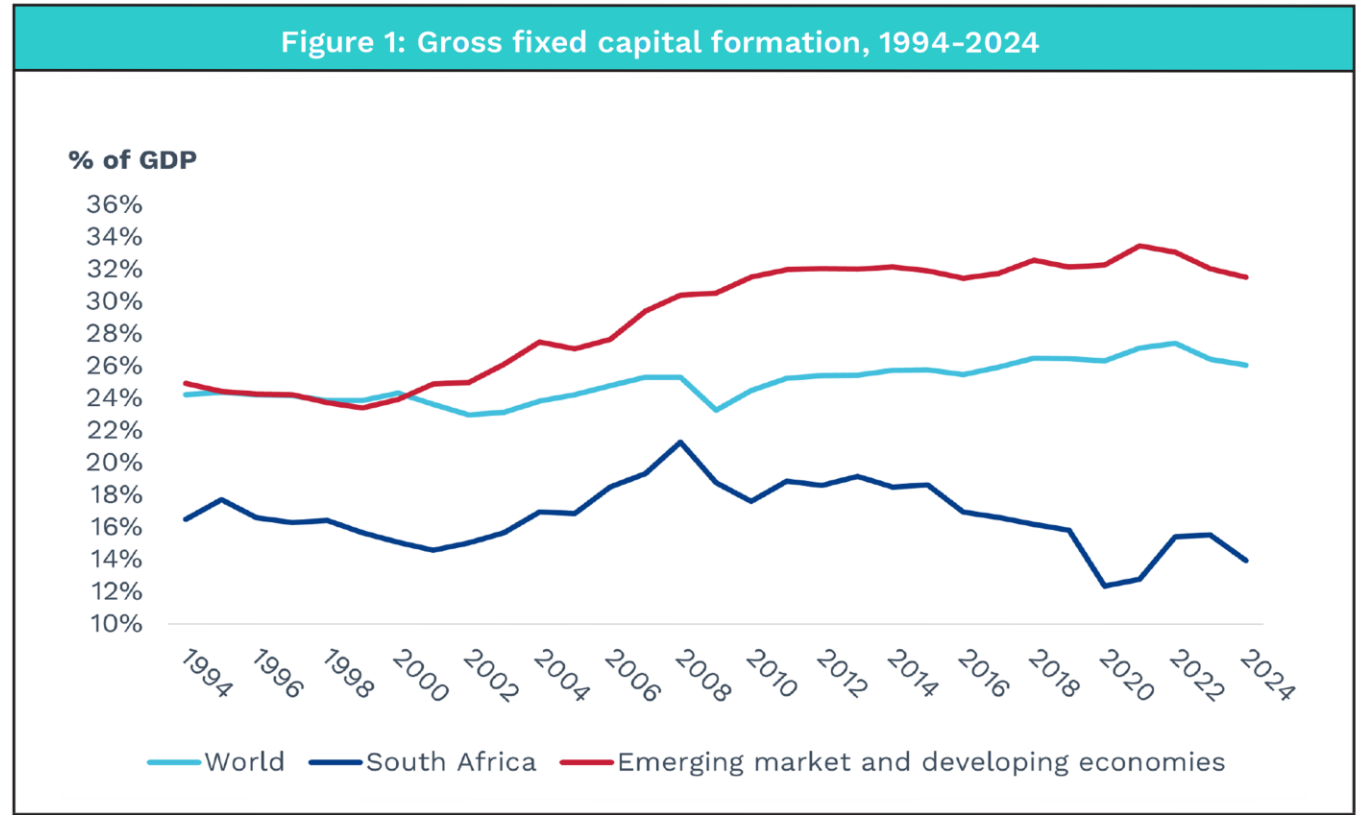
Not enough to fix long-term damage



Investment levels declining



Economy stuck in low-growth cycle



Source: International Monetary Fund (IMF); Own illustration

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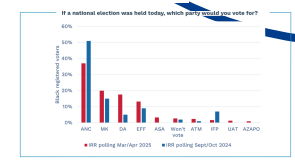
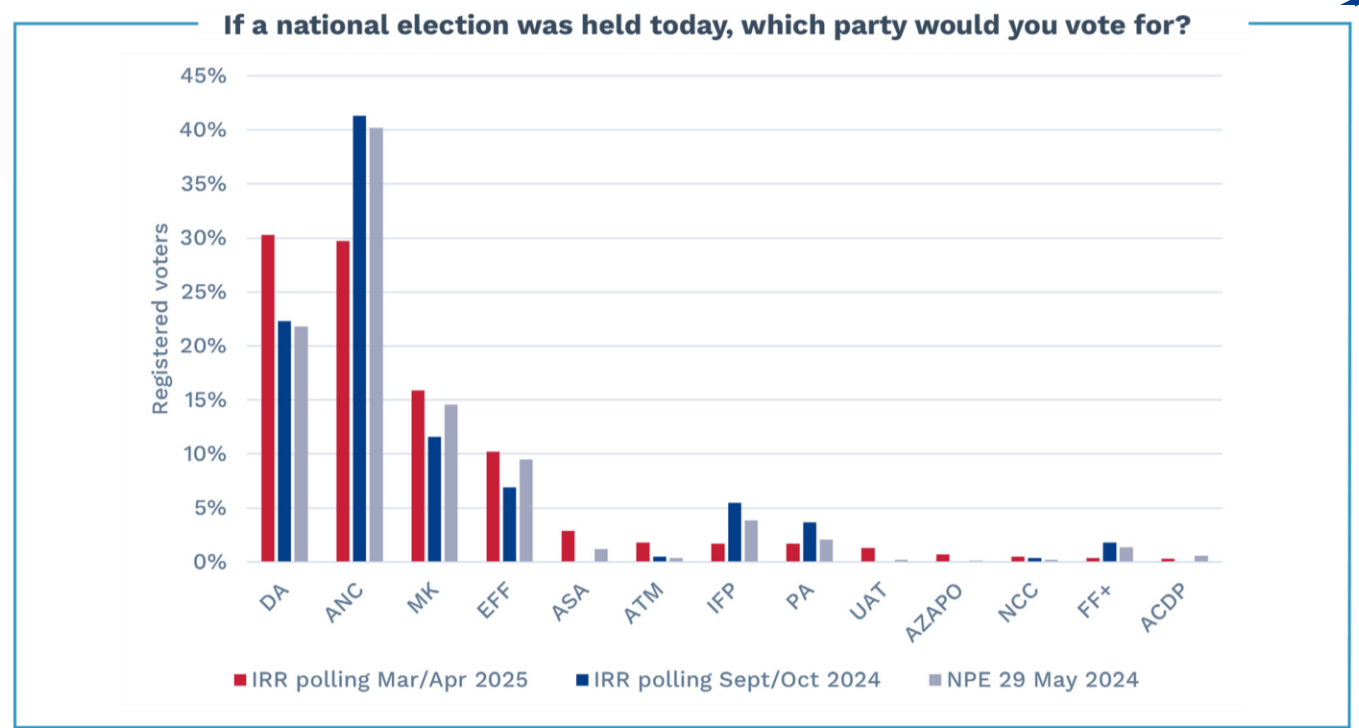


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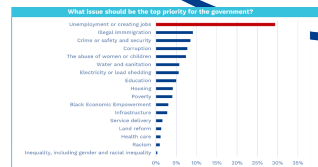
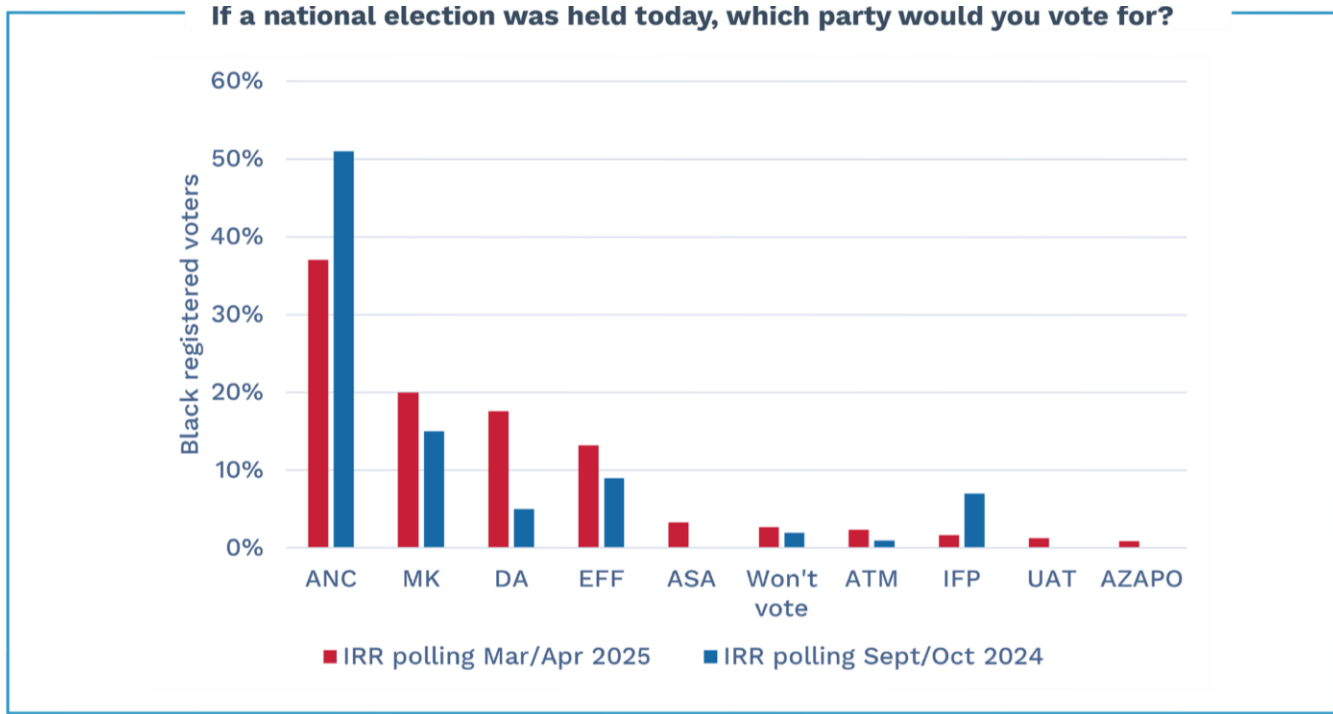
The Real Shift – Politics

2024 election ended **ANC dominance**



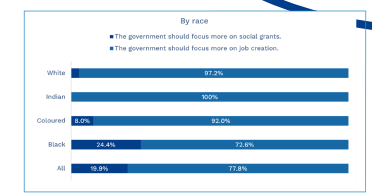
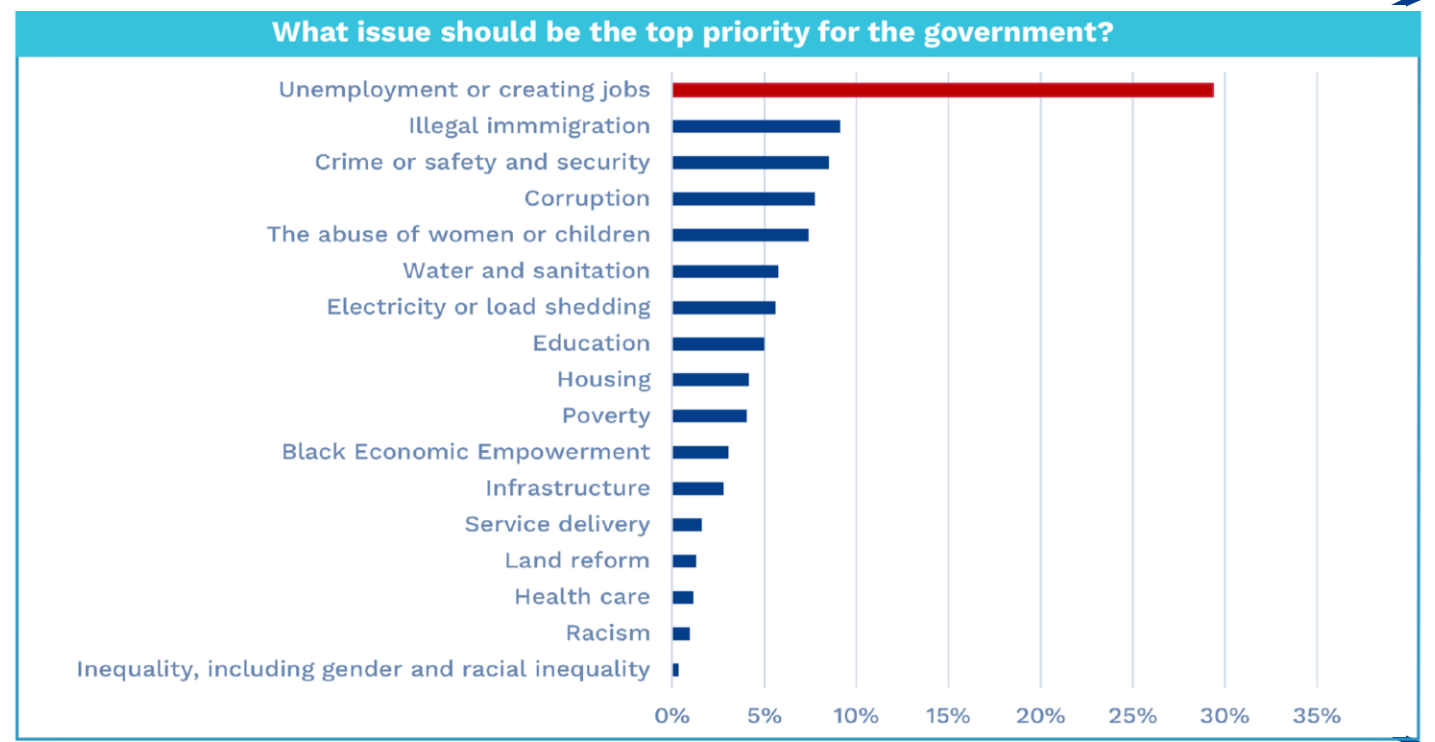
The Real Shift – Politics

Political
landscape shifting



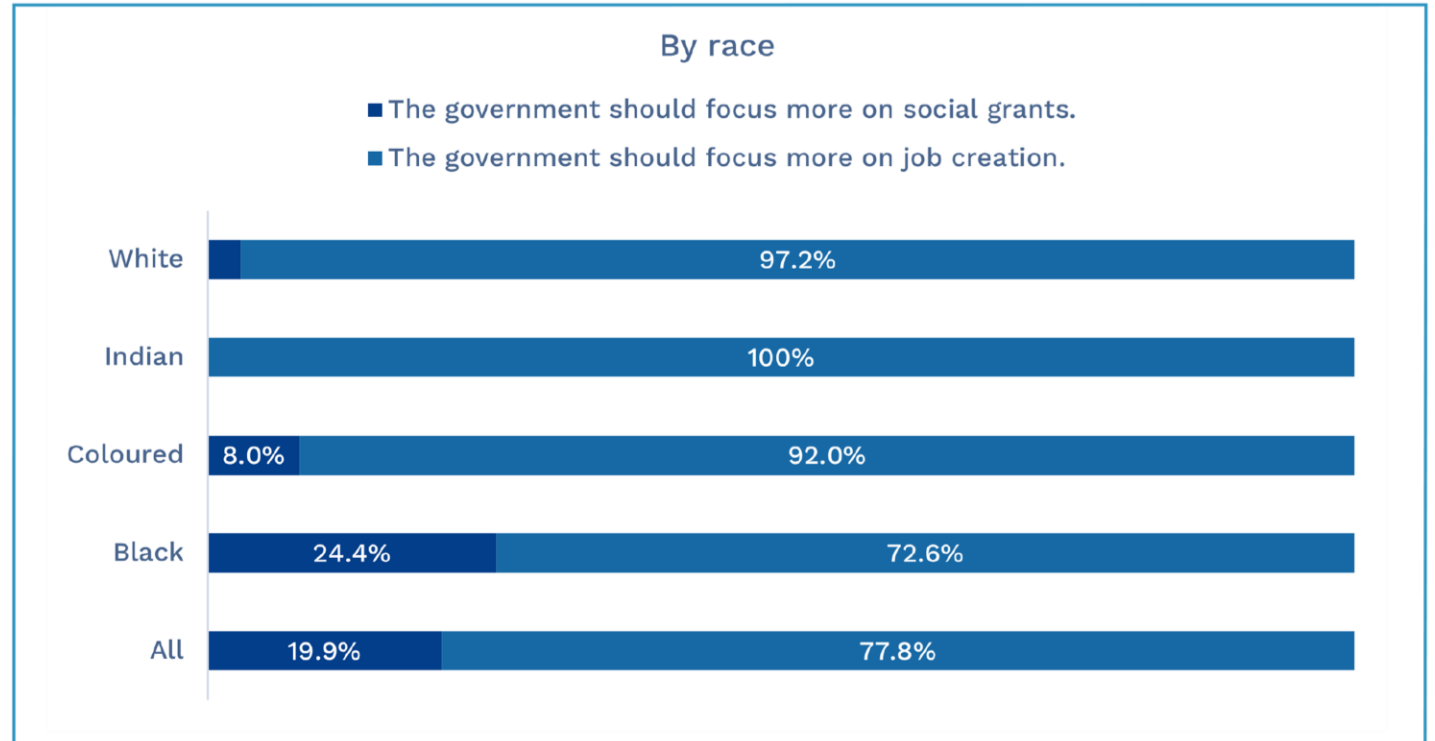
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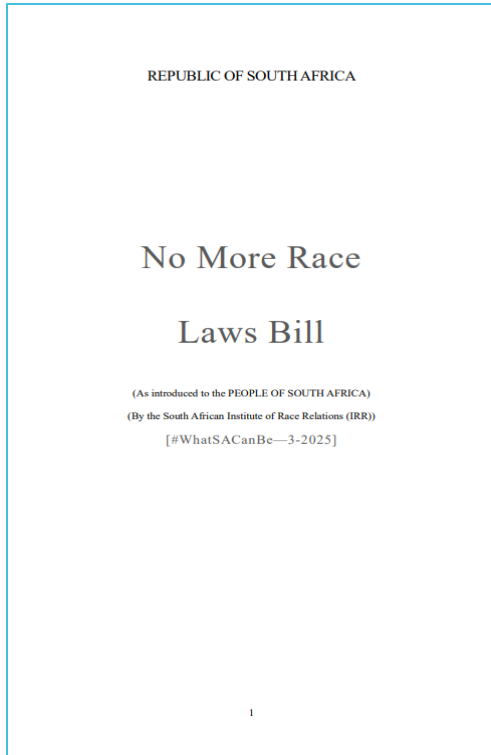


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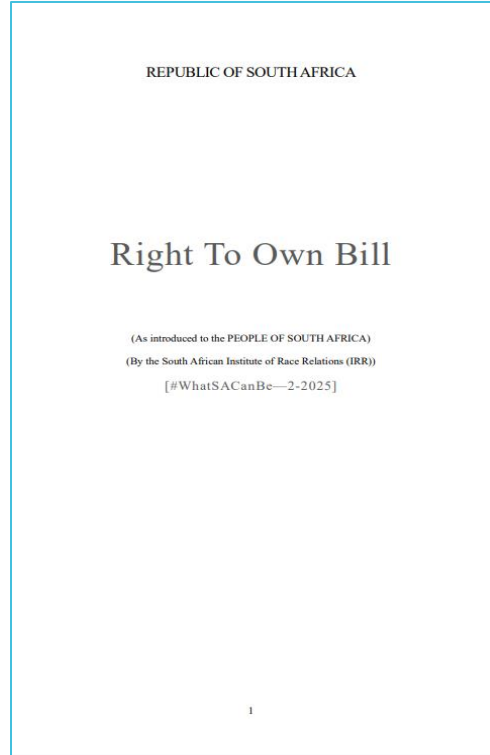
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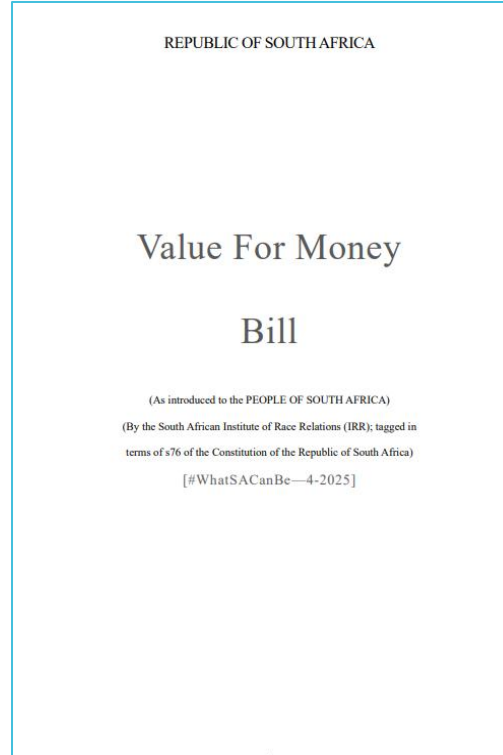
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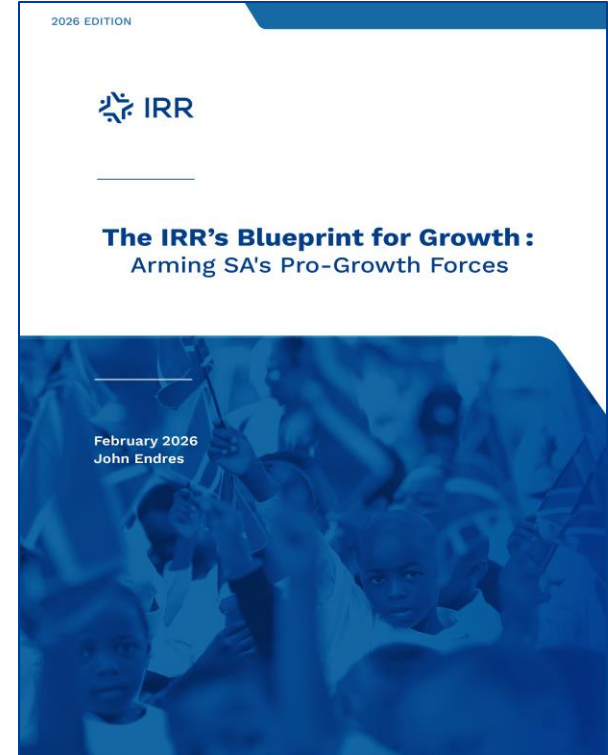
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