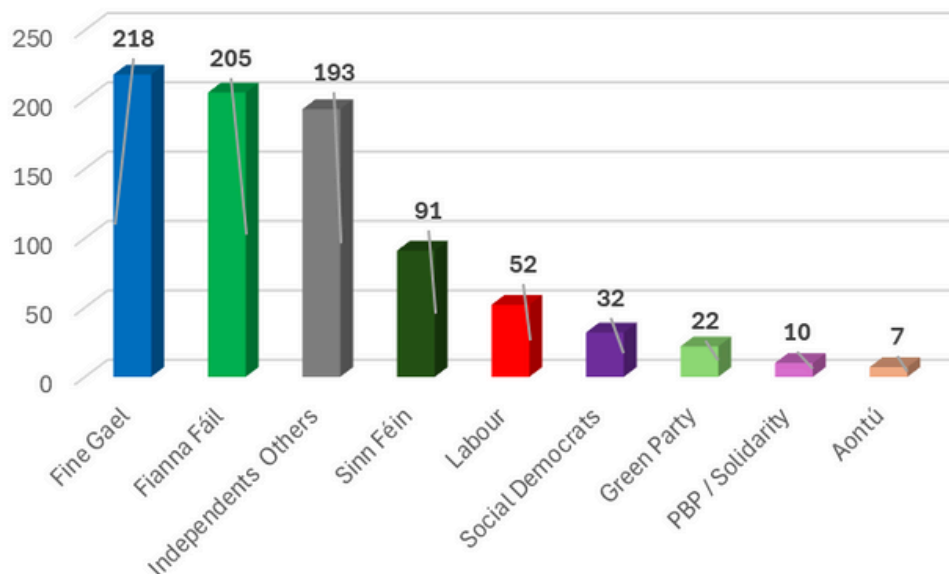


PRELIMINARY READOUT OF THE 2024 EUROPEAN & LOCAL ELECTIONS

Ireland went to the polls on Friday in both the Local and European elections. Given the nature of Ireland's electoral system (proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote), election counts continue. Currently the majority of local government representatives have been elected, with Ireland's first MEPs expected to be elected later today, however, it may be a number of days yet before we know the identity of each of the MEPs Ireland will send to represent it in Brussels and Strasbourg.

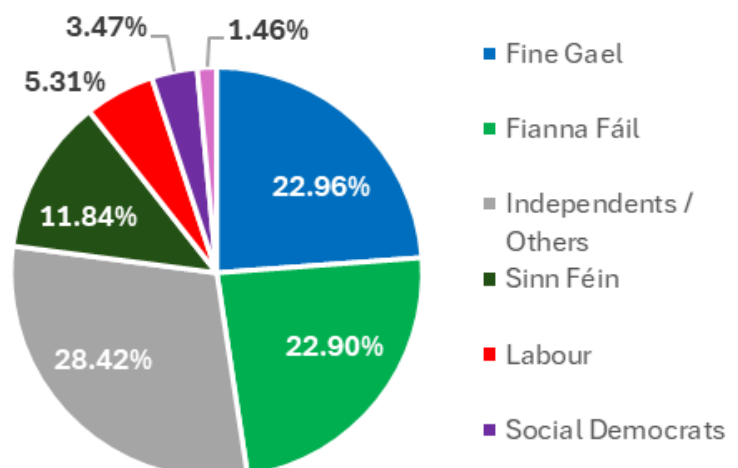
Preliminary readout on the Local Elections

With 830 of the 949 local government seats filled, here is what we know so far:



First preference vote in the local elections (%)

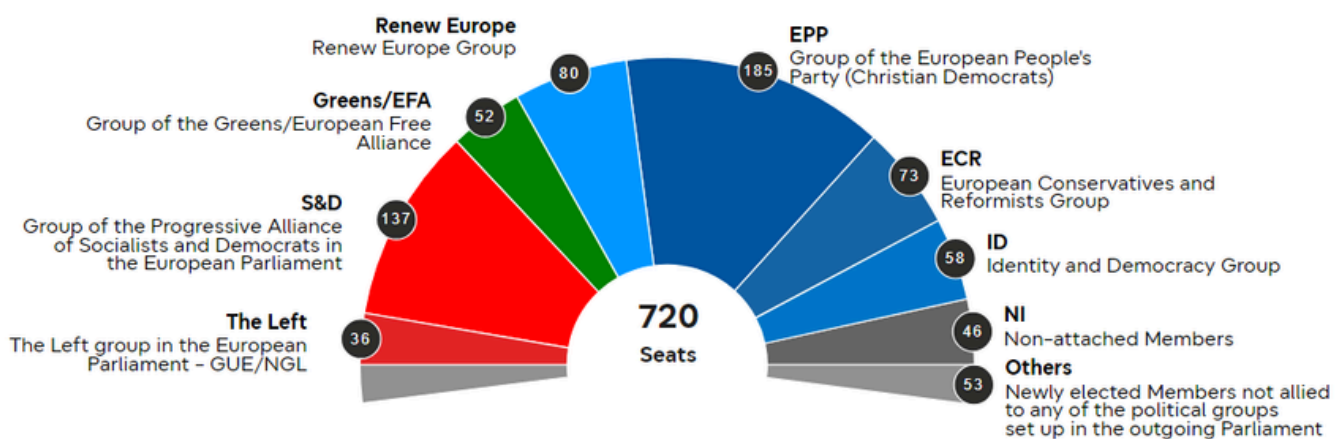
In what would typically be seen as a second-order election where government parties would not be expected to perform well, the support for parties in Government has held up. Further, from these results, the opposition has underperformed in terms of what it had been polling.



Preliminary readout on the European elections

With the European election counts ongoing, it will be a matter of hours before Ireland elects its first MEPs and potentially days before it confirms the full slate of MEPs it will send to the European Parliament. However, Fine Gael appear confident of taking a seat in each of the 3 European election constituencies, and are hopefully of getting a second seat in the Midlands North-West. Fianna Fáil are all but guaranteed a seat in both the Dublin and Ireland South constituencies and indications are that they are well placed to take a seat in the Midlands North-West also. Sinn Féin are hoping to take a seat in Dublin, and the first counts of the Ireland South and Midlands North-West constituencies later today will indicate as to whether they may be in the fight for a seat there, or as to whether it may have slipped out of their grasp.

The provisional estimates (subject to change) from the European Parliament for European wide results, taking into account provisional and final national results is:



Source: The European Parliament (<https://results.elections.europa.eu/>)

What might the national impact of these results be?

With better than expected results for the Government parties, there have been calls now from some government TDs for the Taoiseach to call a General Election in October of this year. A General election must be held before the end of March next year, and whilst the Taoiseach has said he intends for the Government to run full-term, speculation will continue over the coming weeks and months regarding whether he will call an early election, and whether Ireland may go to the polls to elect its next Government in Q3 this year.

Contact AmCham