



# CLARE (4 seats)

Electorate ..... **79,555** Spoiled..... **385**  
 Total Poll ..... **56,770** Total Valid Poll ..... **56,385**  
 Turnout ..... **71.36%** Quota ..... **11,278**

## Outgoing TDs

Tony Killeen .....FF  
 Síle de Valera .....FF  
 Pat Breen .....FG  
 James Breen .....Ind

## Elected



**TIMMY DOOLEY:** A 38-year-old new TD, Timmy Dooley was first elected in 2002 to the Seanad's administrative panel. He is Fianna Fáil's Seanad transport spokesman and a member of the Oireachtas transport committee. A full-time politician, he previously worked in sales and marketing. He is a member of the party's ardhchomhairle. A bright, ambitious politician, he has been a party member since 1987, when he cut his teeth in Ógra Fianna Fáil. He is a founder member of the party's national youth committee and was chairman of the Kevin Barry cumann while a student at UCD. He was among 15 TDs and Senators who signed a petition calling for the Minister for Finance to redirect tax on credit cards to charities and the voluntary sector.



**TONY KILLEEN:** Minister of State Tony Killeen has been a Fianna Fáil TD since 1992 and was appointed Minister of State for Enterprise, Trade and Employment with responsibility for labour affairs in 2004. Before this appointment, he chaired the Oireachtas Education committee. A former national school teacher, Killeen (54) is based in Corofin. He attracted controversy earlier this year after it emerged that his constituency office made representations for the temporary release of a convicted murderer. The victim's mother was highly critical of the representation and he subsequently visited her to apologise. A former chairman of Clare County Council, he is a member of the Committee on Procedures and Privileges and of the British-Irish Parliamentary body.



**PAT BREEN:** The 2002 winner of the only Fine Gael seat in Clare, Pat Breen returns to the Dáil for his second term. Five years ago, he won the seat previously held by party colleague and outgoing TD Donal Carey. The farmer and former architectural technician is the party's deputy spokesman on enterprise, trade and employment, with special responsibility for EU internal market development and small to medium enterprises. He was previously deputy spokesman on transport. Breen (54) has consistently campaigned on infrastructural and industrial regional development and highlighted the challenges facing Shannon airport, claiming the Government's policies undermined its future. He was a member of Clare County Council from 1999 to 2004.

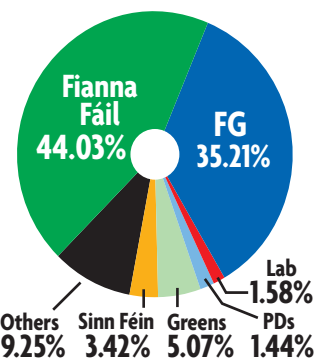


**JOE CAREY:** First-time TD Joe Carey is from a family steeped in Fine Gael politics. He takes up the seat held by his father, former junior minister Donal Carey, for 11 years until he lost out in the 2002 election. His sister, Leonara Carey, is vice-chairwoman of the party's national executive, his younger brother, Donal Carey jnr, is chairman of Ennis district Fine Gael and his cousin Sinéad Carey is Young Fine Gael's vice-president. The entire family canvassed assiduously for the candidate, a Clare county councillor who topped the polls in the Ennis electoral area in the 2004 local elections. Treasurer of the Ennis General Hospital development committee, he is expected to make health reform a priority. He is also likely to campaign in the Dáil on Shannon airport and youth facilities.

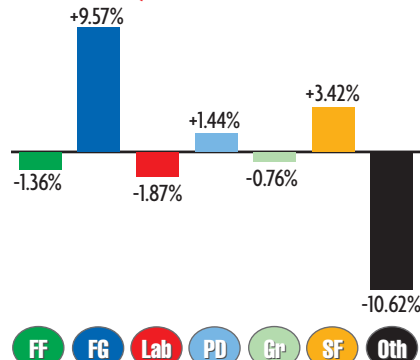
## Count

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>COUNT</b>									
<b>Dooley, Timmy (FF)</b>	10,791	(+222) 11,013	(+260) 11,273	(+361) 11,634					
<b>Killeen, Tony* (FF)</b>	8,321	(+142) 8,463	(+197) 8,660	(+316) 8,976	(+408) 9,384	(+312) 9,696	(+4,387) 14,083		
<b>Breen, Pat* (FG)</b>	7,036	(+168) 7,204	(+104) 7,308	(+387) 7,695	(+877) 8,572	(+1,786) 10,358	(+754) 11,112	(+555) 11,667	
<b>Carey, Joe (FG)</b>	5,818	(+190) 6,008	(+108) 6,116	(+548) 6,664	(+883) 7,547	(+1,543) 9,090	(+327) 9,417	(+384) 9,801	(+181) 9,982
<b>Daly, Brendan (FF)</b>	5,712	(+158) 5,870	(+123) 5,993	(+96) 6,089	(+189) 6,278	(+529) 6,807			
<b>Breen, James* (Ind)</b>	5,218	(+122) 5,340	(+349) 5,689	(+792) 6,481	(+395) 6,876	(+575) 7,451	(+752) 8,203	(+1,131) 9,334	(+192) 9,526
<b>Taylor Quinn, Madeleine (FG)</b>	3,592	(+127) 3,719	(+168) 3,887	(+532) 4,419	(+751) 5,170				
<b>Mulcahy, Tony (FG)</b>	3,408	(+85) 3,493	(+118) 3,611	(+222) 3,833					
<b>Meaney, Brian (GP)</b>	2,858	(+305) 3,163	(+442) 3,605						
<b>Prior, Anna (SF)</b>	1,929	(+83) 2,012							
<b>Fitzgerald, Pascal (Lab)</b>	892								
<b>Collins, Murt (PD)</b>	810								
<b>Non-transferable</b>		100	143	351	330	425	587	735	16
<b>ELECTED:</b>				<b>Dooley</b>			<b>Killeen</b>	<b>Breen P</b>	<b>Carey+</b>
<b>ELIMINATED:</b>	<b>Collins, Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Prior</b>	<b>Meaney</b>	<b>Mulcahy</b>	<b>Taylor Quinn</b>	<b>Daly</b>			

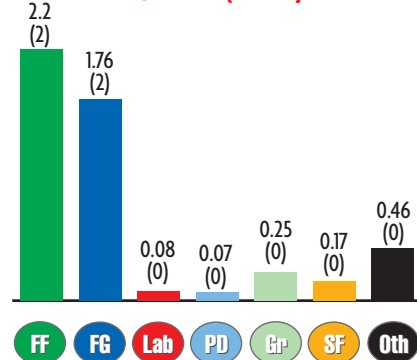
### Share of the vote



### Gains / losses since 2002



### Quotas (seats)



## Story of the count

Fine Gael recorded a remarkable victory in the four-seater Clare constituency by grabbing two seats for the first time since the 1989 general election. The strategy to run four candidates for the first time was criticised within the party in Clare, but the approach resulted in Fine Gael increasing its percentage share of the vote by 10 points to 35 per cent on its 2002 result. The party took the final seat shortly after 2am on Saturday when Cllr Joe Carey had 456 votes to spare over outgoing Independent TD James Breen, with the help of transfers from

his Fine Gael running mates Cllr Madeleine Taylor Quinn and Cllr Tony Mulcahy. Fine Gael took advantage of the collapse in Breen's vote, which dropped from 19 per cent in 2002 to 9 per cent on this occasion. The win by the 31-year old Carey regains the seat lost by his father and former minister of state Donal Carey in 2002. Outgoing Fine Gael TD Pat Breen was elected on the eighth count to retain the seat he first won in 2002. However, Fianna Fáil senator Timmy Dooley secured 19 per cent of the vote in his first bid to secure a Dáil seat. Topping the poll and

elected on the fourth count, the Mountshannon man takes the seat vacated by Síle de Valera and his win gives east Clare its first TD in over quarter of a century. However, Fianna Fáil's vote share dropped by one point to 44 per cent on its 2002 performance and party strategists will be now questioning the vote-management strategy of dividing the county. It had come under fire from Tony Killeen who was elected on the seventh count after receiving more than 4,000 votes in transfers from the eliminated Sen Brendan Daly. – **Gordon Deegan**