

MAIN TAKEAWAYS

Compared to SE2016, the main changes are:

FF **Fianna Fáil** won 20 seats, gaining 6 seats (an increase of 43%) compared to the party's previous seat total after SE2016. This gain comprises 4 Taoiseach's nominees and 2 vocational panel seats. Fianna Fáil replaces Fine Gael as the largest party in terms of Seanad representation.

GP The **Green Party** won 4 seats, a gain of 3 (+300%) and quadrupling its Seanad representation compared to SE2016. The gain comprises 2 Taoiseach's nominees and 1 vocational panel seat.

IND **Independents and others** lost 4 seats (-29%). The loss is accounted for by the loss of the 4 previous Taoiseach's nominees.

FG **Fine Gael** lost 3 seats (-16%) comprising 2 Taoiseach's nominees and 1 vocational panel seat. It is now the second largest party in terms of Seanad representation.

SF **Sinn Féin** lost 2 seats (-29%) of its representation, both vocational panel seats.

LAB The **Labour Party** retained 5 seats, 4 from vocational panels and (uniquely) 1 university seat (TCD).

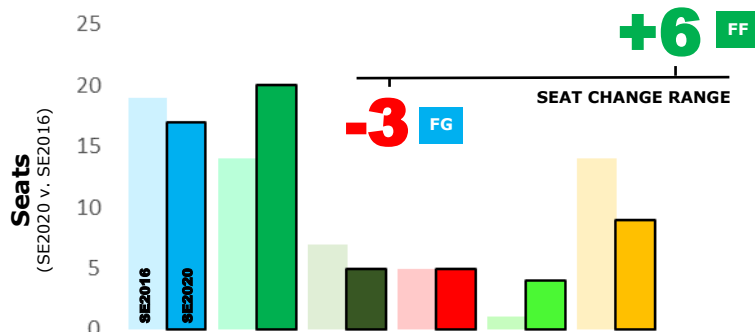
Note: The party /group seat gain or loss is related to performance in the preceding Local Elections in 2019 as local councillors are a key voting bloc in the vocational panel electorate. See: [LE2019—A Statistical Profile](#).

SENATORS ELECTED / NOMINATED

SE2020 compared to SE2016

	FG	FF	SF	Lab	Green	Ind. / Other	
SE2016							
Vocational Panels	13	14	7	4	1	4	43
University Seats	-	-	-	1	-	5	6
Taoiseach's Nominees	6	-	-	-	-	5	11
Total SE2016	19	14	7	5	1	14	60
SE2020							
Vocational Panels	12	16	5	4	2	4	43
University Seats	-	-	-	1	-	5	6
Taoiseach's Nominees	4	4	-	-	2	1	11
Total SE2020	16	20	5	5	4	10	60
Change	-3	+6	-2	NC	+3	-4	
Senators (%)	-16%	+43%	-29%	NC	+300%	-29%	

KEY DATES	
All polls close	31 March
Taoiseach's nominees announced	27 June
Difference (in days)	88



Source: L&RS analysis based on results published by [Oireachtas.ie](#)

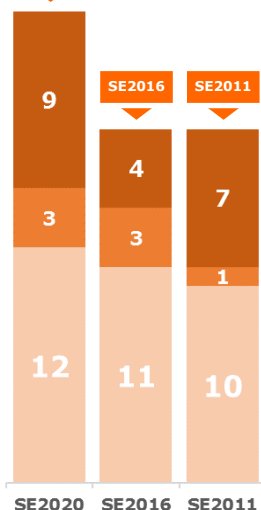
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The proportion of female candidates has increased steadily since 2011. In SE2020, **31%** of candidates were female.

Compared to the last election in 2016, the number of female Senators elected to a vocational panel has **increased by 1 (to 12)**. As before, **3 of the 6** university seats are held by women. However, the number of female Senators nominated by the incoming Taoiseach has **increased by 5 (to 9)**.

The 26th Seanad will therefore have the highest female representation ever with **24** female Senators (**40%** of the total).

SE2020



FEMALE REPRESENTATION

Female Senators elected / nominated, by party and category

24 **+6**
Female Senators elected or nominated (of 60)
Compared to SE2016 (18 of 60)

40% **+10pp**
of all Senators elected or nominated
Compared to SE2016 (30%)

Elected (of 49)
SE2020 Seats **15 (25%)** Change **+1 (1.7pp)**

Nominated by Taoiseach (of 11)
9 (82%) **+5 (45.5pp)**

Women elected/nominated	SE2020	SE2016	SE2011
Vocational panels	12	11	10
University Seats	3	3	1
Taoiseach nominees	9	4	7
	24	18	18
	40%	30%	30%

Female candidates (for panel election and election to university seats)

	Candidates	Female	%
SE2020	147	46	31.3
SE2016	171	44	25.7
SE2011	164	34	20.7

Sources: Houses of the Oireachtas, *Seanad Éireann election results (2011, 2016 and 2020)* and Gallagher and March, *How Ireland Voted (2011 and 2016 editions)*.

Female Senators elected/nominated (by party/group)

	GP	LAB	IND	SF	FF	FG	
Senators elected	2	5	9	5	16	12	49
No. of women	2	4	4	2	3	0	15
%	100	80	44	40	19	0	30.6

	FG	IND	FF	GP	
Senators nominated	4	1	4	2	11
No. of women	4	1	3	1	9
%	100	100	75	50	82

	LAB	GP	IND	SF	FF	FG	
Total Senators	5	4	10	5	20	16	60
No. of women	4	3	5	2	6	4	24
%	80	75	50	40	30	25	40

HIGHEST (%) ← → LOWEST (%)



By Party / Grouping



DETAILED RESULTS

Vocational panels, university seats and Taoiseach's nominees



By Gender

MAIN TAKEAWAYS

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- SF** In SE2020, only 3 parties (**Fianna Fáil**, **Fine Gael** and **Sinn Féin**) have seats on every vocational panel. FF and FG also received 4 Taoiseach's nominees each. FF is the largest party in the 26th Seanad with 20 Senators, followed by FG (16).
- IND** **Independents** have 10 seats (4 vocational panel seats, 5 university seats and 1 Taoiseach's nominee), and are (collectively) the third largest group in the 26th Seanad. This compares to 14 seats in SE2016 and 13 Seats in SE2011.
- SF** **LAB** **Sinn Féin** has 5 seats (on all 5 vocational panels) compared to 7 in SE2016 and 3 in SE2011. The **Labour Party** has 5 seats (4 vocational panels seats and 1 university seat). This compares to 5 seats in SE2016 and 11 in SE2011.
- GP** The **Green Party** has 4 seats (2 vocational panels and 2 Taoiseach's nominees) compared to 1 seat in SE2016 and 0 in SE2011.

Vocational panels

12 female:31 male [28%:72%]

Female representation, as a proportion of all seats, is highest on the **Industrial & Commercial panel** where 4 of the 9 seats were won by females (44%) compared to 3 of 9 (33%) in SE2016 and 5 of 9 in SE2011 (56%). Its lowest on the **Labour panel** (18%) compared to 18% in SE2016 and 27% in SE2011.

24

Female

Male

36

University seats

3 female:3 male [50%:50%]

There is an even gender split across the **university seats** overall (50%) in both SE2020 and SE2016. This is up from just 16% in SE2011.

Taoiseach's nominees

9 female:2 male [82%:18%]

The vast majority of the **Taoiseach's nominees** (82%) are women, compared to 36% in SE2016 and 64% in SE2011.

