

Michael Ahern

Minister for Trade and Commerce

Michael Ahern was born on Jan. 20, 1949, in Dungourney, County Cork. He studied at University College Dublin, where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in economics, politics and psychology. He also studied theology at Kimmage Manor, in Dublin.

Before entering politics, Mr. Ahern was an accountant.

A member of the Fianna Fáil Party, Mr. Ahern was first elected to the Dáil (Lower House) in 1982. Mr. Ahern has served on several parliamentary committees and is a former chair of the Joint Committee on Finance and Public Service and the Standing Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills.

From 1992 to 1993, Mr. Ahern was Minister of State, Department of Industry and Commerce, with special responsibility for Science and Technology.

Mr. Ahern was appointed Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (with special responsibility for Trade and Commerce) in 2002.

Mr. Ahern and his wife have three children.