Consumption Tax Trends* - Lithuania

VAT rate 2020
Lithuania's standard VAT rate is 21.0%, which is above the OECD average. The average VAT/GST¹ standard rate in the OECD was 19.2% as of 31 December 2020. The previous standard VAT rate in Lithuania was 19.0% until August 2009. It changed to the current level in September 2009. Lithuania applies reduced VAT rates of 5% and 9% to a number of goods and services. Specific reduced VAT rates apply in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. VAT was introduced in Lithuania in 1994 at a standard rate of 18.0%. Since then the minimum and maximum standard rates have been at 18.0% and 21.0% respectively.

VAT Revenue Ratio
The figures may not present the difference to the second decimal point accurately due to rounding. The VAT Revenue Ratio (VRR) for Lithuania was 0.53 in 2018, below the OECD average of 0.56. The VRR is a measure of the revenue raising performance of a VAT system. A ratio of 1 would reflect a VAT system that applies a single VAT rate to a comprehensive base of all expenditure on goods and services consumed in an economy - with perfect enforcement of the tax. Lithuania’s VRR increased from 0.51 in 2016 to 0.53 in 2018. The lowest VRR was recorded in the years 1996 and 2004 at 0.46 and the highest level in 2007 at 0.61.

1. VAT/GST refers to value added tax/goods and services tax
Source: OECD Tax Database 1st January 2020

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VAT/GST and Excise Rates, Trends and Policy Issues

OECD Consumption Tax Trends 2020
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Consumption Tax Trends provides information on Value Added Tax/Goods and Services Tax (VAT/GST) and excise duty rates in OECD member countries.

It also contains information about international aspects of VAT/GST developments and the efficiency of this tax. It describes a range of other consumption taxation provisions on tobacco, alcoholic beverages and motor vehicles.

International VAT/GST Guidelines
OECD International VAT/GST Guidelines

The International VAT/GST Guidelines present a set of internationally agreed standards and recommended approaches to address the issues that arise from the uncoordinated application of national VAT systems in the context of international trade.

They focus in particular on trade in services and intangibles, which poses increasingly important challenges for the design and operation of VAT systems worldwide.

They notably include the recommended principles and mechanisms to address the challenges for the collection of VAT on cross-border sales of digital products that had been identified in the context of the OECD/G20 Project on Base and Erosion and Profit Shifting (the BEPS Project).


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