

# Overview of Taxes

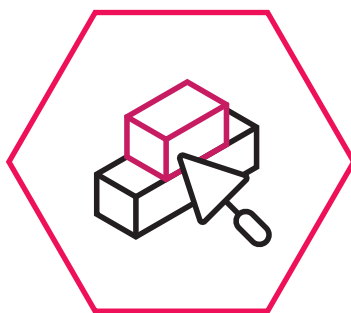
Student Activity Worksheet

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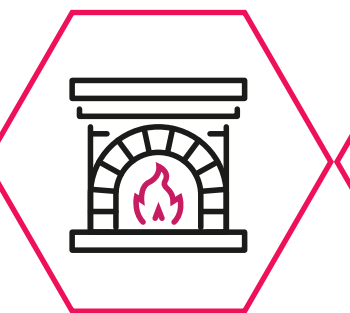
Solutions



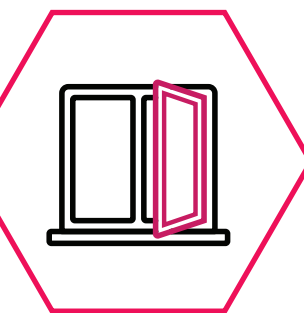
1. Carry out some online research to identify the year in which the following taxes were introduced in Ireland.



**Brick Tax**  
**1784**



**Hearth Tax**  
**1663**



**Window Tax**  
**1799**

2. Using the internet, identify the year that each tax below was introduced in Ireland. Write a brief explanation of each tax.

Name of Tax	Year Introduced	Explanation
Income Tax	1853	A tax on an employee's income. The current rates are 20% and 40%.
Corporation Tax	1976	A tax on a company's profits. The rate charged for most companies is 12.5%.
Vehicle Registration Tax (VRT)	1993	A tax paid when registering a new vehicle and vehicles imported to Ireland.
Capital Gains Tax (CGT)	1975	A tax paid on the profit made on the sale of an asset.
Deposit Interest Retention Tax (DIRT)	1986	A tax paid on interest earned on savings.
Local Property Tax (LPT)	2013	This is a self-assessed tax based on the market value of residential property in Ireland.
Sugar Sweetened Drinks Tax (SSDT)	2018	<p>The tax applies to water and juice drinks which have added sugar and a total sugar content of five grams or more per 100 millilitres.</p> <p>It also applies to certain plant protein drinks and drinks containing milk fats. SSDT applies to these drinks if they do not have a calcium level of at least 119 milligrams per 100 millilitres.</p>

3. Investigate the current rates of the following taxes in Ireland and identify who pays each tax.

Name of Tax	Rate	Who pays the tax?
Income Tax	20% 40%	Employees
Deposit Interest Retention Tax (DIRT)	33%	People who have earned interest on their savings in financial institutions.
Value Added Tax (VAT) [standard rate]	23%	Anyone who pays for goods and services.
Capital Gains Tax (CGT)	33%	A person that disposes of an asset.
Capital Acquisitions Tax (CAT)	33%	People who receive a gift or an inheritance up to a set value.

4. It is the responsibility of every homeowner in Ireland to pay an annual charge for Local Property Tax. As this is a self-assessed tax, homeowners use the Local Property Tax Valuation Guide to identify the rate they should pay.

You will need to search for **three properties** around the country using websites such as [www.daft.ie](http://www.daft.ie), [www.myhome.ie](http://www.myhome.ie) or local estate agents. You could choose a combination of urban and rural locations. Once you have found these properties access the Local Property Tax Valuation Guide <https://lpt.revenue.ie/lpt-web/valuation-guide/index.htm> to find out what charge the homeowner is liable to pay. Record the information you find in the following table.

- Students will gather their own answers for this question.

## **5.** Research three unusual taxes from around the world.

Students can research unusual taxes from around the world. Some useful webpages include:

### **11 Weirdest Taxes Other Countries Have to Pay**

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/11-weirdest-taxes-other-countries-100000068.html>

### **Top 12 Weirdest Tax Rules Around the World**

<https://www.cnbc.com/2014/02/14/top-12-weirdest-tax-rules-around-the-world.html>

### **9 Strangest Taxes in History**

<https://kaplan.co.uk/insights/article-detail/insights/2021/04/15/9-strangest-taxes-in-history>