

# Overview of Taxes

Student Activity Worksheet

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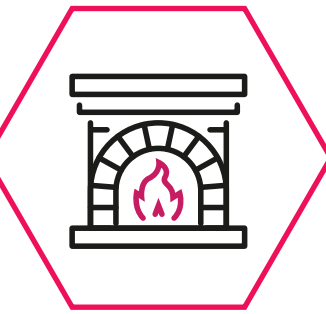
Solutions



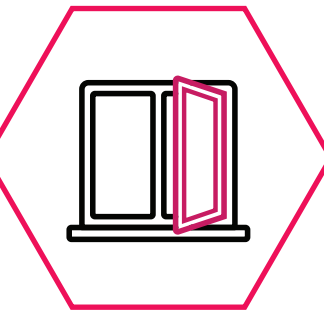
1. Carry out some online research to identify the year in which the following taxes were introduced in Ireland.



**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	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.  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.

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>