

## VAT rates in Europe

The VAT (value-added tax) is a general consumption tax imposed on business at each stage of the manufacture and production of a good or service and based on the increase in price, or value, provided by each level.

Each Member State of the European Union has its own VAT rate, only the minimum rate is fixed by the European Union at 15 %.

Please keep in mind that there are lower rates and exemptions for specific products (e.g. medicine) or services (e.g. in France, the VAT-rate is reduced to 5,5 % for the work of craftsmen if the building they are working on is more than two years old).

As each Member State has its own VAT legislation, the most reliable sources of information on current VAT rates are the countries' VAT authorities.

Here some of the VAT rates of the European Union (no responsibility is taken for the correctness of this information)

<b>Member State</b>	<b>% VAT</b>
Austria	20
Belgium	21
Bulgaria	20
Cyprus	15
Czech Republic	19
Denmark	25
Estonia	18
Finland	22
France	19.6
Germany	19
Greece	19
Hungary	20
Ireland	21
Italy	20
Latvia	18
Lithuania	18
Luxemburg	15
Malta	18
Netherlands	19
Poland	22
Portugal	21
Romania	19
Slovakia	19
Slovenia	20
Spain	16
Sweden	25
United Kingdom	17.5