Consumption Tax Trends* - Israel

VAT rate 2020
The Israeli standard VAT rate is 17.0%, which is below the OECD average. The average VAT/GST\(^1\) standard rate in the OECD was 19.2% as of 31 December 2020. The previous standard VAT rate in Israel was 18% in 2014. It changed to the current level in October 2015. Israel applies a reduced rate of 0% to a number of goods and services as well as one specific regional rate. VAT was introduced in Israel in 1976 at a standard rate of 8.0%. Since then the minimum and maximum standard rates have been at 8.0% and 18.0% respectively.

VAT Revenue Ratio
The figures may not present the difference to the second decimal point accurately due to rounding.

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

VAT Revenue Ratio
The VAT Revenue Ratio (VRR) for Israel was 0.63 in 2018, above 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. The Israeli VRR remained stable at 0.63 between 2016 and 2018. The lowest VRR was recorded in the year 2004 at 0.58 and the highest level in 1995, 1996, 1997, 2007 and 2011 at 0.66.
Consumption Tax Trends 2020

VAT/GST and Excise Rates, Trends and Policy Issues

[OECD website link]

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 website link]

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).

Source: OECD Consumption Tax Trends 2020 [OECD website link]

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