

Title: **Bad news on sales tax**  
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 Size: 8.68 column inches  
 Lexington, SC Circulation: 5652



## Bad news on sales tax

If you shop locally and wonder where the money goes, the Tax Foundation has an explanation. South Carolinians pay the 17th-highest sales taxes in the nation, according to a new report from the nonpartisan think tank.

The ranking, arrived at by combining state sales taxes and a population-weighted average of local sales taxes, is another rebuke to public officials who tout the Palmetto State as a low-tax environment.

The highest rate is Louisiana, at 10.02%.

The lowest non-zero rate is Alaska, at 1.76%.

South Carolina comes in at 7.37%.

That's just lower than Colorado at 7.5% and higher than Minnesota at 7.29%.

Delaware, Oregon, Montana and New Hampshire have no sales taxes.

**Robert Meyerowitz, S.C. Policy Council**