## Verbal Description

The table shows the state sales tax rates on purchased goods in the year 2005 for the six New England states.

Table of Values

2005 Sales Tax Rates
in New England States

| States | Sales Tax Rate |
| :---: | :---: |
| Connecticut | $6 \%$ |
| Maine | $5 \%$ |
| Massachusetts | $5 \%$ |
| New Hampshire | $0 \%$ |
| Rhode Island | $7 \%$ |
| Vermont | $6 \%$ |

## Analysis

1. What was the range of 2005 sales tax rates for the New England states? Show or explain how you got your answer.
2. What was the mean sales tax rate in 2005 for the New England states? Show or explain how you got your answer.
3. What was the median sales tax rate in 2005 for the New England states? Show or explain how you got your answer.
4. A newspaper reporter stated that the mode of the 2005 sales tax rates for the New England states was 5\%. Was the reporter correct? Explain your reasoning.

## Extension:

5. Massachusetts raised its sales tax to $6.25 \%$. Which was not affected by the increase in MA sales tax: mean, median, mode, range? Show or explain how you got your answer. (Strategy: What is the mean? What is the median? What is the mode? What is the range?)
