

Changes in Market Equilibrium 6.2

- **How do shifts in supply affect market equilibrium?**
- **How do shifts in demand affect market equilibrium?**
- **How can we use supply and demand curves to analyze changes in market equilibrium?**

Shifts in Supply

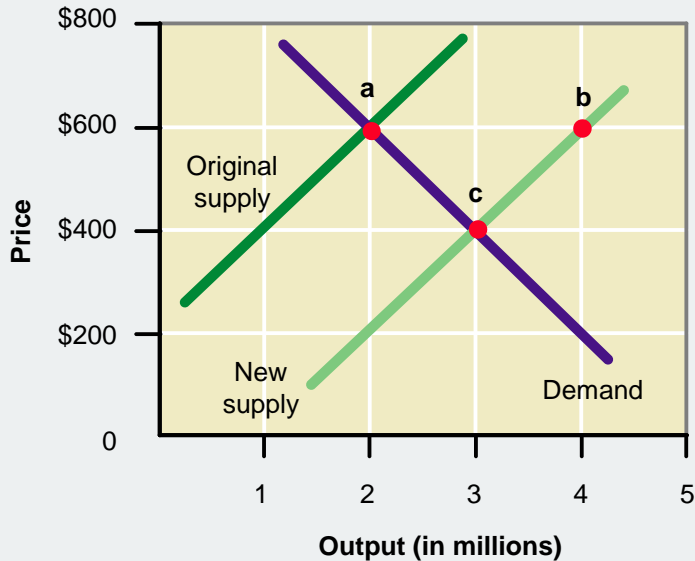
- **Understanding a Shift**
 - Since markets tend toward equilibrium, a change in supply will set market forces in motion that lead the market to a new equilibrium price and quantity sold.
- **Excess Supply**
 - A surplus is a situation in which quantity supplied is greater than quantity demanded. If a surplus occurs, producers reduce prices to sell their products. This creates a new market equilibrium.
- **A Fall in Supply**
 - The exact opposite will occur when supply is decreased. As supply decreases, producers will raise prices and demand will decrease.

Shifts in Demand

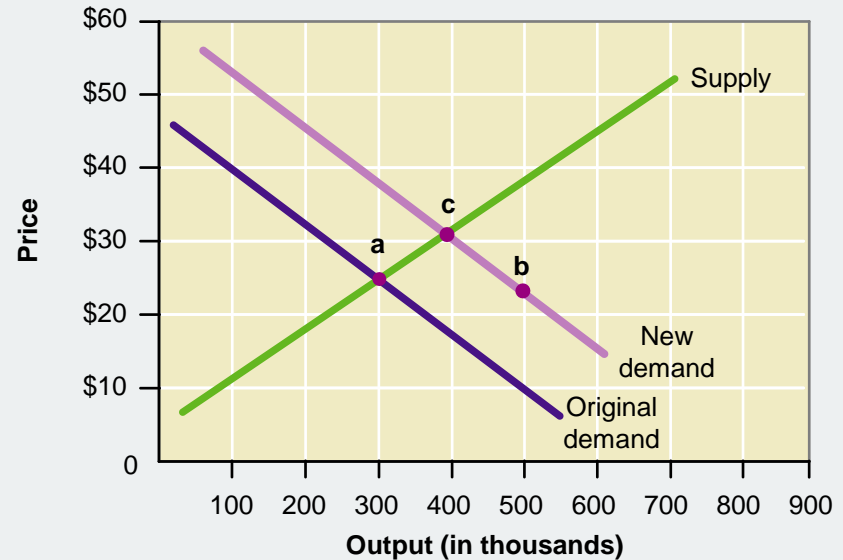
- **Excess Demand**
 - A shortage is a situation in which quantity demanded is greater than quantity supplied.
- **Search Costs**
 - Search costs are the financial and opportunity costs consumers pay when searching for a good or service.
- **A Fall in Demand**
 - When demand falls, suppliers respond by cutting prices, and a new market equilibrium is found.

Analyzing Shifts in Supply and Demand

Graph A: A Change in Supply



Graph B: A Change in Demand



- **Graph A shows how the market finds a new equilibrium when there is an increase in supply.**
- **Graph B shows how the market finds a new equilibrium when there is an increase in demand.**

Section 2 Assessment

1. When a new equilibrium is reached after a fall in demand, the new equilibrium has a
 - (a) lower market price and a higher quantity sold.
 - (b) higher market price and a higher quantity sold.
 - (c) lower market price and a lower quantity sold.
 - (d) higher market price and a lower quantity sold.
2. What happens when any market is in disequilibrium and prices are flexible?
 - (a) market forces push toward equilibrium
 - (b) sellers waste their resources
 - (c) excess demand is created
 - (d) unsold perishable goods are thrown out

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