SECTION 4.2 CHANGES IN EQUILIBRIUM PRICE AND QUANTITY

- A shift in the demand curve caused by a change in the price of a related good (substitutes or complements), income, the number of buyers, tastes, or expectations – results in a change in equilibrium price and equilibrium quantity.
- A shift in supply will also change equilibrium price and quantity. An increase in supply results in a lower equilibrium price and a higher equilibrium quantity. Conversely, a decrease in supply results in a higher equilibrium price and a low equilibrium quantity.
- The summer, when people do more travelling has a demand side effect and is represented by a shift in the demand curve. The demand for gasoline increases in the summer and will tend to increase prices. Similarly, prices of hotel rooms at ski resorts will be lower in the off-season than prices during skiing season.





• A shift in the supply curve also influences both equilibrium price and quantity. An increase in supply shifts the supply curve to the right, resulting in a lower equilibrium price and a greater equilibrium quantity.





When supply and demand move at the same time, we can predict the change in one variable (price or quantity), but we are unable to predict the direction of effect on the other variable with any certainty. This change in the second variable is indeterminate, because it cannot be determined without additional information about the relative changes in supply and demand.



Exhibit 6	The Effect of Changing Demand and/or Supply		
If Demand	and Supply	Then Equilibrium Quantity	and Equilibrium Price
1. Increases	Stays unchanged	Increases	Increases
2. Decreases	Stays unchanged	Decreases	Decreases
3. Stays unchanged	Increases	Increases	Decreases
4. Stays unchanged	Decreases	Decreases	Increases
5. Increases	Increases	Increases	Indeterminate*
6. Decreases	Decreases	Decreases	Indeterminate*
7. Increases	Decreases	Indeterminate*	Increases
8 Decreases	Increases	Indeterminate*	Decreases

change in supply.

