

Q21. Explain price elasticity of demand.

Ans: Price elasticity of demand is the measure of the degree of responsiveness of the demand for a good to the changes in its price. It is defined as the percentage change in the demand for a good divided by the percentage change in its price.

percentage change in the demand for a good

 $e_{d\,\pm}$ percentage change in the price of a good

$$e_{d} = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta P} \times \frac{P}{Q}$$

Where,

 $\Delta Q = Q_2 - Q_1$, change in demand

 $\Delta P = P_2 - P_1$, change in price

P = initial price

Q = initial quantity

22. Consider the demand for a good. At price Rs 4, the demand for the good is 25 units. Suppose price of the good increases to Rs 5, and as a result, the demand for the good falls to 20 units. Calculate the price elasticity.

Ans:
$$P_1 = 4$$
, $Q_1 = 25$
 $P_2 = 5$, $Q_2 = 20$
 $\Delta P = P_2 - P_1 = 5 - 4 = 1$
 $\Delta Q = Q_2 - Q_1 = 20 - 25 = -5$
 $e_d = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta P} \times \frac{P}{Q}$
 $= \frac{-5}{1} \times \frac{4}{25}$
 $= \frac{-4}{5}$
 $e_{d = -0.8}$

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