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True Cost of Inflation: Arbitrary redistribution of income from
workers to employers

CPI = 200

2009



CPI = 204

2019

Inflation =

204

200



$\times 1000 = 2\%$

-2000

If your **Nominal** wage **stays the same** between 2009 and 2019





$$\text{Real Wage} = \frac{60,000}{200} \times 100 = 30,000$$

$$\text{Real Wage} = \frac{60,000}{204} \times 100 = 29,400$$

Your Real wage decrease

Nominal Wage = 60,000

Nominal Wage = 60,000

Individuals whose incomes increase less than inflation, lose purchasing power

Employers who enjoyed sale prices rising while wages paid remain the same
or increase less than inflation, gain purchasing power

Nominal Salary = 60,600

If your **Nominal** salary **increase less than 2%** between 2009 and 2019

$$\text{Real Salary} = \frac{60,000}{200} \times 100 = 30,000$$

$$\text{Real Salary} = \frac{60,600}{204} \times 100 = 29,706$$

True Cost of Inflation: **Arbitrary** redistribution of income from workers to employers

CPI = 200

2009

CPI = 204

2019

$$\text{Nominal Wage} = 60,000 \quad \text{Inflation} = \frac{204 - 200}{200} \times 100 = 2\% \quad \text{Nominal Salary} = 60,600$$

If your **Nominal** salary **increase less than 2%** between 2009 and 2019

$$\text{Real Salary} = \frac{60,000}{200} \times 100 = 30,000$$

$$\text{Real Salary} = \frac{60,600}{204} \times 100 = 29,706$$

Your **Real** wage **decrease**

Individuals whose incomes **increase less than inflation**, **lose** purchasing power

Employers who enjoyed sale prices rising while wages paid remain the same or increase less than inflation, **gain** purchasing power

