

CONCEPT: SHIFTS IN SHORT-RUN PHILLIPS CURVE AND EXPECTED INFLATION

- Two of the main macroeconomic concerns for policy makers are **unemployment** and **inflation**

- However, it is hard to control both at the same time!
- The position of the short-run Phillips Curve is related to _____ inflation

$$Real\ Wage = \frac{Nominal\ Wage}{Price\ Level}$$

The **real wage** (purchasing power) adjusts the amount of dollars you are actually paid for the price level in the economy
- (i.e. The same nominal wage will buy less stuff at higher prices)

If workers and firms expect a certain level of inflation (say 1.5%), but a higher inflation rate occurs (say 4.5%):

Expected Real Wage _____ Actual Real Wage

Firms will hire _____ workers leading to _____ unemployment

Price Level _____ and Unemployment _____, but ONLY because the inflation was _____

If the new inflation rate (i.e. 4.5%) persists, it becomes the expected level of inflation → Shifts the SR Phillips Curve

Rational Expectations Theory – when forecasting the future, people use all publicly available information

- In this case, people are making rational decisions about the level of expected inflation

Long-Run Phillips Curve

