A sizable share of unemployment can be attributed to frictions in the labor market. The simultaneous existence of vacancies and job seekers proves that job search requires effort and time. To improve the efficiency of this process, many countries offer active labor market policies. Evaluating how these programs affect job prospects of job seekers is crucial for effective policy making and forms the basis of this thesis.

Chapter 2 compares different methods to assess the effect of such programs on job finding of participants. Chapter 3 describes a field experiment to investigate how job search strategies and labor market outcomes are affected by the provision of detailed labor market statistics. Chapter 4 examines the possibility that activation programs affect non-participating job seekers through general equilibrium effects. Chapter 5 has a slightly different focus and studies the relation between childcare subsidies and female labor supply.

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