When designing labor market policy, policymakers are in need of empirical and causal evidence of the effectiveness of their policies. This thesis consists of four empirical studies to evaluate the causal effects of various types of labor market policies in the Netherlands. Chapter two studies the effects of the length of the Unemployment Insurance entitlement period on job finding and post-unemployment outcomes. The third chapter exploits the removal of Disability Insurance (DI) experience rating for small firms to estimate the effects of experience rating on the DI inflow and outflow. Next, the fourth chapter investigates whether DI experience rating causes financial distress amongst firms or triggered firms to reduce labor costs by increasing layoffs. Finally, chapter five uses a large-scaled randomized experiment to study the effects of a job search program for older unemployed workers.

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