CONTENTS

Preface vii

1 Introduction 1

1.1 Central Topics in the Thesis 1
1.2 Micro data 7
1.3 Research questions 9
1.4 Structure of the thesis 10

2 Wage inequality in the Netherlands: evidence and trends 15

2.1 Introduction 15
2.2 Data 19
2.3 Trends in inequality 21
2.4 Decomposition of changes in wage inequality 32
2.5 The regional dimension of wage inequality 38
2.6 Conclusion 41

3 Regional wage differences in the Netherlands: micro evidence on agglomeration externalities 43

3.1 Introduction 43
3.2 Sources of regional wage differences 46
3.3 Data and methodology 49
3.4 Stylized facts 53
3.5 Estimation of the Mincer equation 57
3.6 Explanation of the spatial residual 61
3.7 Robustness 68
3.8 Conclusion 72
## Contents

4   The educational bias in commuting patterns 75

4.1   Introduction 75

4.2   Related literature and theoretical background 78

4.3   Data and stylized facts 81

4.4   Econometric analyses 86

4.5   Conclusion 99

5   Estimating the impact of trade, offshoring and multinationals on job loss and job finding 103

5.1   Introduction 103

5.2   Globalization and unemployment 105

5.3   Data and stylized facts 108

5.4   Empirical framework 121

5.5   Empirical results 125

5.6   Conclusion 135

6   The impact of foreign knowledge workers on productivity 137

6.1   Introduction 137

6.2   Theories and evidence on diversity and knowledge spillovers 139

6.3   Data and stylized facts 144

6.4   Empirical evidence 155

6.5   Conclusion 164

7   Conclusion 167

Appendix A. NUTS-3 classification 177

Nederlandstalige samenvatting (summary in Dutch) 179

References 185