Data Description for Replication Purposes:

This paper relies on tabulations based on confidential data from the Social Security Administration. The original micro data and related programs are not freely accessible to researchers not affiliated with the Social Security Administration. An overview of properties and access of Social Security Data is given in the paper "Uses of Administrative Data at the Social Security Administration," by Jennifer McNabb, David Timmons, Jae Song, and Carolyn Puckett, which is published in the Social Security Bulletin, Vol. 69 No. 1, 2009, http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/ssb/v69n1/v69n1p75.html.

The Social Security data we use to obtain our tabulations have also been merged to the Survey of Income and Program Participation. The micro data are available remotely to researchers via the Research Data Centers of the Census Bureau. Researchers have to follow a standard application procedure that is described on the Census website http://www.census.gov/sipp/synth_data.html.

Our Data Appendix describes in detail how we constructed our samples and tabulations.

The majority of our findings is based on straightforward comparison of means and can be easily replicated with standard software.