SOI Releases New Data From Form W-2

By James Nunns

Newly released Form W-2 data from the Statistics of Income Division of the IRS describe in detail the wages and retirement contributions of workers from 2008 through 2010. SOI economists Kevin Pierce and Jon Gober provide an overview of the data and compare them with (much less detailed) data for prior years in an SOI Bulletin article. Three charts illustrate the depth and usefulness of the new data:


Wages for both women and men follow a lifecycle pattern, rising until about age 55 and then falling; women’s wages are lower than men’s at every age; and the ratio of women’s wages to men’s falls with age, except for the oldest workers.