Connecticut’s uninsured rate continues to drop

New numbers from the US Census Bureau report that 172,000 or 4.9% of Connecticut residents remained uninsured last year. While that number is still larger than the total population of any Connecticut city or town, it is down by 39,000 from the year before. This continues a trend that began with implementation of coverage expansions under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2014. Connecticut’s uninsured rate remains far better than the US rate of 8.6%.

Most Connecticut residents continue to be covered by an employer-based plan, although that rate has been declining for years.
There is no evidence that the ACA has reduced employer-sponsored coverage in Connecticut. While employer-sponsored coverage has eroded in our state, as it has nationally, that loss pre-dated the ACA.

Connecticut residents remain more likely to have employer-sponsored coverage than most Americans.
Connecticut lost more employer-sponsored coverage from 2008 through 2013, during the recession (-213,000) than since ACA expansions (-32,000).

Surprisingly, Connecticut Medicaid enrollment grew more before the ACA expansion than after, likely due to the recession. Since 2013 the percent of Connecticut residents with Medicaid coverage has stayed very close to the national average.