

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [Our Model Suggests That Global Deaths Remain 5% Above Pre-Covid Forecasts](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/2023/05/23/our-model-suggests-that-global-deaths-remain-5-above-pre-covid-forecasts>

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**Summary:** Because data on total mortality is scant outside the rich world, our model's estimates have become less precise over time. Its confidence interval for the world's current excess-death rate stretches from near zero all the way up to the estimated levels of mid-2020. However, excluding the recent surge in China, its best guess for the past year is around one of every 1M people per day. As a share of people aged at least 65, excess-death rates in rich countries are three times lower than elsewhere. But because such places have older populations, their overall mortality rate is similar. Covid may not be the sole cause of this change. Some countries' health-care systems remain strained, and cases of other diseases that went untreated in 2020-21 could be raising death rates today. But if covid were indeed responsible for the full increase, it would be tied for the world's fourth-leading cause of death. At current rates, it would kill more people in the next eight years than in the past three.

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