Macro Roundup Artcile

Headline: In China's Covid Fog, Deaths of Scholars Offer a Clue

Article Link: https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2023/02/05/world/asia/china-obits-covid.html

Author(s)	Pablo Robles, Vivian Wang and Joy Dong
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Tweet: An analysis of obituaries of elite Chinese scientists and engineers finds that during December 2022 and January 2023 they were dying at 4x the rate of the previous four years, giving a glimpse into the scale of Chinese covid surge. @nytimes

Summary: We examined the obituaries published over the past four years by the state-backed Chinese Academy of Engineering and the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The academies' members, who are drawn from research institutions across the country, help shape national policy and steer research priorities. The engineering academy currently has about 900 members, and the science academy about 800, according to their websites. The obituaries did not specify the scholars' causes of death beyond "illness," and the academies did not answer requests for more specifics. But the spike late last year coincided with the coronavirus's rapid spread across the country. From 2019 to 2021, the Harbin Institute of Technology, one of the top engineering schools in the world, had published between one and three obituaries for professors and staff members in those months. Between December and last month, it announced 29 deaths.

Primary Topic: China

Topics: China, Factoid, News article, Sell-by Date

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