

# Weekly Progress Roundup

AI is becoming more efficient, rising cancer diagnoses signal progress, ChatGPT may replace your doctor.

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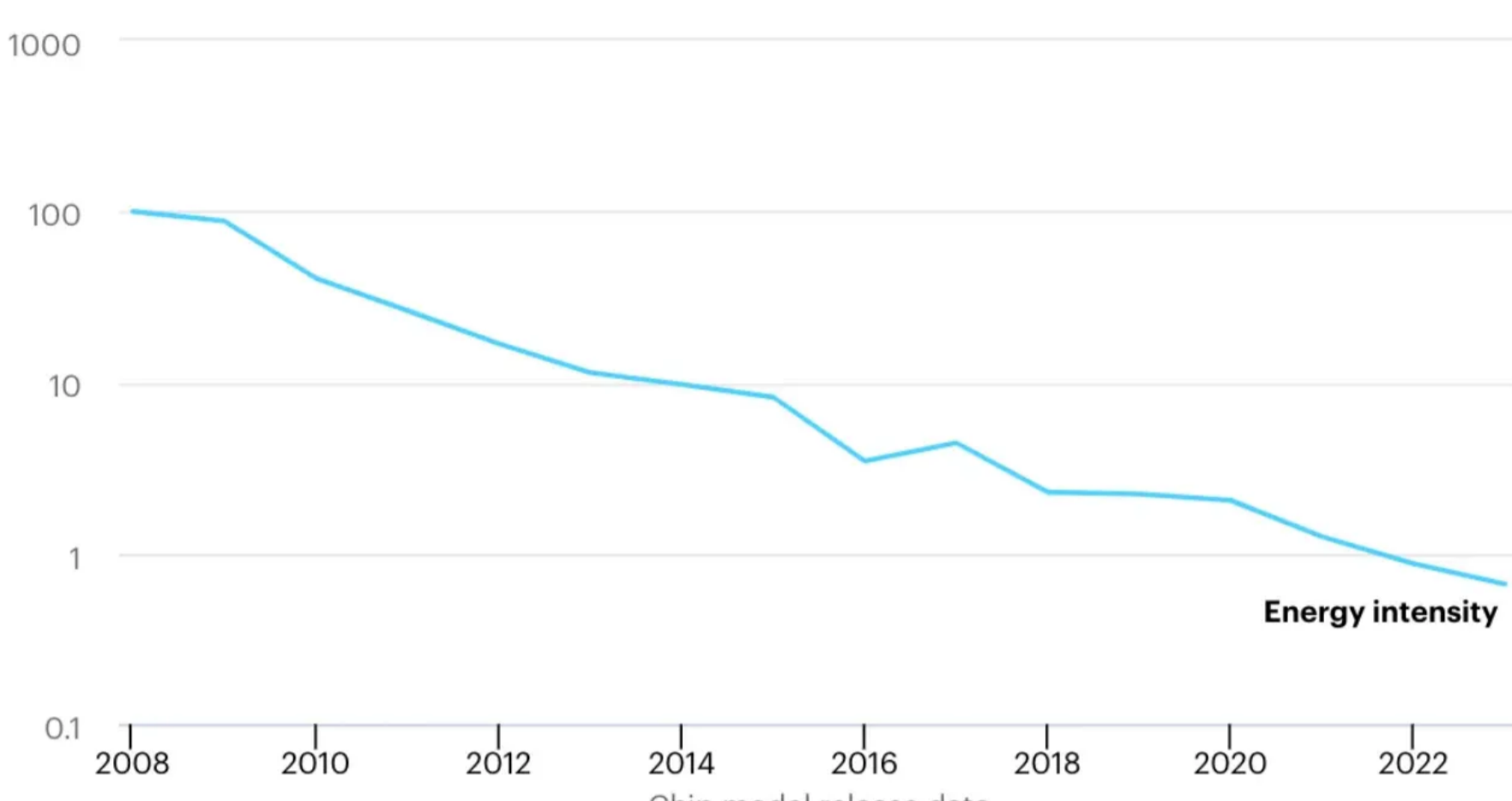
## AI energy demand may be smaller than expected

There's been a lot of ink spilled over the energy needs of data centers as the artificial intelligence industry takes off. However, the International Energy Agency [projects](#) only modest growth in energy demand from data centers in the near future. The key is efficiency gains. As the data scientist Hannah Ritchie writes, the energy intensity of AI chips is now "less than 1% of what it was in 2008."

### Efficiency improvement of AI related computer chips, 2008-2023

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Index of energy intensity of AI computer chips (2008=100, log scale)



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We've seen this dynamic before:

"If you were to take the expected growth in internet technologies since 2010 and assume that energy demand would follow, then you do get pretty scary numbers.

But energy demand did not follow in the same way ... Between 2010 and 2018, global data centre compute increased by more than 550%. Yet *energy use* in data centres increased by just 6%."

## Rise in pancreatic cancer diagnoses signals progress

Pancreatic cancer diagnoses have become increasingly common since the beginning of the 21st century. It turns out this may be a good thing. According to a recent study, the reason is [improvements in medical imaging](#), which have allowed doctors to detect and remove early-stage tumors before they become dangerous. This also explains why the rise in pancreatic cancer diagnoses in the United States has not been accompanied by an increase in pancreatic cancer deaths.

## Consider ChatGPT the next time you need to see the doctor

In a [recent experiment](#), researchers gave a group of doctors six case histories and graded their ability to accurately diagnose the patients and explain their reasoning. The doctors who used ChatGPT scored an average of 76 percent. The doctors who didn't scored 74 percent.

ChatGPT alone scored 90 percent.

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