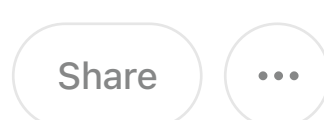# Weekly Progress Roundup

The global march of progress has resumed

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The early 2020s were not a great time for human progress—or Human Progress. The world felt like it was falling to pieces, and no one was really interested in hearing about how good we have it compared to a few decades or centuries ago.

Thankfully, that period of partial regress is now behind us.

Global life expectancy, a solid proxy for overall human well-being, reached an all-time high in 2023, with further growth expected in 2024. World Bank estimates suggest that global poverty has fallen below its 2019 level, and the world is richer than ever. Deaths from HIV and tuberculosis, among humanity's deadliest enemies, are trending downward.

Not everything is rosy. Undernourishment and conflict deaths, for instance, have risen since the pandemic began. In general, however, the global march of progress has resumed.

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