

# Beijing extends work-from-home order as COVID-19 cases rise

May 23 2022



A restaurant closed to dine-in customers is open for takeout orders of ingredients for customers to self cook in Shanghai, China, Sunday, May 22, 2022. Numerous residential compounds in Beijing have restricted movement in and out, although conditions remain far less severe than in Shanghai, where millions of citizens have been under varying degrees of lockdown for two months. Credit: AP Photo/Chen Si

Beijing extended orders for workers and students to stay home and ordered additional mass testing Monday as cases of COVID-19 rose in the Chinese capital.

Numerous residential compounds in the city have restricted movement in and out, although conditions remain far less severe than in Shanghai, where millions of citizens have been under varying degrees of lockdown for two months.

Beijing on Monday reported an uptick in new cases to 99, up from a previous daily average of around 50. Two more districts, Shijingshan and Haidian, began a work-from-home policy this week, bringing the total to six. In cases where people need to go to their offices, the number of workers is limited to 30% of the normal level.

Nationwide, China reported 802 new cases Monday, marking a steady decline interrupted only by small-scale localized outbreaks. Despite that, the government has hewed to strict quarantine, lockdown and testing measures under its ["zero-COVID" approach](#), even while the outside world is opening up.

About 550 of the new cases were in Shanghai, where restrictions are only gradually being eased. The city reopened four of its 20 subway lines on Sunday, with trains operating on a reduced schedule of every 20 minutes from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Workers labor inside a station for collecting samples for COVID tests in Shanghai, China, Sunday, May 22, 2022. Numerous residential compounds in Beijing have restricted movement in and out, although conditions remain far less severe than in Shanghai, where millions of citizens have been under varying degrees of lockdown for two months. Credit: AP Photo/Chen Si



A resident walks past a worker at a sample collection center for mass COVID testing in Shanghai, China, Sunday, May 22, 2022. Numerous residential compounds in Beijing have restricted movement in and out, although conditions remain far less severe than in Shanghai, where millions of citizens have been under varying degrees of lockdown for two months. Credit: AP Photo/Chen Si



Passengers in protective overalls wait for their train at the Hongqiao Railway Station in Shanghai, China Sunday, May 22, 2022. The locked-down Chinese metropolis of Shanghai opens some public transit services as it slowly eases pandemic restrictions that have kept most residents in their housing complexes for more than six weeks. Credit: Chinatopix via AP



Passengers wait for their train at the Hongqiao Railway Station in Shanghai, China Sunday, May 22, 2022. The locked-down Chinese metropolis of Shanghai opens some public transit services as it slowly eases pandemic restrictions that have kept most residents in their housing complexes for more than six weeks. Credit: Chinatopix via AP



Passengers wait for their train at the Hongqiao Railway Station in Shanghai, China Sunday, May 22, 2022. The locked-down Chinese metropolis of Shanghai opens some public transit services as it slowly eases pandemic restrictions that have kept most residents in their housing complexes for more than six weeks. Credit: Chinatopix via AP



A man tries to receive medicine he bought at a pharmacy through its closed glass doors in Shanghai, China, Sunday, May 22, 2022. Numerous residential compounds in Beijing have restricted movement in and out, although conditions remain far less severe than in Shanghai, where millions of citizens have been under varying degrees of lockdown for two months. Credit: AP Photo/Chen Si





A passenger in protective overall waits to board a train at the Hongqiao Railway Station in Shanghai, China Sunday, May 22, 2022. The locked-down Chinese metropolis of Shanghai opens some public transit services as it slowly eases pandemic restrictions that have kept most residents in their housing complexes for more than six weeks. Credit: Chinatopix via AP



A barber offering free haircuts for elderly residents serves a customer in Shanghai, China, Sunday, May 22, 2022. Numerous residential compounds in Beijing have restricted movement in and out, although conditions remain far less severe than in Shanghai, where millions of citizens have been under varying degrees of lockdown for two months. Credit: AP Photo/Chen Si



A worker chats with a man in protective overall outside a restaurant closed to dine-in customers but open for takeout orders of ingredients for customers to self cook in Shanghai, China, Sunday, May 22, 2022. Numerous residential compounds in Beijing have restricted movement in and out, although conditions remain far less severe than in Shanghai, where millions of citizens have been under varying degrees of lockdown for two months. Credit: AP Photo/Chen Si



Delivery men sort out parcels on the street in Shanghai, China, Sunday, May 22, 2022. Numerous residential compounds in Beijing have restricted movement in and out, although conditions remain far less severe than in Shanghai, where millions of citizens have been under varying degrees of lockdown for two months. Credit: AP Photo/Chen Si



A child is held as she lines up for mass COVID test near Chinese Communist Party propaganda advocating responsibility and discipline on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing. Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan



A worker collects a bag of samples for mass COVID test on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing. Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan



Residents line up for mass COVID test on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing.  
Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan



A resident gets swabbed during mass COVID test on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing. Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan





Residents line up for mass COVID test on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing.  
Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan



Elderly residents wearing mask chat on a street on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing. Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan



Residents line up for mass COVID test on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing.  
Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan



Workers walk out from a partial closed mall area on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing. Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan



A resident gets swabbed during mass COVID test on Monday, May 23, 2022, in Beijing. Credit: AP Photo/Ng Han Guan

The number of new cases in China's largest city has fallen under 1,000 for eight days in a row, but outbreaks could still come back in some areas, said Lei Zhenglong, the deputy chief of disease control and prevention at the National Health Commission.

A reopening of transport links out of Shanghai has created an exodus of migrant workers and others who were trapped by the lockdown. Among those who remain, some have been issued exit passes to leave their residential compounds or neighborhoods for a limited time for shopping or walks, while others remain restricted to their buildings.

© 2022 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Citation: Beijing extends work-from-home order as COVID-19 cases rise (2022, May 23)  
retrieved 12 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2022-05-beijing-work-from-home-covid-cases.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.