

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Xi Jinping Faces Stiffest Challenge to Rule as Covid Outrage Sparks Mass Protests](#)

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Summary: At least 10 cities, including Shanghai, Beijing, Wuhan, and Chengdu, were shaken by rare political protests over the weekend, triggering clashes with police and security officers that led to a spate of detentions. The sudden outbreak of civil disobedience was sparked by outrage after a deadly apartment fire in Urumqi, Xinjiang, was partly blamed on coronavirus restrictions. While most of the protests appeared to have been stamped out by Monday, they followed months of frustration, especially among China's young people, with relentless lockdowns, quarantines, mass testing, and electronic surveillance under Xi's zero-Covid policies.

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