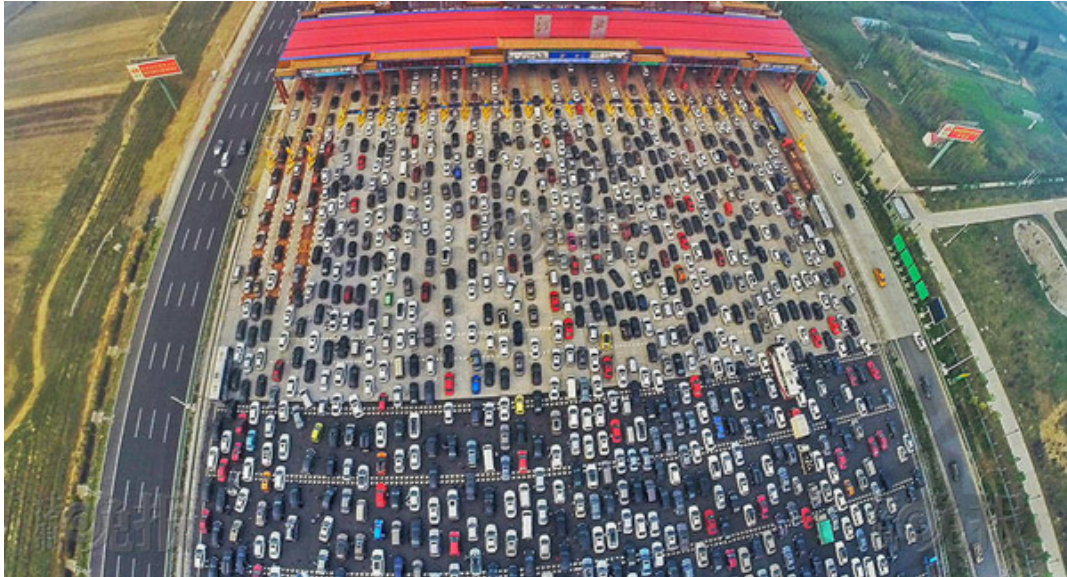


《Severe traffic jams expected around mega-cities》

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The congestion began even earlier in Beijing. Traffic was slow on major expressways linking Beijing to its suburbs Tuesday, as outbound Beijing residents left after their vacation.

In east China's Zhejiang Province, traffic on a major expressway linking Ningbo and Wenzhou has increased since Tuesday afternoon. Transportation authorities estimate the traffic will peak on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, traffic-flow in east China's Jiangsu Province has steadily increased since Sunday. Local weather bureaux forecast rainfall on Wednesday, which will further aggravate the traffic conditions.