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Thursday July 22nd 2010

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Aviation industry

Flying high in the east

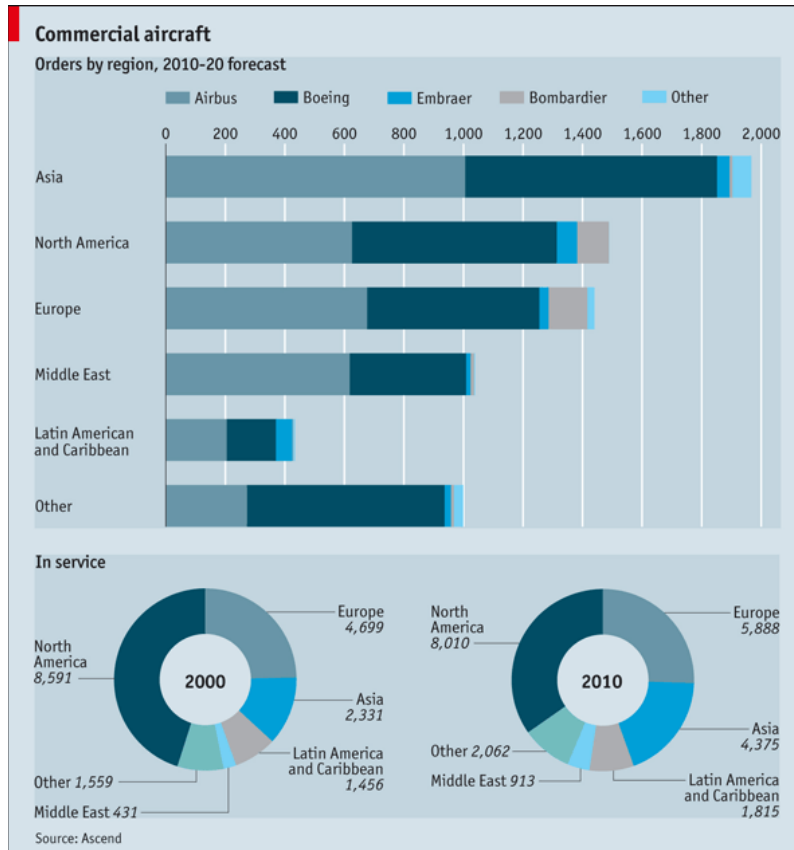
Asian and Middle Eastern airlines' share of the world's aircraft fleet is set to grow

Jul 21st 2010

BY THE third day of the Farnborough Airshow on Wednesday July 21st, aircraft-makers had announced new orders worth around \$25 billion. A whopping \$9 billion order for 40 Boeing 777s from Emirates highlighted the [ambitious expansion plans of the Gulf's airlines](#). Analysis by Ascend, an aerospace consultancy, shows that the Middle Eastern airlines' fleets have more than doubled in the past ten years. They have placed orders for over 1,000 new aircraft for delivery by 2020—or 14% of the industry's entire order book. Even so, the Asian airlines, especially China's, will be the planemakers' biggest customers in the coming decade. By 2020, the North American and European airlines will no longer dominate the skies to the extent they do now.

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