

Boeing airplane orders and deliveries surged in 2021

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Boeing's sales and deliveries of new planes surged late 2021 as customers looked beyond the Covid pandemic's toll on travel demand, but the manufacturer still ended the year behind chief rival Airbus.

Boeing handed over 340 jetliners to airlines and other buyers, up from 157 in 2020, it said Jan. 12. The company's shares added to earlier gains after the numbers were released and ended the day up 3.2% at \$216.02., reuters.com and cnbc.com reported.

The deliveries were led largely by the 737 Max, which regulators worldwide had grounded for nearly two years after a fatal crash in 2018 and another in 2019. Airbus said Monday that it delivered 611 planes last year, up 8% from 2020.

The increase in deliveries was welcome news for Boeing, which has struggled in the wake of the crashes, the pandemic and manufacturing issues that have paused handovers to customers of its 787 Dreamliners for much of the past 14 months.

Chicago-based Boeing logged 909 gross orders for jets, more than 700 for the Max, including at least 50 for budget carrier and Airbus operator Allegiant. Sales of freighters were another bright spot, thanks to a surge in e-commerce demand and air freight with Boeing adding orders from UPS, Atlas Air and FedEx.

That topped Airbus' 771 gross commercial orders in 2021. Including cancellations, Boeing's net orders totaled 479 but that rose to 535, including accounting adjustments, which adds or subtracts sales based on airline financial health or other factors.

Airbus and Boeing orders and deliveries as of Dec. 31, 2021:

- Airbus net orders: 507, net deliveries: 611
- Boeing net orders: 535, net deliveries: 340

Airbus kept its crown as the world's largest jetmaker for the third year running as it outstripped Boeing by delivering 611 jets in 2021, up 8% from the year before, company data showed on Jan. 10.

Boeing is scheduled to report fourth-quarter and full-year results before the market opens on Jan. 26.

