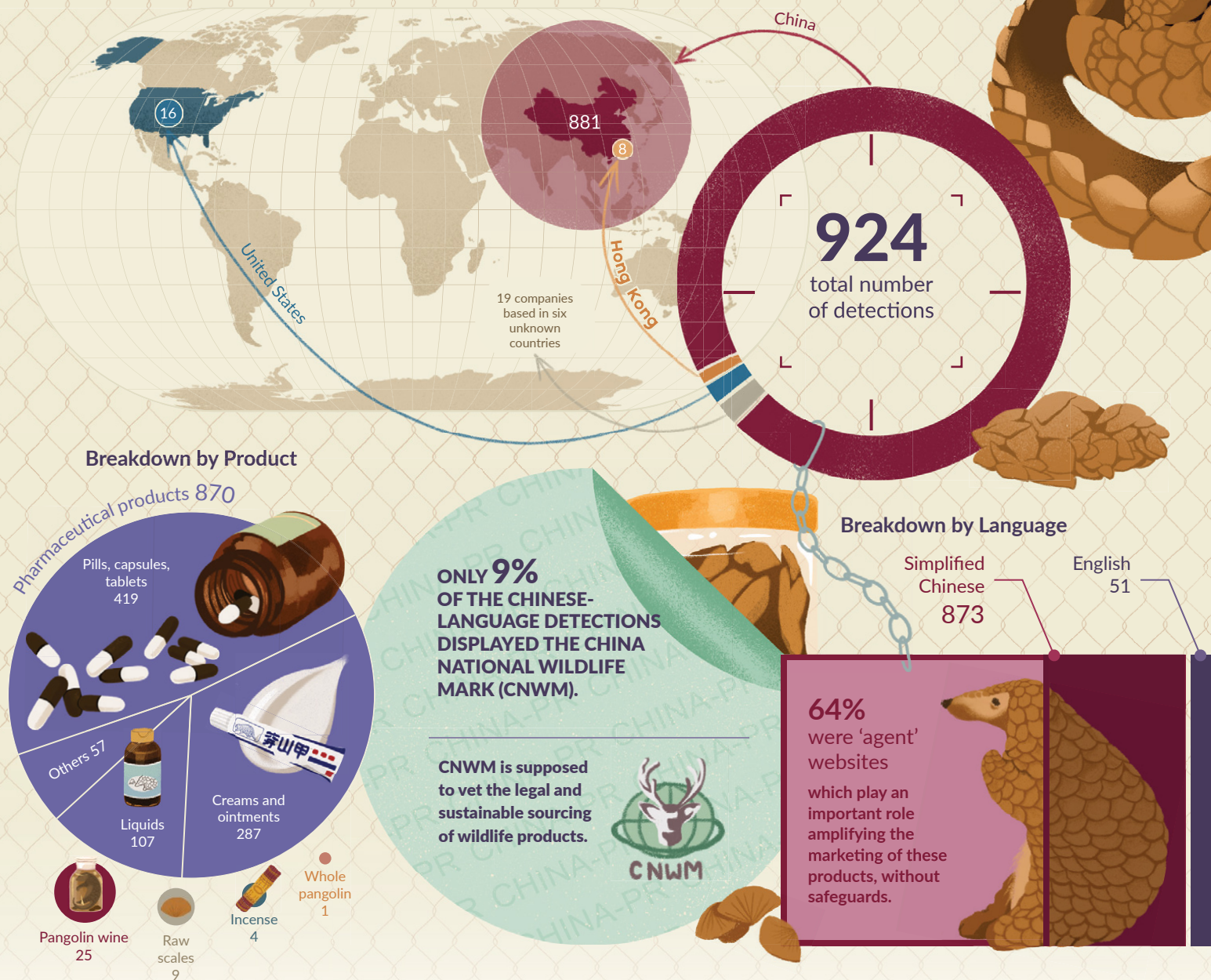


PANGOLIN TRAFFICKING

Despite pangolins benefiting from the highest protection levels in China and internationally, pangolins and traditional Chinese medicine drugs listing pangolin products are still widely advertised online, without clear indications about the origin of the scales. This practice may be fueling demand for illegally trafficked pangolin scales.



KEY TAKEAWAYS



Despite strict and strong laws, the online market for pangolin-derived traditional Chinese medicine drugs is largely not compliant with national and international laws and regulations.



Without the CNWM logo and other information, customers are not able to make informed decisions about the impact of their consumption of pangolin-derivatives on the continued existence of the species. They are being misled by omission.



'Agent' websites act as important intermediaries in the trade chain, but are not bound by the same rules as manufacturers or sellers of pangolin-derived products.



Online sites may also be contributing to the circulation of pangolin-derived items in non-Chinese markets.



More pressure from law-enforcement agencies is needed to encourage e-commerce platforms to self-police and deter the illicit trade in pangolin-derived items.