

TAKEAWAY FACTS

NOT WHALE FOOD



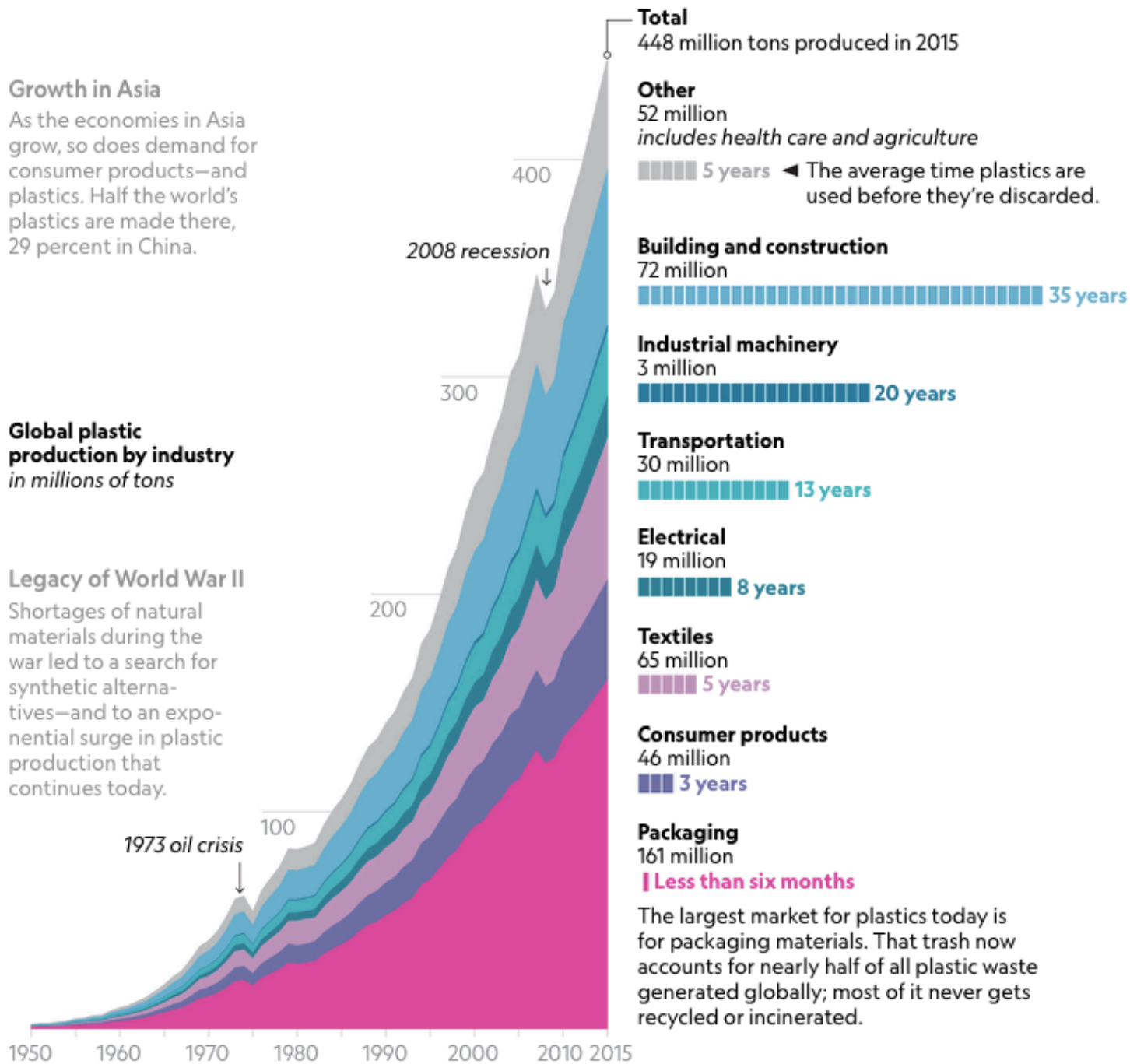
Growth in Asia

As the economies in Asia grow, so does demand for consumer products—and plastics. Half the world's plastics are made there, 29 percent in China.

Global plastic production by industry in millions of tons

Legacy of World War II

Shortages of natural materials during the war led to a search for synthetic alternatives—and to an exponential surge in plastic production that continues today.



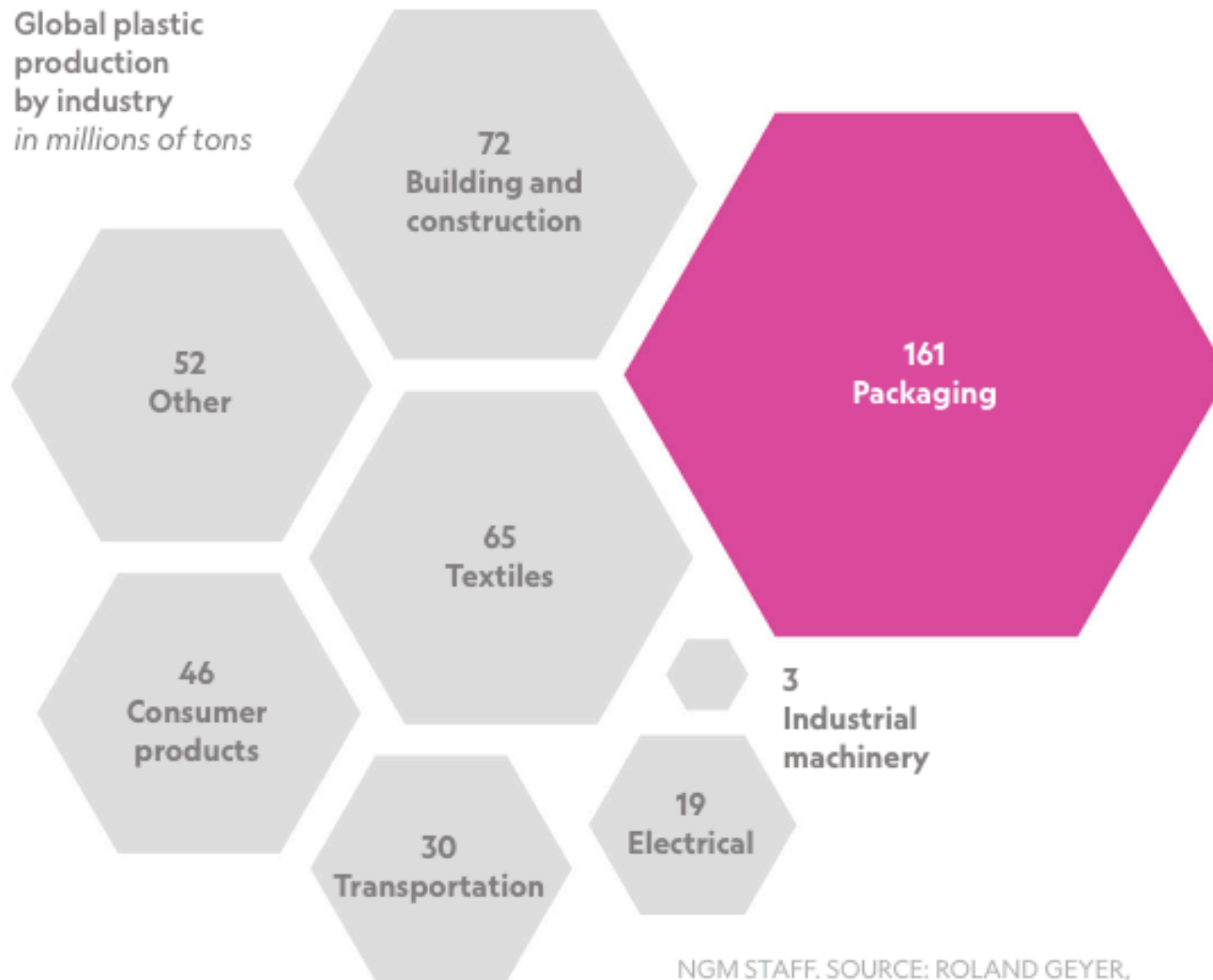
Some 18 billion pounds of plastic waste flows into the oceans every year from coastal regions.



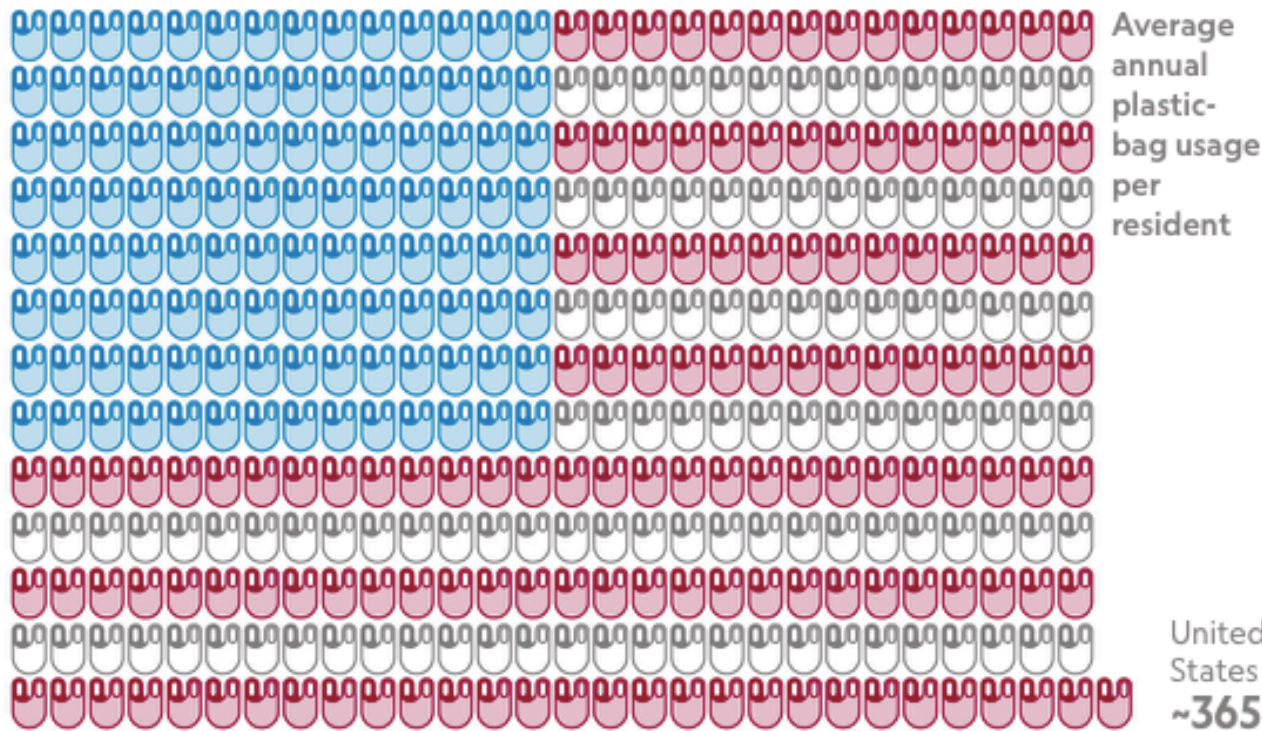
That's the equivalent of **five grocery bags of plastic trash sitting on every foot of coastline around the world.**

40 percent of plastic produced is packaging,
used just once and then discarded.

Global plastic
production
by industry
in millions of tons

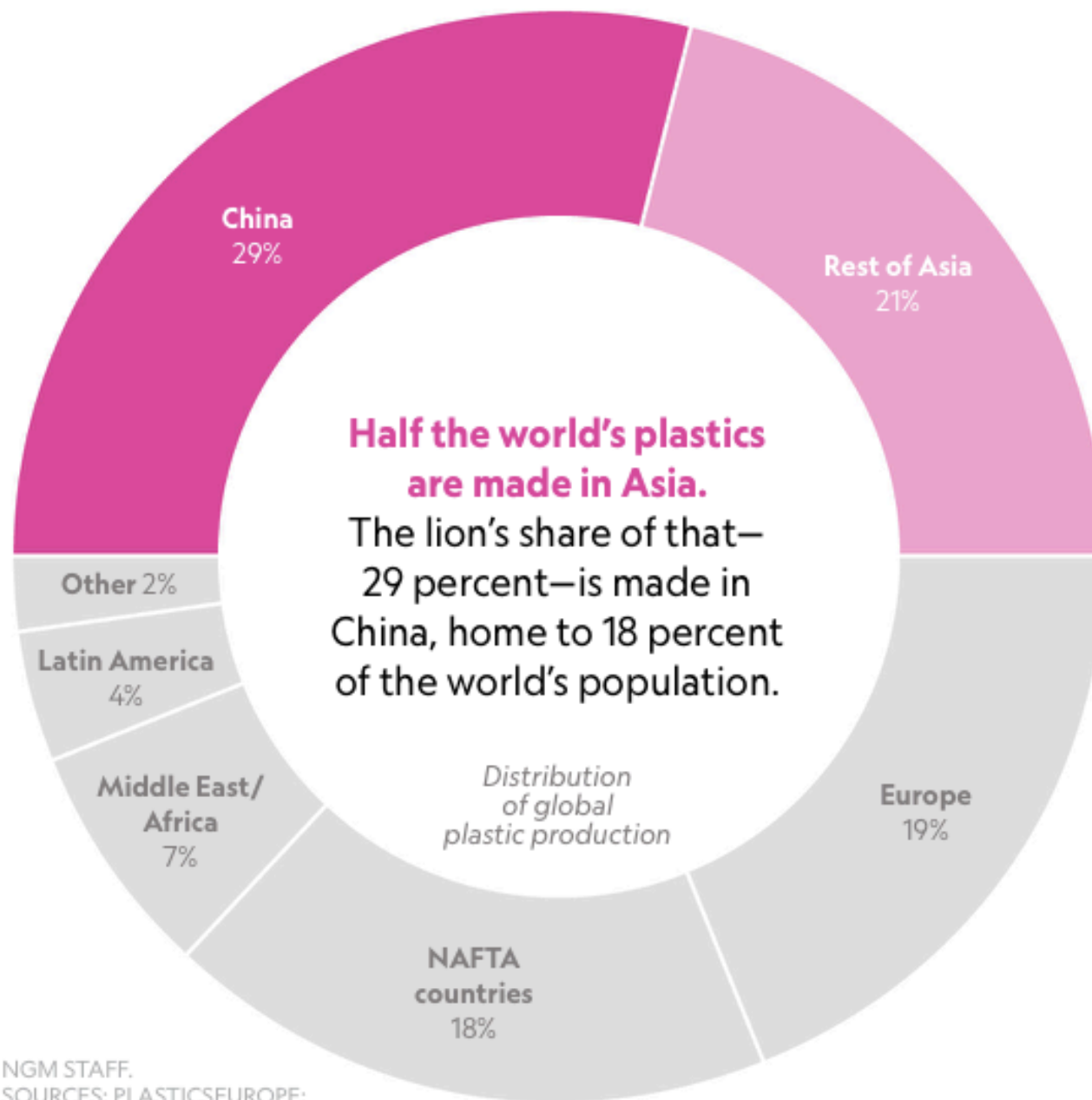


NGM STAFF. SOURCE: ROLAND GEYER,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA



Shoppers in the United States use **almost one per resident per day.**

Shoppers in Denmark use an average of four plastic bags *a year.*



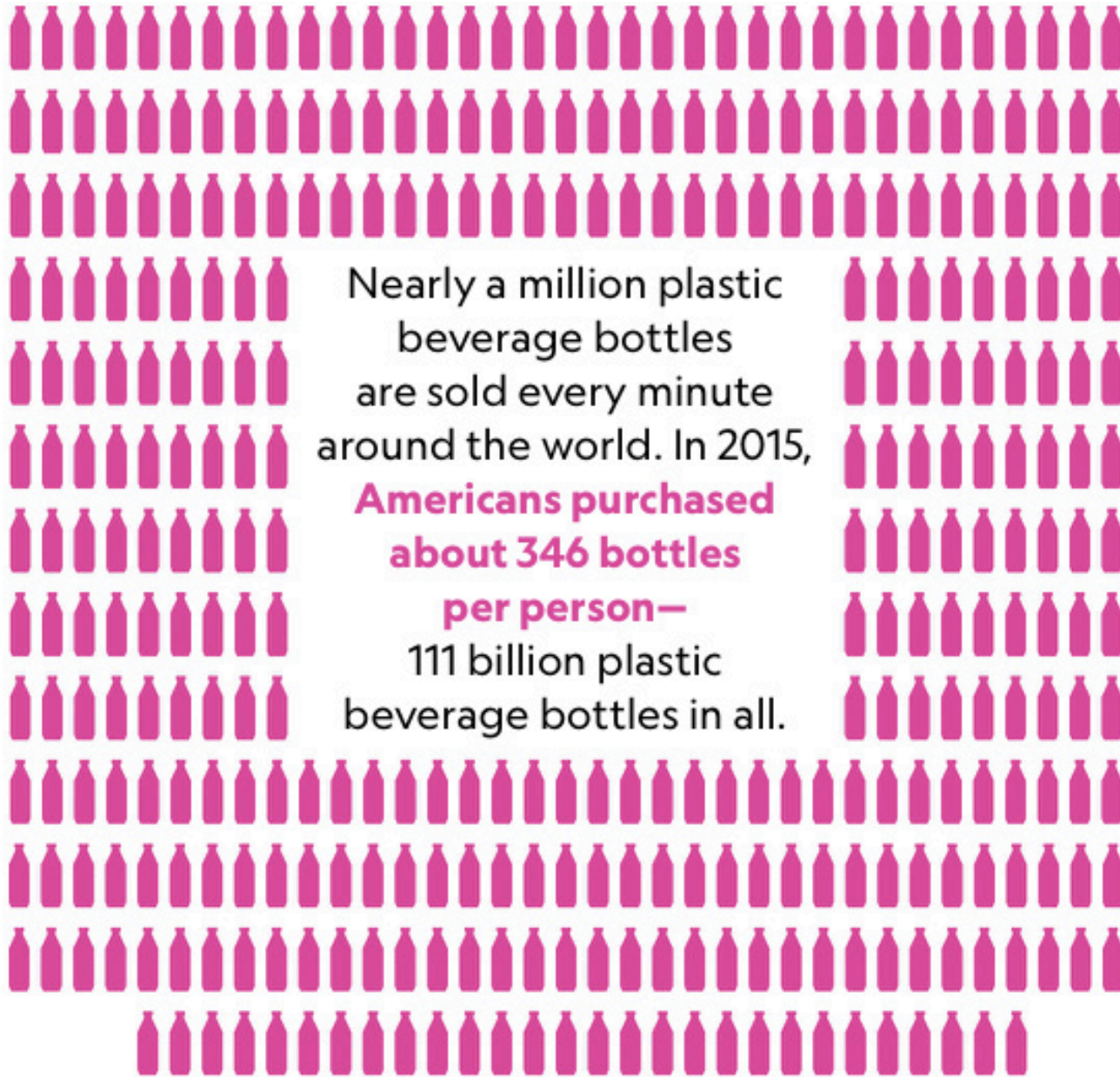
Half the world's plastics are made in Asia.
The lion's share of that—29 percent—is made in China, home to 18 percent of the world's population.

Distribution of global plastic production

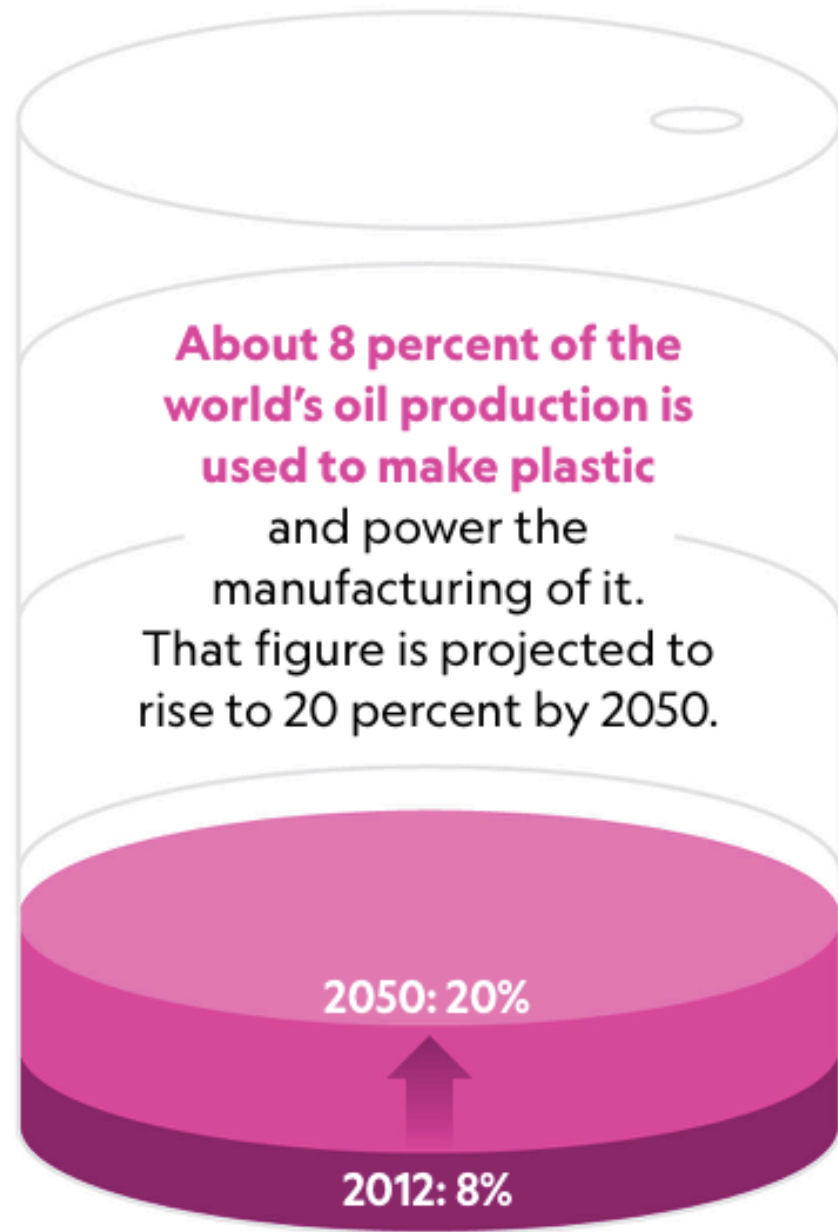
NGM STAFF.
SOURCES: PLASTICSEUROPE;
POPULATION REFERENCE BUREAU



Plastic recycling rates are highest in Europe at 30 percent.
China's rate is 25 percent.
The United States recycles just 9 percent of its plastic trash.



NGM STAFF. SOURCE: EUROMONITOR INTERNATIONAL; CONTAINER RECYCLING INSTITUTE



NGM STAFF. SOURCE: WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM



1 bottle

A single 1L bottle could break down into enough small fragments to put one on every mile of beach in the entire world.

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450 years

A single use plastic bottle that makes its way into the ocean can take 450 years to break down, meaning it lives twice as long as a Bowhead Whale – one of the longest living creatures on the planet.

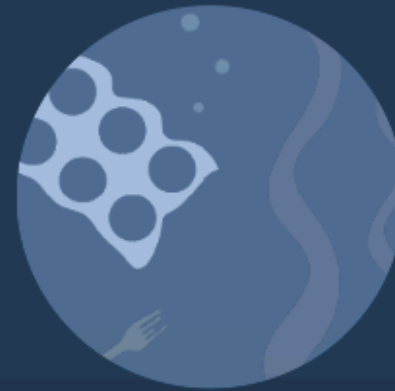
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480 billion

More than 480 billion plastic drinking bottles were sold in 2016 across the world.

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80 bags

80 plastic bags were found in the stomach of a dead pilot whale in 2018.

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THANK YOU
FROM TEDDY AND MEG