

FACT SHEET

## Aggregate Fast Facts

Aggregates play a vital role in our daily lives as the primary component in concrete and asphalt which are essential for constructing roads and bridges, homes, businesses, schools, hospitals and places of worship. Aggregates also are used in everyday products such as paper, glass, medicines, and fertilizer.

Here's just a sampling of how we use aggregate in our everyday lives...

### Essential material for residential and commercial structures

Aggregates are present from the concrete in the foundation all the way up to the shingles on the roof—and everywhere in between, like the wallboard, tile, glass and plaster.

### Main component in all facets of transportation

Roads and interstates	Subway tunnels
Bridges and tunnels	Sidewalks
Railroad beds	Bike Paths and greenways
Airport runways, terminals and flight towers	

### Used to protect the environment

Erosion control	Water filtration
Slope protection	Sewage control
Dam construction	Wastewater control
Shoreline and navigation channels protection	Drinking water purification
Limestone aggregates are used in some smokestacks to help clean the air by reducing sulfur dioxide emissions	

### Did you know?

Every Virginian will need 1.18 million pounds of stone, sand and gravel in their lifetime.

Nearly all crushed stone, sand and gravel are used within 50 miles of where they were extracted, making aggregates a truly local business.

Aggregates make up 94% of asphalt pavement and 80% of concrete.

Approximately 38,000 tons of aggregates are required to construct one mile of a four-lane interstate highway.

About 400 tons of aggregates are required to construct the average modern home.

Hoover Dam was built with 4.5 million cubic yards of aggregates.