



# Sustainability Factsheet 2020

## Our commitment

At CRH we are acutely aware of our role in advancing the global sustainability agenda. As a global leader in building materials, sustainability is deeply embedded in all areas of our strategy and business model and we recognise the value creation opportunities it offers.

We are committed to playing our part in delivering a carbon neutral future and have set an ambition to achieve carbon neutrality along the cement and concrete value chain by 2050.

## Our 2030 ambitions

Our ambition is to drive improvement and growth across all areas of sustainability. To ensure that we continue to create sustainable value, we have set ambitious, industry-leading targets which represent the areas in which we believe we can deliver the most change.

Our targets are benchmarked and support the overall ambition and specific provisions of the Paris Agreement and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.



### Safety

Our ambition is to have a culture of safety and wellness working towards zero harm.

#### Our target:

Zero fatalities, in any year



### Environment

Our ambition is to play our part in addressing climate change as we strive for carbon neutrality along the cement and concrete value chain.

#### Our target:

33% CO<sub>2</sub> reduction by 2030 to 520kg CO<sub>2</sub>/tonne cementitious product



### Customers

Our ambition is to offer more solutions that contribute to a sustainable built environment.

#### Our target:

50% revenue from products with enhanced sustainability attributes by 2025



### People

Our ambition is to be a business where everyone has the same opportunity to develop and progress.

#### Our target:

33% female senior leadership by 2030

## Our products

CRH has a long history of producing high-performing, climate-friendly materials and products which play an important role in shaping a more sustainable built environment.

This includes our concrete which is among the most sustainable building materials in existence when evaluated on a full life-cycle basis.

## Benefits of concrete



### Durability in design

When it comes to designing structures that are built to last, the long-term durability of concrete offers significant efficiencies over demolition and rebuild.



### Thermal properties

Concrete has the ability to absorb heat during the day and release it at night, lowering energy use for heating and cooling, as well as associated emissions.



### Recarbonation

Hydrated cement used in concrete naturally absorbs CO<sub>2</sub> throughout its life-cycle, a process known as cement recarbonation or carbon uptake, thus removing carbon from the atmosphere.



### Recyclable

Due to its flexibility and adaptability, concrete is 100% recyclable and processed recycled concrete can be used in road construction, land reclamation and building products.



### Locally and responsibly sourced

Our concrete is created from locally sourced raw materials with a short supply chain, thereby minimising carbon emissions of transport and ensuring a high traceability of materials.



### Flood resilience

Because of its strength and water resilience, concrete can be used in the construction of water barriers and other flood-resistant structures.



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## Our 2019 performance

Our six sustainability priorities ensure we are focusing on the areas that are most important to our business and our stakeholders.

 <p><b>Safety</b> 94% of locations were accident-free</p>	 <p><b>Environment</b> Exceeded our 2020 CO<sub>2</sub> specific net emission reduction commitment with a 26% reduction compared with 1990 levels</p>	 <p><b>People</b> 98% of employees received training, exceeding our 2020 target</p>
 <p><b>Customers</b> Recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) and shingles provided a fifth of raw material requirements in our US asphalt business</p>	 <p><b>Collaboration</b> Our operating companies hosted over 1,400 stakeholder engagement events</p>	 <p><b>Integrity</b> c. 34,600 employees completed Code of Business Conduct (CoBC) training</p>

## Our sustainability recognitions

 <p>FTSE4Good Corporate ESG Performance ISS ESG Prime</p>	 <p>Included in ETHIBEL SUSTAINABILITY INDEX EXCELLENCE Global</p>	 <p>CDP DISCLOSURE INSIGHT ACTION</p>	 <p>MEMBER OF Dow Jones Sustainability Indices In collaboration with SAM</p>
		 <p>Member 2019/2020 ESG LEADERS INDICES</p>	 <p>201 Constituent MSCI ESG Leaders Indexes</p>

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Published in 2015, the United Nations' (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a call to action for a better and more sustainable future. We have assessed the detailed targets behind each of the 17 SDGs and identified the four that most closely align to where we, as a building materials company, can have the most impact and influence.

 <p><b>9</b> INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</p>	 <p><b>11</b> SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p>	 <p><b>12</b> RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</p>	 <p><b>13</b> CLIMATE ACTION</p>
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## Sustainability in action



We offer multiple products and building solutions with enhanced sustainability attributes, including products with lower environmental footprints, concrete products used in flood defence systems, as well as sustainable building envelope solutions. An increasing number of our products are also helping customers achieve higher scores in green building rating schemes, such as BREEAM® and LEED®.



Safety is our top priority and we demand the highest safety standards in everything we do. Our safety culture is driven by employees and management at every level as we work to achieve our common goal – that nobody gets hurt at work. Our businesses collaborate to drive safety improvements across our industry and beyond, implementing best practice safety management systems and health and wellbeing programmes across all our locations.



We aim to develop more capable, inclusive and resilient communities through a shared global approach. Our companies contribute to their local communities through employment, supporting educational development and supporting local businesses, empowering communities and providing opportunities for us to create common value.



For more detail on our sustainability performance please see our 2019 Sustainability Report at: [www.crh.com/sustainability/publications](http://www.crh.com/sustainability/publications)

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