

PUBLIC SAFETY: MALAYSIAN CONSTRUCTION SITES 2026 by Shereen Montero

Navigating Hazards and Compliance Under the
Amended OSHA 1994 Framework

Malaysian Construction Safety Landscape

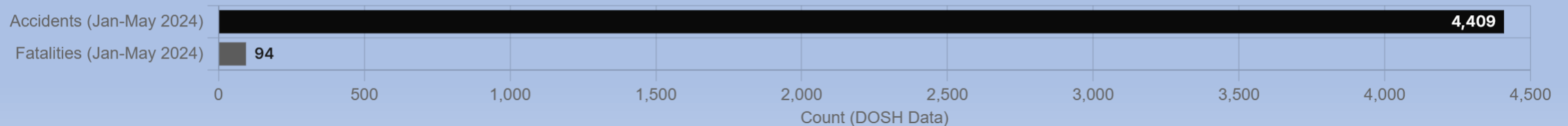
RM 178.6B

Sector Work Done Value (2025)

12.5%

Annual Growth Rate YoY

As of 2026, construction remains a high-risk sector in Malaysia. The scale of growth necessitates stringent public protection measures to prevent unauthorized entry and hazards.



Key Hazards to Public Safety

Falling Objects

Debris, tools, or building materials falling from heights pose lethal risks to pedestrians and passing vehicles.

Open Excavations

Unfenced trenches or deep holes can lead to accidental falls, particularly at night or in poorly lit areas.

Heavy Machinery

Cranes, excavators, and trucks maneuvering near site boundaries can strike civilians if zones are not hoarded.

Dust & Noise

Excessive noise pollution and airborne particles can cause respiratory issues and hearing damage for neighbors.

Malaysian Legal Framework

OSHA 1994 (Amended 2024)

- Effective June 1, 2024: Scope expanded to all workplaces in Malaysia.
- FMA 1967 Repealed: Core requirements now under OSHA.
- Penalty: Up to RM 500,000 for non-compliance.
- Section 17: Employers **MUST** protect the public.

CIDB & Green Card Rules

- MyDigital ID: Required for all CIDB card processes from Jan 8, 2026.
- SICW Course: Mandatory safety induction pass for site entry.
- Act 520: Fines of RM 5,000 per unaccredited skilled worker.
- Coordination: OSH Coordinator required for 5+ staff.

Mandatory Site Safety Measures

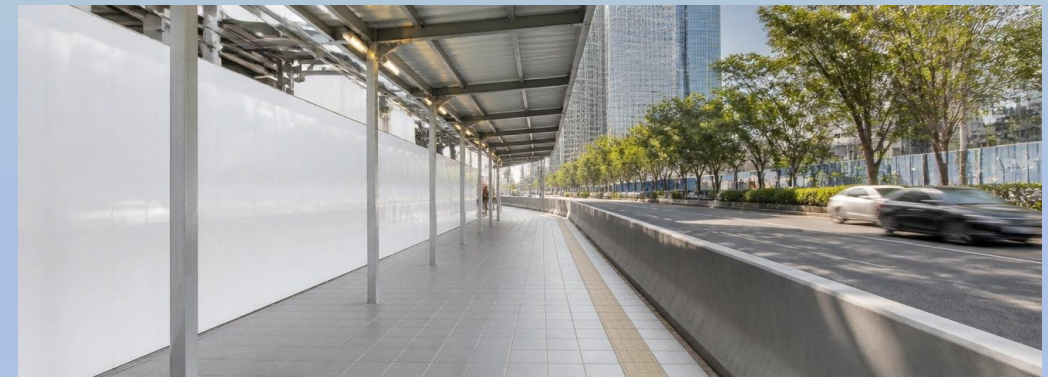
CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Proper hoarding and perimeter fencing must be maintained to prevent unauthorized public access. All dangerous excavation zones must be clearly identified with bilingual warning signs in Bahasa Melayu and English.

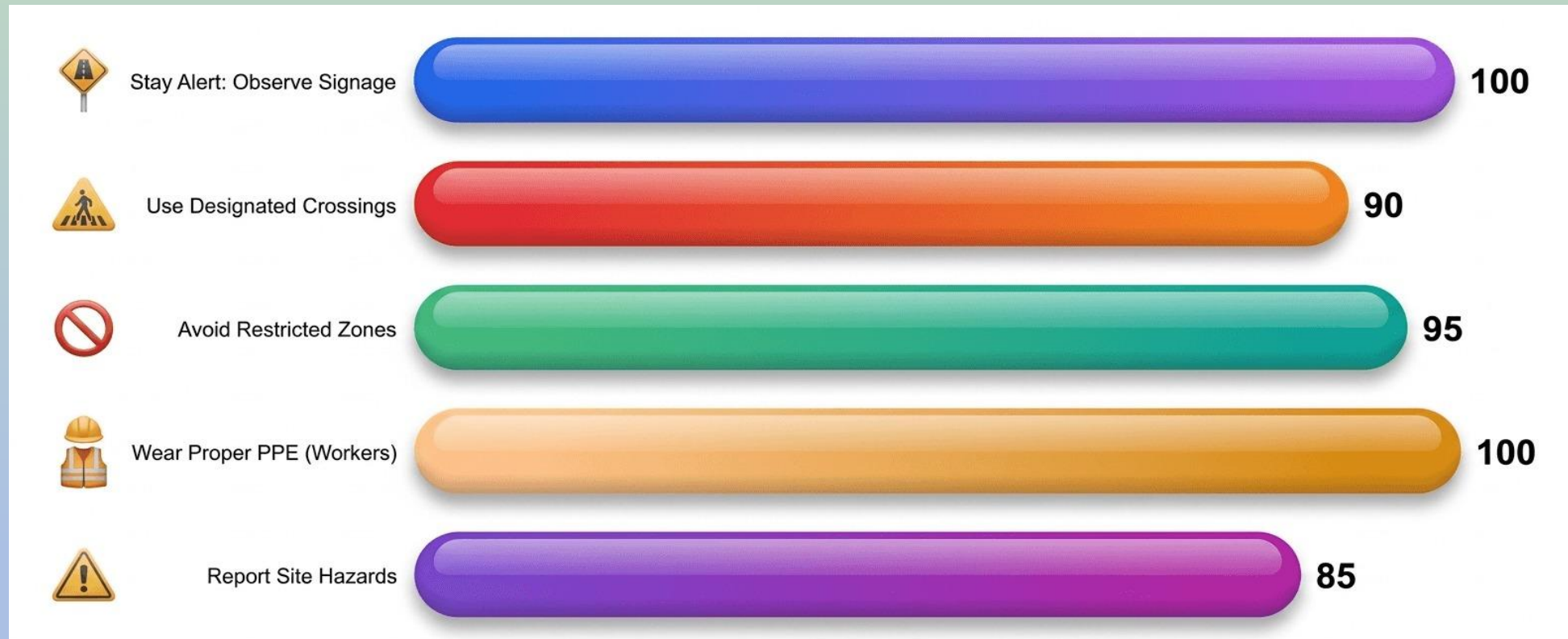


PEDESTRIAN PROTECTION

Designated walkways must be segregated from machinery movement zones. Adequate lighting is required during night shifts to ensure visibility for the public passing by site boundaries.



Public & Personnel Safety Checklist



Source: CIDB Malaysia Safety Standards 2026

EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

**In case of danger, immediately contact the
Site Safety Officer or dial 999.**

Under Section 26A of OSHA, employees and public have the right to remove themselves from imminent danger if remedial action is not taken by the employer.