

Chile Transparency Council Rebuts Kast: Central Government Workforce Grew by 9,400, Not 100,000

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The CPLT's latest report puts the rise in central government staff at 9,400 between Sep 2023 and Sep 2024, undercutting José Antonio Kast's 100,000 claim and grounding the debate in verifiable data.



The **Council for Transparency (CPLT)** released its annual oversight of the **State Administration** and, comparing **September 2023** with **September 2024**, found that the **central**

government headcount grew by **9,400** people. That total is far from the **100,000** that **José Antonio Kast** attributed to President Gabriel Boric’s entire administration, even though the CPLT report covers only the most recent year available.

We said it: they will lie, defame, and use the full machinery of the State to cling to power. But truth will prevail and we will win, because Chileans are tired of the incompetence of this bad government.
pic.twitter.com/ToN3pYhJBB

— José Antonio Kast Rist 🇨🇱 (@joseantoniokast) October 8, 2025

CPLT: 9,400 in the central government — what the report says

According to the [study](#), the **State Administration** went from **832,211** to **841,613** employees between **Sep/2023** and **Sep/2024**. Of that total, **449,443** belong to the **Central Administration** (53%) and **392,170** to **municipalities** (47%). The increase **was concentrated in the central government** (nearly **+10 thousand**), while the municipal sector **slightly decreased** (**−287**). This headline figure — **CPLT: 9,400 in the central government** — reflects **net staffing variation** (additions minus departures), not gross hiring totals.

Tabla 5: Total Funcionarios Sector Público				
Organismo	Nº Personal 2023	Porcentaje	Nº Personal 2024	Porcentaje
Administración Central	439.754	53%	449.443	53%
Municipalidades	392.457	47%	392.170	47%
Total	832.211	100%	841.613	100%

Source: Council for Transparency.

Methodology and time frame

The CPLT compared information published on agencies’ **transparency portals** at two snapshots (**September 2023** vs **September 2024**). By design, the review **does not cover** the entire 2022–2026 presidential term, yet the gap between **9,400** and the **100,000** figure circulated by Kast is still substantial.

Public-sector composition and key findings

Within the **Central Administration**, fixed-term **a contrata** roles account for **61%** of headcount, followed by **planta** (permanent) positions (**18%**), **Labor Code** contracts (**14%**), and **honorarios** (**7%**). The CPLT also warns that **nearly all** entities reviewed **appear not to comply** with the **Administrative Statute** rule capping **a contrata** staff at no more than **20%** of **planta** posts.

By sector, **Health** concentrates roughly **50%** of Central Administration personnel (**more than 223,000** workers) and **Education** around **17%** (**over 77,000**).

Reactions and public debate

From the Executive, in remarks shared by **Radio Cooperativa** before the CPLT publication, **Finance Minister Nicolás Grau** said:

It is not true that this government has hired 100,000 new public employees. Between 2021 and 2024, public-sector headcount has grown in municipalities — which do not depend on the central government — due to transfers of staff from municipalities to the Local Education Services (SLEP) and to reinforcement of health services.

In the same context, the **finance chief** emphasized:

There is a candidate who keeps repeating that he will cut 6 billion dollars. He says half of that cut would come from firing these public employees, but as has already been clarified, the total he could actually lay off is far smaller and in no case even reaches 200 million dollars.

If they plan to fire 100,000 employees, where will they come from? From health services? From the expansion of the Carabineros roster?

For her part, after Kast spoke about government staffing, **Government spokesperson Camila Vallejo** stated:

The candidate should not read only a headline, especially if he aspires to the Presidency of the Republic. He should read full investigations or news articles — that is the responsible thing to do. The piece he cites confirms that what we say is accurate, and what he claims is totally and absolutely false.

From the opposition's technical camp, the former Budget Director in Piñera's second administration, **Matías Acevedo**, wrote on **X**:

If you read that article — and not just the headline — Minister Camila Vallejo is right. Saying the government has hired 100,000 additional people is fake news. These figures pertain to the State and include municipalities and other institutions that are independent of the government in office.

If you read the article (and don't stop at the headline), Minister [@camila_vallejo](#) is correct: claiming the government has hired 100,000 additional people is **#FakeNews**.

These figures correspond to the State, including municipalities and other institutions that are independent of the... pic.twitter.com/G5lXCiEBU

— Matias Acevedo F. (@matiasacevedof) **October 8, 2025**

Kast's 100,000 claim fails a basic fact-check against official data

With these figures, Kast's 100,000 does not withstand a basic check against the evidence: the CPLT documents an increase of **9,400** in the central government between Sep/2023 and Sep/2024. Presenting that number as government hiring **mixes levels and time frames** (State vs. central administration, municipalities included) and **misleads voters in the middle of the campaign** — a claim already labeled **totally false** by **Camila Vallejo** and **fake news** by former budget chief **Matías Acevedo**. The report also shows the rise is concentrated in **Health** and **Education**, dominated by **a contrata** contracts, and flags possible **noncompliance** with the Administrative Statute. There is an **urgent** need to publish comparable series for the entire presidential term.

Fuente: [El Ciudadano](#)