

CHILE

Capital: Santiago

GEODATA

Area

756,626 km²

Major language

Spanish

Major religious groups

Roman Catholic (89%),
Protestant (11%)

Surrounding countries

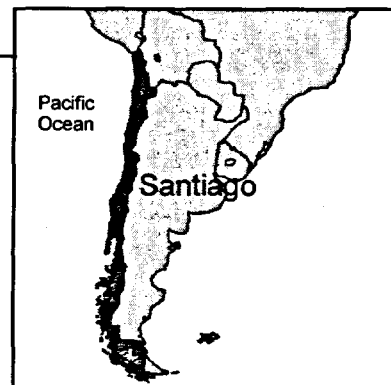
Argentina, Bolivia, Peru

Population

15.2 million (2000 est.)

Population growth rate

1.4% (1990-1999 average)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

National legislature

Upper house: Senate

Lower house: Chamber of Deputies; multiparty

Leader

President Ricardo Lagos Escobar

Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

Mariá Soledad Alvear Valenzuela

Minister of the Economy

José de Gregorio Rebeco

UN Human Development Index (2001)

Chile ranks 39th among 162 countries

Canadian official development assistance

3.44 million (1999-2000)

ECONOMIC DATA

Real GDP

\$69 billion US (2000 est.)

GDP growth rate

5.5% (2000 est.)

GDP per capita

\$4,424 US (1999)

Inflation rate

4.6% (2000 est.)

Unemployment rate

10% (1999 est.)

Main exports

Copper, wood products, fish and fish meal, fruit and nuts, raw materials, textiles, industrial products

Main imports

Capital goods, spare parts, raw materials, petroleum, foodstuffs

Main exports to Canada

\$555.4 million (2000), including ore, slag and ash, fruit and nuts, beverages, wood, fish and seafood, inorganic chemicals, rare metals, food waste and animal feed, preserved food, copper and copper articles, cereals

Main imports from Canada

\$445.6 million (2000), including electrical machinery, machinery, cereals, paper and paperboard, mineral fuel and oil, plastic, vehicles, fertilizer, vegetables, iron and steel products

Canadian Representative

Patrick Parisot, Ambassador, The Canadian Embassy

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