

CHILE

Capital: Santiago

GEODATA

Area

756,626 km²

Population

14.4 million (1996)

Population growth rate

1.6% (1990-1995 average)

Official language

Spanish

Major religions

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



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

Democratic institutions

Bicameral congress

Leaders

President Eduardo Frei

José Miguel Insulza

Minister of the Economy

Álvaro García

UN Human Development Index (1997)

Chile ranks 30th among 175 countries

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE

Ambassador Lawrence Lederman

The Canadian Embassy

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Santiago, Chile

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ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$72 billion US (1996)

GDP growth rate

7% (1996)

GDP per capita

\$5,050 US (1996)

Inflation rate

7.4% (1996)

Unemployment rate

7.2% (1996 est.)

Main exports

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

Main imports

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

Main exports to Canada

\$342.2 million (1996), including fruit and nuts, vegetables, fish and fish meal, beverages, spirits and vinegar, ores, slag, iron, steel

Main imports from Canada

\$417.9 million (1996), including machinery, boilers, cereals, electrical goods, ores, minerals, fuels, fertilizers, salt, plastics, pulp and paper, vehicle parts