

Chile



Population
15 million (1999 projection)

Capital
Santiago

Total area
756 626 km²

Language
Spanish

National day
September 18
(1810 Independence Day)

Currency
peso

GDP
\$67.5 billion (1999)

GDP per capita
\$3942 (1999)

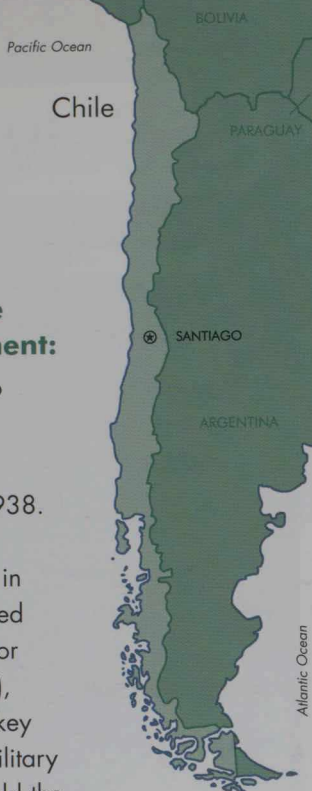
Canadian exports
\$360.5 million (1999)

Canadian imports
\$421.5 million (1999)

Head of state and government:

President Ricardo
Lagos Escobar

Born March 2, 1938. A law graduate with a doctorate in economics. Helped found the Party for Democracy (PPD), which played a key role in ending military rule in 1990. Held the cabinet portfolios of education and public works before being elected President of Chile in 1999.



Costa Rica



Population
3.6 million (1999 est.)

Capital
San José

Total area
51 100 km²

Language
Spanish

National day
September 15
(1821 Independence Day)

Currency
colón

GDP
\$11.3 billion (1999)

GDP per capita
\$2172 (1999)

Canadian exports
\$68.7 million (1999)

Canadian imports
\$175.6 million (1999)

Head of state and government:

President Miguel Ángel **Rodríguez Echeverría**

Born January 9, 1940. Graduated in economics and law. Entered politics in 1963. Held numerous government posts, including Minister of Planning from 1966 to 1970. Also served as President of the Legislative Assembly in 1991-92. Elected President of Costa Rica in February 1998.



Colombia



Population
41.6 million (1999 est.)

Capital
Bogotá

Total area
1 141 568 km²

Language
Spanish

National day
July 20
(1810 Independence Day)

Currency
peso

GDP
\$95.5 billion (1999 est.)

GDP per capita
\$1534.6 (1999)

Canadian exports
\$254.9 million (1999)

Canadian imports
\$280.6 million (1999)

Head of state and government:

President Andrés **Pastrana** Arango

Born August 17, 1954. Son of Misael Pastrana Borrero, President from 1970 to 1974. A law graduate and a fellow of Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. First popularly elected mayor in Bogotá's history, 1988. Unsuccessful presidential candidate in 1994. Elected President on June 21, 1998.



Dominica



Population
77 000 (1999 est.)

Capital
Roseau

Total area
750 km²

Language
English

National day
November 3
(1978 Independence Day)

Currency
East Caribbean dollar

GDP
\$262.1 million (1999 est.)

GDP per capita
\$2682 (1996)

Canadian exports
\$5.5 million (1999)

Canadian imports
\$1.6 million (1999)

Head of government:

Prime Minister Pierre **Charles**

Born June 30, 1954. A teacher by profession. A member of the Popular Movement for Independence prior to independence in 1978. First elected to the House of Assembly in 1985; served as Communications and Works Minister. Succeeded to Prime Ministership on October 3, 2000, on death of predecessor, Roosevelt Douglas.

