

MISSIONARY ATLAS PROJECT

SOUTH AMERICA

CHILE

Snapshot Section

Country Name: Chile, Republic of Chile

Country Founded in:

Chile declared its independence in 1810 but did not achieve it from Spain until 1818.

Population: 16,601,707

Government Type: Republic

Geography/location in the world: Chile is located on the western coast of South America. Chile is separated from Argentina by the Andes Mountains. The western border is the South Pacific Ocean. The northern borders are shared with Peru and Bolivia. Easter Island is also considered part of Chile. The climate is temperate and ranges from desert in the north to cool and damp in the south.

Number of people groups: 26

Picture of flag:



Religion Snapshot:

Major Religion and % of population:

Catholic 70%
Christian 17%
Non-religious 8%

All religions and % for each:

Catholic 70%
Evangelical 15%

Non-religious/Other 9%
Church of Latter Day Saints 1.59%
Jehovah's Witness 1.1%
Traditional ethnic religions 0.9%
Jewish 0.22%
Baha'i 0.12%
Buddhist 0.04%
Muslim 0.03%

Government interaction with religion:

The government is very tolerant of religion. The Roman Catholic Church was the state sponsored religion until 1925. A vast majority of the population remains nominally Catholic even if they do not actively participate in Mass.

Country Profile

Basic Facts

Demographics:

The estimated population of Chile is 16,601,707. Children up to fourteen years of age account for 23.2% of the population. There are 1,966,017 male children between the ages of newborn to fourteen years of age. There are 1,877,963 female children between these same ages. Adults between the ages of fifteen and sixty-four years of age account for 67.8% of the population. There are 5,625,963 males in this age category and 5,628,146 females. In the last age category, sixty-five years and above, there are 627,746 males and 875,872 females. This 65 and over group accounts for 9.1% of the population. The median age for males and females is 31.4 years old.

The birth rate is 14.64 births for every 1,000 people. There are an estimated 1.92 children born to every woman. The infant mortality rate is 7.71 deaths for every 1,000 live births. The death rate is 5.77 deaths for every 1,000 people. The life expectancy for the total population is 77.34 years. The life expectancy for males is slightly lower at 74.07 years while the life expectancy for females is slightly higher at 80.77 years.

Ninety-five percent of the population is white or white-Amerindian, and 3% is Amerindian. Almost 96% of the population is literate. About 86% of the population is urban.

AIDS is a risk. In 2003, the HIV/AIDS adult prevalence rate was .3%. In 2007, 1,100 people had died because of AIDS. In 2009, about 31,000 people were alive but had still contracted the disease.

Language:

Spanish is the official and most common language. The second most widely used language is Mapudungun. German, Mapuche, Italian, Quechua, Aymara, Greek, and around 10 other languages are also spoken.

Society/Culture:

There seems to be a significant gap between the living conditions of the wealthy and the poor. The wealthy class makes up about 10% of the population; they will often own more than one home and are the general landowners. The middle class is about 40% of the population. The remaining population makes up the lower class, they live primarily in rural areas or slum areas of larger cities such as Santiago. The largest social problem is with the poor. There is unrest with the poor and middle classes because the wealthy hold the highest influence in politics and government. There is a growing educated middle class which indicates development, but there is still a looming gap between the poor and the wealthy.

Most Roman Catholic holidays are celebrated in Chile. Two independence days are celebrated; September 11 "Liberation Day" and "Independence Day" on September 18. On October 12, Christopher Columbus' discovery of America is celebrated.

Chilean culture has a relaxed view of time. It is common for people to show up for events up to an hour late. However, in the business sector, this had been tempered by the influence of North American and European workers.

In the recent past, most Chilean families were rather large. With increased urbanization family size has declined so most middle class families tend to have 2 or 3 children. Women are very important in the home and take the bulk of the responsibility for running the everyday affairs of the household. Domestic violence and abuse are beginning to be addressed by the government and it is believed that about half of the Chilean women are victims of domestic violence.

Since 1860 Chile has had free primary education. The current literacy rate is 80% and education is valued. The Catholic Church has had an important role in developing education in Chile. The University of Chile was founded in 1834 and a growing number of Chileans are receiving a university education.

Soccer is an immensely popular sport in Chile. Horse-racing is also enjoyed among the other equestrian sports. There are good beaches and ski resorts. The Andes Mountains draw many tourists throughout the year, providing other venues for recreation in Chile, such as the 2,000 volcanoes, hot springs, geysers, beautiful national parks, and glaciers.

Government:

The capital city is Santiago. Chile is divided into thirteen regions. The current constitution was made effective in March of 1981 and amended in subsequent years. The legal system is based on Code of 1857 which was derived from Spanish law and the subsequent codes of French and Austrian law. In 2005 Chile moved the criminal justice system to a new US-style adversarial system.

Economy:

The Chilean economy is market-oriented. They are heavily involved in foreign trade. Commerce and industry are primary focuses although trading in copper, iron ore and other minerals account for much of the foreign exchange. Agriculture makes up 4.9% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), industry about 49.7%, and services 45.4%.

The Chilean economy suffered heavily from 1970-73. In 1972 the inflation rate had increased 350% from the year before. The military coup in 1973 led to reforms in the government and the economy. In 1990 Patricio Aylwin's democratic government replaced the military and made great strides in economic reform. Chile has maintained a good reputation for strong financial institutions and has a sound policy which has given it one of the most stable economies in South America. A free-trade agreement was signed with the USA that took effect in 2004 and another with China in 2005. Other trade agreements are in place with the European Union, India, South Korea and Mexico, though not all of these are full trade agreements.

Unemployment has dropped in the past two years from 7.8% to 7.0%. There is still a problem of inequality between the rich and the poor, with the wealthier 10% of the population maintaining most of the political power. The middle class continues to grow which is a sign of development.

Since 1971 the government has worked on building low income housing with varying degrees of success. In 2001 the government committed to building 25,000 homes per-year. This would allow thousands of families living in squatter villages or slums to relocate into permanent housing.

Literacy:

The literacy rate among Chileans is 95.7%. Men are 95.8% literate and women are 95.6%.

Land/Geography:

Chile is located in the Southern Hemisphere on the western coast of South America. It is bordered in the north by Peru and Bolivia. The eastern border is a natural barrier of the Andes Mountains which separate Argentina and Chile. Easter Island off the west coast is also part of Chile.

The Andes Mountains run the entire length of this slender country and dominate the region. Just to the west of the Andes lies a fertile valley closed in on the west by low coastal mountains. Chile's western border is the Southern Pacific Ocean.

Chile's climate is varied, ranging from an arid desert in the north to tundra in the south. The Atacama Desert is one of the driest regions in the world. The southern tip of Chile is mostly mountains and fjords sustain heavy rainfall and winds much of the year. The snow-line in this part of the country is fairly low, 3,500 to 4,000 ft. above sea level. The tree line is at about 1,000 ft.

History

Long before a written record of Chile's history was kept, migrating Indians settled in the valleys along Chile's coastline. There were several groups of Amerindians in the area. The Arucanian Amerindians, known today as the Mapuches, settled in central and southern Chile and had some influence on the Arucanians. The Incas were briefly established in the northern part of Chile.

The country's rugged terrain prevented extensive settlement until the Europeans arrived in 1535 seeking gold. The first Europeans were Diego de Almagro and the Spanish Conquistadors. In 1540 Pedro de Valdivia led the charge to conquer and settle Chile. He founded Santiago in 1541. This brought the area north of the Bío-Bío River under Spanish rule. The Spanish never found the amount of gold and silver in the region that they were expecting, but they recognized the potential of Chile's central valley for its agriculture. Chile became what was then part of the Viceroyalty of Peru.

Independence from Spain was not sought until the Spanish throne was taken by Napoleon's brother Joseph in 1808. It was one of Latin America's first independence movements. A junta was formed in 1810 in the name of the deposed king's heir, Ferdinand, and Chile was proclaimed an autonomous republic within the Spanish monarchy. There was a prolonged struggle as Chile began to seek total independence and Spain sought to regain rule during the "Reconquista."

There were continual struggles until 1817 when Bernardo O'Higgins and José San Martín, crossed the Andes and defeated the Spanish. On February 12, 1818 Chile was proclaimed an independent republic under O'Higgins leadership. O'Higgins ruled until 1823 during which time he built a navy. He also consolidated the Chilean government, but he was rather anti-clerical and anti-nobility which led to his demise in leadership.

The following decade saw the formation of the Conservative and Liberal political parties. The Liberals favored a parliamentary, secular, federal system, and the Conservatives wanted a more traditional, religious, and centralized system of government. Both parties remained rather elite. The two groups were trapped in civil disputes until 1830 when Diego Portales, a conservative, took control.

Portales was in power until 1837 when he was assassinated. Before his death in 1837, he began a war with Peru that would end successfully in 1839 with the destruction of a Bolivian-Peruvian coalition. The Conservative rule in Chile continued until 1861 during which time new claims were made in Patagonia and the island of Tierra del Fuego and the founding of the Punta Arenas on the Strait of Magellan added to Chile's territory.

In 1861 the Liberal party gained legislative victories that gave them more influence. This influence led to reforms that gave less power to the Roman Catholic Church and the presidential office.

In 1879-1883 Chile fought the War of the Pacific against Peru and Bolivia over the Atacama Desert. The draw to possessing the desert was the nitrate deposits. Chilean forces entered Lima in 1881 after winning victories both on land and at sea. A treaty in 1883 gave Chile Tarapacá from Peru and Antofagasta from Bolivia. Tacna and Arica were disputed until 1929, when under US mediation Tacna went to Peru and Arica to Chile.

In 1891 civil war was begun by Jorge Montt, a naval officer who triumphed after 18 months. There was then 30 years of parliamentary rule. The nitrate deposits in the Atacama Desert produced revenue that grew Chile's treasury. Many people did not share in this monetary gain and they began to seek change.

There was a recession following World War I and the country was once again on the verge of civil war. In 1920 Arturo Alessandri Palma was elected by the middle class. He was deposed in a coup in 1924, but regained power in 1925. His second administration lasted only 6 months, but he was able to pass a new constitution on October 18, 1925.

The new constitution did away with the parliamentary system and made a new, directly elected executive. General Carlos Ibáñez del Campo ruled from behind the scenes until he was formally elected in 1931. When the World depression struck, Ibáñez was forced to flee. The following years Chile was in turmoil under various juntas and presidencies and even a 100-day "socialist republic." Alessandri was elected again following the two years of unrest.

Chile emerged from the depression in 1938. The election that year was won by Pedro Aguirre Cerda, a Radical Party member. Ibáñez, the former dictator, ran again and was defeated by Juan Antonio Ríos who led Chile into a pro-allied position, entering World War II in 1944. In 1946 Ríos died and a coalition of Communists and Popular Front supporters came to power with Gabriel González Videla as the head. There were many strikes and demonstrations during this period and within a few months González fired Communist members of the cabinet. Until this point Chile had been perhaps the most stable country in Latin America.

The 1955 election brought Ibáñez back to power as the unrest of the unemployed rural workers filled the cities. He was 75 years old by this time and remained in power until 1958. The economy now was very poor, the cost of living was very high and Chile's

trade went from a large surplus to a large deficit. Jorge Alessandri Rodríguez, son of President Arturo Alessandri Palma, won the presidency with the support from both Liberals and Conservatives. Alessandri developed a 10 year plan to reform the situation in Chile. It was initiated in 1959 with agrarian reforms, but his program was derailed in 1960 by a devastating earthquake. In 1964 Eduardo Frei Montalva won the election with a clear majority and implanted many social and structural reforms. These reforms were not as successful as he had hoped and economic growth was merely sporadic.

The 1970 election had three candidates: Jorge Alessandri, Radomiro Tomic, and Socialist Senator, Salvador Allende. The elections were very close without a clear majority winner. Salvador Allende had a 1.2% lead over Alessandri, and Tomic only and 5% behind Alessandri. The constitution required congress to choose a candidate and Allende was chosen.

This marked the first Marxist candidate to take office in the Western Hemisphere in a freely held election. A socialist economy, leftist constitution, and full trade with other communist countries were initiated. The first year of power for Allende marked improvement in the standard of living for the poor and in the economy but by 1972 it began to lag. In 1973, following a year of unrest, violence, and strikes, Allende's government was violently overturned. Allende was dead, reported as a suicide.

A junta led by General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte took power and sought to eradicate Marxism. Between 3,000 and 10,000 people were killed or "disappeared" without a trace during this period. For the next 16 years the military maintained dictatorial powers and sought to remove not only Marxism, but trade unions and reformists movements that strayed from the military line. The highest priority was the privatization of the Chilean economy. In contrast to the strict authoritarian rule of the military government, Pinochet sought a decidedly laissez-faire economy.

In 1989 elections were held once again after many years of dictatorial rule by Pinochet, during which Pope John Paul II visited Chile and made accusations of human right abuses and torture taking place in Chile. Patricio Aylwin won the majority and the election was seen as a victory for democracy. Pinochet still maintained a great deal of power despite the election as the head of the military. Pinochet's continued power made it impossible for Aylwin's administration to prosecute any of the military abuses that occurred in the years of dictatorship. The senate maintained a majority that was selected by Pinochet during his years in power which granted amnesty for the military leaders that committed human rights abuses in the years between 1973 and 1978.

Beginning in 1993 Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle put greater emphasis on social spending and poverty declined 18% by the end of the decade. 1998 marked 15 years of economic growth. There was a slight recession in 1999, but growth continued in 2000. Pinochet still maintained a position of control until in 1998. He was arrested after traveling to London for surgery by the request of Spanish authorities. He was taken to Spain to face charges of crimes against humanity in 1999. He was deemed medically unfit to stand

trial and returned to Chile where he again faced criminal charges, but was unfit medically to stand trial. He was 84 at the time and was forced to resign from the Senate.

In another narrow victory, Socialist Ricardo Lagos was elected in 1999, the first socialist since Allende. He was a moderate socialist and distanced himself from Allende's Marxist ideas; he promised no change in the free-market economy.

The first female president, Michelle Bachelet Jeria was elected in 2006 and sought to move Chile forward as the most developed Latin American country by 2010. She is a center-left politician whose term extends to 2010. A former regime exiled her after torture, but she returned to Chile in 1979 after four years of life in other countries where she resumed her study of medicine. She graduated in Chile with her M.D. and has worked as a general practitioner in her country, working in many fields relating to medicine in the government.

Jeria has implemented many social health care changes since becoming president. Students have insisted on change in the educational system and this has caused a slide in her approval ratings. Public relations have failed for her since earthquakes and floods have drawn on her ability to run her social agenda. The congress majority in her favor has decreased. As of 2007 they are more right-wing or independent.

Christian History

The Catholic Church has held the greatest influence over the religious life and Chileans since the arrival of the first priest to the region in 1541. The diocese of Santiago was established under the rule of Lima in 1561. In 1584 a seminary was established in Santiago.

Catholicism officially became the state religion in 1810 when Chile declared independence and remained such until 1925 when the separation of church and state occurred. In 1960 the Catholic Church began to experience significant renewal in Chile due to a national plan to mobilize potential apostolates in the community, greater involvement of women in the diocese, synods held throughout Chile. A survey was taken of religious involvement and a new understanding of social concern and involvement needed by the church.

Pentecostal groups have experienced rapid growth in Chile since W.C. Hoover, a Methodist missionary, received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and began Methodist Pentecostal Church. This indigenous movement has seen rapid growth due to the lack of outside control and involvement and its ability to adapt to local conditions. In 1933, this group split to form the Evangelical Pentecostal Church. This growth has happened without any financial support from the outside.

The first Protestant missionary established several schools in Chile in 1821. David Trumbull went to Chile in 1845 and to work for the Presbyterian Church in 1873.

The Catholic and Protestant churches sometimes worked together during the years of the Pinochet dictatorship. In 1973 a group called *Comité Pro Paz* was formed in order to help fight the injustices of the regime. One of the most important figures of this group was a Jesuit priest named José Aldunate.

When the dictatorship banned such groups, Protestant churches founded a group called *Fondo de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas* (FASIC) while the Catholic Church created *Vicar'a de la Solidaridad*. When the dictatorship was finally toppled, these groups were able to provide testimony to the Chilean Truth Commission as to what had occurred during the years of hardship.

<http://www.c-r.org/ccts/ccts21/chilean.htm>

Religions

Non Christian

Baha'i—About 0.12% of the population is part of this faith. The first Baha'i representative, Martha Root, arrived in Chile in 1919 and visited Valparaiso and Santiago. In 2002, plans began for the construction of a new temple in Santiago.

<http://www.chilean-temple.org/content/view/41/37/>

<http://bahai-library.com/books/latinamerica.lamb.html>

<http://news.bahai.org/story.cfm?storyid=229>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juHMqwnlSws> (Video which discusses Architecture of the temple and basic beliefs)

Buddhist--About 0.04% of the population are Buddhist. Some Buddhist representatives began to teach in Chile around 1969.

<http://www.sgich.cl/sgich.htm>

Catholic—Catholic priests first arrived in Chile around 1541. They soon began to baptize different indigenous peoples. Today Catholicism is an important part of the lives of many Chileans. Chile has four archdioceses. Each archdiocese has associate dioceses. Information about the four archdioceses is discussed below. For statistical information about each individual diocese, please click on the links.

The Archdiocese of Antofagasta was elevated in 1967. In 2006, there were 42 priests ministering to 19 parishes. About 239,359 people were attending mass. The associated dioceses were Arica and Inquique. Calama was a Territorial Prelature.

The archdiocese of Concepción was founded in 1563 and elevated in 1939 to its current status. In 2006, there were 53 parishes and 129 priests. About 612,000 people were attending mass. The associated dioceses were Chillán, Los Angeles, Temuco, Valdivia, and Villarrica.

The third archdiocese is Puerto Montt. It was erected in 1939 and elevated in 1963. In 2006, there were 235,097 people being helped by 60 different priests. There were 31 parishes. The associated dioceses were Osorno, Punta Arenas, and San Carlos de Ancud.

The oldest archdiocese is found in Santiago. It was founded in 1561 and elevated in 1860. In 2006, there were 202 parishes. About 3,559,081 people attended mass and 818 priests served throughout the archdiocese. The associated dioceses were Linares, Melipilla, Rancagua, San Bernardo, San Felipe, Talca, and Valparaíso.

<http://www.catholic-hierarchy.org/country/dcl2.html>

<http://www.iglesiadeantofagasta.cl/>

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints—This denomination entered around 1956. In 2005 there were 1,036 churches and 269,461 members.

<http://www.ldschurchtemples.com/santiago/>

http://www.sltrib.com/lds/ci_3661419

Iglesia Orthodoxa Griega (Orthodox Greek Church)—In 1995 there were 7 churches and 7,100 members. Most of the members were of Greek descent. The churches are under the authority of 10th Archdiocesan District.

Iglesia Ortodoxa Russa (Russian Orthodox Church)—This church was found around 1930 by Russian immigrants. It is under the authority of the Moscow Patriarchat.

Iglesia Ortodoxa Russa D. Chile (Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia)—This church was founded by refugees around 1940. Its headquarters are in New York. The congregants tend to be quite conservative. In 1995 there were 8 churches and 1,200 members.

Iglesia Ortodoxa: D. Santiago de Chile—This Orthodox Church is comprised primarily of Lebanese Arabs. It is under the authority of the Antiochian Orthodox Church of the United States and the Greek Antioch Church. In 1995 there were 3 churches and 2,700 members.

Jehovah's Witness—Argentinean representatives arrived around 1929. In 2005 there were 645 churches and 59,519 members.

Jewish—About 0.22% of the population is Jewish. The first Jewish settlers were called *Conversos* and were actually Jews who had been forced to convert to Catholicism due to the pressure of the Spanish Inquisitors. These early settlers rose to prominence and their descendents actually helped in the fight for independence. Later during the early part of the 20th century Jews from other areas of Europe fled to Chile to avoid the persecution and the death camps established by the Nazi party in Germany. The Ashkenazi population formed a group called the *Ciculo Israelita*, which is still an influential party among Chilean Jews today.

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/vjw/chile.html>

http://www.jewishjournal.com/travel/article/chiles_jews_part_of_the_larger_community_in_santiago_2007_0105/

Muslim--About 0.03% of the population are Muslim. Some reports indicated that Muslims may have come to Chile as early as 1854. Census data did not record a person's religion at that time; however, two Turks were listed on that census. Definite reports indicated the presence of Muslims in 1895. In the 1990's an important mosque was built in Santiago. Some Chilean Muslims are converts from Catholicism while others are immigrants who brought their religious beliefs with them from their homeland.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam_in_Chile

Non-religious/Other—About 9% of the people have no religious affiliation at all.

Sociedad de la Ciencia Cristiana (Christian Scientist Church)—This group was started by missionaries from the United States in 1937. In 1995, there were 4 churches and 120 members.

Traditional Ethnic Religions—About 0.9% of the indigenous people groups may continue to practice their tribal religions which are polytheistic in nature. The Mapuche people believe in a supreme being called *Nenechen*. Shamans provide sources of traditional herbal remedies while also serving as the spiritual representatives of the gods. Ancestor worship is also a strong part of their religious rituals.

Christian/Evangelical

Alianza Cristiana Pentecostal (Pentecostal Christian Alliance)—In 1995 there were 25 churches and 3,000 members.

Asambleas de Dios en Chile—Missionaries from the United States entered the country in 1941 and began evangelistic outreach ministries. In 2001, there were 194 churches and 8,944 congregants. Currently missionaries are working to train ministers and to engage in church planting. They also have a number of activities for teens and for women.

<http://www.prinevilleag.com/mission12.cfm>
http://tpe.ag.org/2007PDFs/4835_Chile.pdf

Assambleas de Dios Autonomas (Autonomous Assemblies of God)—This group formed from work started by Swedish missionaries in 1925. In 1995 there were 60 churches and 225 members.

Asambleas Locales—This group started around 1980. Other names for these churches include Little Flock or Assembly Hall churches. In 1995 there were 47 churches and 1,365 members.

Asociación Bautista para la Evangelismo del Mundo (Association of Baptists for World Evangelism)—This group began work in 1952. Its headquarters are in Santiago. In 1995 there were 28 churches and 2,200 members.

Congregación evangélica de la Fe Apostólica del Séptimo Día (Evangelical Congregation of the Apostolic Faith Seventh Day)—In 1936, missionaries entered the country. In 1995 there were 68 churches and 27,000 members.

Convención Bautista Nacional de Mision Chilena (National Convention of Baptist Churches of the Chilean Mission)—This group formed around 1970. In 2001 there were 270 congregations and 35,000 members.

Corporación Evangélica de Vitacura (Evangelical Corporation of Vitacura)—This group began work around 1933. Much of the work occurs in Santiago. In 1995 there were 187 churches and 14,000 members.

Corporación Evangélica Pentecostal (Evangelical Pentecostal Corporation)—This denomination started around 1956 as a result of a schism within the IEP. Much of the original work occurred in the province of Concepción. In 1995 there were 100 churches and 12,000 members.

Corporación Iglesia del Señor (Church of the Lord Corporation)—This corporation started around 1920 as a result of a schism with the Iglesia del Señor churches. In 1995 there were 250 churches and 20,000 members.

Christian and Missionary Alliance--Missionaries first arrived in 1897. In 2001 there were 128 churches and 18,139 congregants.

<http://www.cmalliance.org/field/chile>

Ejército de Salvación (Salvation Army)— Brigadier and Mrs. William T. Bonnet traveled to Valparaíso in 1909. The first mission officially opened in Santiago. Captain David Arn and Lieutenant Alfred Danielson served as officers.

<http://www.ejercitodesalvacion.cl/> (in Spanish)

http://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/www_sa.nsf/vw-local/South-America-West

Ejército Evangélico de Chile—This group formed in 1937 as a result of a schism in the IMP. Until 1942, it was known as the Ejército Evangélico Uniformado. In 2005 there were 200 churches and 60,000 members.

Ejército Evangélico Nacional (National Evangelical Army)—This denomination formed in 1942 because of a schism with in the Ejército Evangélico de Chile. In 1995 there were 37 churches and 1,100 members.

El Aposento Alto (The Upper Room)—This group started around 1975 and has a close relationship with a similar group in the U.S. In 1995 there were 25 churches and 2,000 members.

Hermanos Libres Nacionales (Christian Brethren)—Missionaries from the CMML in the U.S. entered around 1928. In 1995 there were 40 churches and 2,800 members.

Evangelical Methodist Pentecostal Church—This denomination started in 1950 due to a schism within the IMP. At one time workers concentrated their efforts within the O-Higgins province. In 1995 there were 200 churches and 65,000 members.

<http://pewforum.org/surveys/pentecostal/countries/?CountryID=41>

Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día (Seventh Day Adventist)—Missionaries entered in 1890. They distributed different types of literature and converted an Englishman who was residing in the country at the time. They later organized the Chile Mission which included the countries of Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador. By 1896 about 70 people had joined the Adventist cause. Around 1907, Chileans organized their own official conference and later started a private educational facility which became Chile Adventist University. In 1930 there were about 29 churches and 1,700 congregants. In 2005 there were 480 churches and 96,000 congregants. This denomination also supports several schools, a publishing house, and at least one hospital.

Land, Gary. *Historical Dictionary of the Seventh Day Adventists*. 2005.
http://www.prolades.com/cra/regions/sam/chi/chron_chile.pdf

Iglesia Adventista, Movimiento de Reforma (SDA Movement of Reform)—This church formed around 1929 as a result of a schism within the Seventh Day Adventist congregations. Its world headquarters are now located in Denmark. In 1995 there were 15 churches and 400 members.

Iglesia Aliancista Nacional de Sostén y Gobierno Propio (Self-supporting and Self-Governing Alliance Church)—This church was part of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, but chose to leave around 1929 after a schism occurred.

Iglesia Anglicana (Anglican Church)—Anglican missionaries first arrived around 1837. In 2005 there were 45 churches and 6,000 congregants. About 69% of the church members are Araucanians while 22% are from the UK. Another 9% are Chilean.

Iglesia Apostólica Armenia (Armenian Apostolic Church)—This church was originally primarily comprised of refugees from the former Soviet Union. It started around 1910. In 1995 there were 2 churches and 3,600 members.

Iglesia Bautista de la Misión Chilena—These churches were once members of the Baptist Convention, but left in 1940. In 1995 there were 533 churches and 16,000 congregants.

Iglesia Cristiana Apostólica (Christian Apostolic Church)—This church left the Methodists in 1929. In 1995 there were 10 churches and 1,000 members.

Iglesia Cristiana de la Fe Apostólica (Christian Church of the Apostolic Faith)—This group formed due to a schism in the IEP in 1933. In 1995 there were 58 churches and 3,500 members.

Iglesia Cristiana Misionera (Christian Missionary Fellowship)—Missionaries from the United States started these churches beginning in 1989. In 1995 there were 3 churches and 296 members.

<http://cmfi.org/wherewework/chile>

Iglesia Cristiana Metodista Pentecostal—In 1995 there were 10 churches and 2,000 members.

Iglesias de Biblia Abierta (Open Bible Standard Churches)—Hugo and Rina Castro started these churches in 1982. There are about 28 churches and 1,200 members. About 36 pastors work with the churches. This group supports ministries such as children's feeding kitchens.

www.openbible.org/intl/documents/Perspectives_July_2008.doc

Iglesia de Cristo Evangelica Nacional—In 1946, this group formed after a schism in the Methodist Pentecostal Church. In 1995 there were 3 churches and 80 members.

Iglesia de Dios de la Profecia—This church started in 1975 as a splinter off of the Church of God of Cleveland. In 1995 there were 31 churches and 1,090 members.

Iglesia de Dios en Chile—This church started in 1951 as a mission of the Church of God of Cleveland. In 1995 there were 196 churches and 14,324 congregants.

Iglesias de Dios Pentecostal (Pentecostal Church of God)—This church began in 1951 as a result of a split within the Evangelical Pentecostal Church. In 1995 there were 37 churches and 14,000 members.

Iglesia de Evangelio Cuadrangular (Church of the Foursquare Gospel)—This church formed in 1940 as the Iglesia Cristiana Apostolica but changed to its current status in 1959. In 1995 there were 53 churches and 15,300 members.

Iglesia de Nazareno (Nazarene Church)—This church entered in 1962. The Nazarene Church seems to divide Chile into 4 sections. In Chile Bio Bio there were 579 members and in Central Chile there were 640 members. In Chile Los Lagos, there were 362 members and in North Chile there were 677 congregants.

<http://www.nazarene.org/files/docs/StatisticsAnnual07.pdf>

Iglesia del Senor (Church of the Lord)—This group started in 1913 as a result of a schism with the IMP. They are indigenous Pentecostals. In 1995 there were 58 churches and 35,000 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Autonoma Pentecostal (Autonomous Pentecostal Evangelical Church)—In 1995 there were 20 churches and 1,600 congregants.

Iglesia Evangelica Cristiana (Evangelical Christian Church)—This church began in 1936 when it left the IMP. It has a strong following in Santiago. In 1995 there were 35 churches and 2,000 members.

Iglesia Evangelica de Dios Pentecostal—In 2005 there were 1,800 churches and 180,000 members.

Iglesia Evangelica de la Nueva Jerusalem—In 1995 there were 19 churches and 1,500 members.

Iglesia Evangelica del Emanuel—This group formed due to a schism in 1945 from the Pentecostal Methodist Church. In 1995 there was 1 church with 80 members.

Iglesia Ev el Pesebre Humilde de Cristo (Humble Manger of Christ Church)—In 1943, this group split from the IMP. In 1995, there were 2 churches and 150 members.

Iglesia Ev Israelita del Nuevo Pacto (Evangelical Israelite Church of the New Covenant)—This church formed in 1948. Members follow certain Old Testament rituals. They are sometimes called Tabernaclers. In 1995 there were 3 churches and 200 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Luterana Alemana (German Evangelical Lutheran Church)—In 1995 there were 3 churches and 560 members. Most of the members were originally from Germany.

Iglesia Evangelica Luterana en Chile (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Chile)—This group originally formed in 1846. In 1995 there were 10 churches and 1,620 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Metodista Pentecostal (Evangelical Methodist Pentecostal Church)—This group developed due to a schism in the IEP in 1950. In 1995 there were 1,500 churches and 120,000 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Mision Cristiana—In 1995 there were 175 churches and 14,000 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Pentecostal en Chile (Evangelical Pentecostal Church)—This church formed due to a schism in 1933. In 2005 there were 1,800 churches and 180,000 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana en Chile (Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Chile)—This church left the National Pentecostal Church in 1943. In 1995 there were 15 churches and 600 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Union Pentecostal (Pentecostal Evangelical Union Church)—In 1995 there were 100 churches and 8,000 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Universal (Universal Evangelical Church)—This church formed in 1940 as a result of a split from the CMA churches. Most of the churches are located in the province of Concepcion. In 1995 there were 7 churches and 900 members.

Iglesia Evangelica Universal de Cristo (Universal Evangelical Church of Christ)—This church split from the Universal Evangelical Church around 1950. In 1995 there were 2 churches and 100 members.

Iglesia Hermandad Pentecostal (Pentecostal Brotherhood Church)—In 1995 there were 60 churches and 3,000 members.

Iglesia La Voz de Cristo (Voice of Christ Church)—In 1995 there were 63 churches and 5000 congregants.

Iglesia Luterana en Chile (Lutheran Church in Chile)—This church formed around 1970. In 1995 there were 10 churches and 6,000 members.

Iglesia Luterana (Misuri)—This Lutheran group is part of the Missouri Synod. Work began in Valparasio in 1953. In 1995 there were 3 churches and 200 members.

Iglesia Metodista Independente (Independent Methodist Church)—This church left the mainline Methodist Church in 1950. In 1995 there were 5 churches and 400 congregants.

Iglesia Metodista Nacional de Chile—This church was founded by United Methodist missionaries in 1877 but has experienced many splits. In 2005 there were 120 churches and 16,000 congregants.

Iglesia Metodista Pentecostal de Chile—This church began in 1909 as a split from the Methodist church, but later experienced many splits itself. In 2005 there were 4,000 churches and 300,000 members.

Iglesia Mision Cristiana Pentecostal (Pentecostal Christian Mission Church)—In 1995 there 67 churches and 8,000 members.

Iglesia Mision Pentecostal—This church started in 1952 when congregants left the IEP. Later there was a further internal split in 1971. In 1995 there were 109 churches and 24,000 members.

Iglesia Mision San Pablo (Church of St. Paul's Mission)—This church was founded in 1942 due to a schism within the Iglesia Wesleyana Nacional. In 1995, there were 10 churches and 300 members.

Iglesia Misionera de Cristo—This church was started in 1947 by ex-members of the Ejercito Evangelico Nacional. In 1995 there were 3 churches and 500 members.

Iglesia Misionera Pentecostes (Missionary Pentecostal Church)—This group formed around 1980. In 1995 there were 53 churches and 4,200 congregants.

Iglesia Nueva Apostolica (New Apostolic Church)—The headquarters of this church are in Zurich, Switzerland. In 1995 there were 10 churches and 500 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal Apostolica (Pentecostal Apostolic Church)—This church started in 1938 when it split from the IEP. Later its members decided to split further. In 1995 there were 41 churches and 24,500 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal Apostolica de la Fe (Apostolic Faith Pentecostal Church)—In 1995 this denomination had 43 churches and 4,300 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal Apstolica Libre (Free Apostolic Pentecostal Church)—This church formed in 1943 when it left the Pentecostal Apostolic Church. In 1995 there were 20 churches and 1,500 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal de Chile (Pentecostal Church of Chile)—This church started in 1946 due to a schism within the IMP. In 1995 there were 300 churches and 150,000 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal de Chile Austral (Pentecostal Church of Southern Chile)—This church began around 1950 and works in conjunction with the Pentecostal Church of Chile. It is an ex-IMP church. In 1995 there were 200 churches and 18,000 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal de la Trinidad (Pentecostal Church of the Trinity)—This church started around 1965 when it left the IPA. In 1995 there were 313 churches and 25,000 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal Unida de Chile (United Pentecostal Church of Chile)—This church formed in 1964 as a mission of the UPC church from the United States. In 1995 there were 30 churches and 2,000 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal Evangelica Mision (Pentecostal Evangelical Mission Church)—In 1995 this denomination had 100 churches and 10,000 members.

Iglesia Pentecostal Naciente (Pentecostal Church of New Birth)—In 1995 this group had 1,500 churches and 120,000 members.

Iglesia Presbiteriana en Chile (Presbyterian Church of Chile)—This denomination started work in 1845. In 1995 there were 129 churches and 4,500 members.

Iglesia Presbiteriana Fundamentalista (Fundamental Presbyterian Church)—This group began around 1960 as a result of a schism with the Presbyterian Church of Chile. In 1995 there were 10 churches and 150 members.

Iglesia SIM (Sudan Interior Mission)—This mission organization began working around 1986. In 1995 there was one church with 15 members.

Iglesia Sionista (Zionist Church)—This church was once Seventh Day Adventist, but left to form its own congregations in 1945. The church members believe in adhering to many Old Testament traditions. In 1995 there were 20 churches and 500 members.

Iglesia Unida Metodista Pentecostal (United Methodist Pentecostal Church)—This denomination began after leaving the IMP. In 1995 there were 246 congregations and 49,000 members.

Iglesia Union de Central Biblicos (Union of Bible Centers)—This group started in 1923. In 1995 there were 333 churches and 5,000 congregants.

Iglesia Union Pentecostal El Templo (Temple Pentecostal Union Church)—In 1995 there were 138 churches and 11,000 members.

Iglesia Universal de Cristo (Universal Church of Christ)—This church began in 1938 when it left the Christian and Missionary Alliance group. In 1995 there were 10 churches and 300 members.

Iglesia Wesleyana Nacional (National Wesleyan Church)—This church formed in 1928. In 1995 there were 83 congregations and 2,500 congregants.

Iglesias Cristianas (Christian Churches and Churches of Christ)—This group formed around 1949. In 1995 there were 30 congregations and 1,000 members.

Mision Cristiana Apostolica (Apostolic Christian Mission)—This group began in 1938 due to a schism with the IMP. IN 1995 there were 107 churches and 16,000 members.

Mision Cristiana, Iglesia Evangelica Pentecostal (Christian Mission, Pentecostal Evangelical Church)—This group left the Methodist church in 1951 to form this new group. In 1995 there were 2 churches and 150 members.

Mision Evangelica de America del Sur (Evangelical Mission of South America)—This group formed in 1923. In 1995 there were 70 churches and 5,600 members.

Sociedad Noruega de Evangelizacion (Norwegian Society for Evangelization)—Norwegian missionaries started this work in 1948. In 1995, there were 5 churches and 200 members.

Union de Iglesias Apostolicas (Union of Apostolic Churches)—In 1995 this group had 138 churches and 11,000 members.

Union Pentecostales de Iglesias Locales (Pentecostal Union of Local Churches)—In 1995 there were 75 congregations and 6,000 members.

Voz de Deserto (Voice in the Desert)—These oneness Pentecostals formed around 1980. In 1995, there were 300 churches and 40,000 members.

People Groups

00000

American, U.S. (8300)

These people are workers throughout the country. Most work in business or education. English is their only language. Christianity is their dominant religion and there is a widespread, disciplined church. 10% are non-religious. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, gospel audio recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

17436

Arab (3,400)

These people are Lebanese and Palestinians descent and live mainly in the urban areas. Standard Arabic is their dominant language. Sunni Islam is their religion with no native Christians living among them. No active church planting has been conducted in the last two years. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, audio gospel recordings, radio broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

00000

Armenian (1,100)

These people are refugees from the Middle East and the former USSR. Armenian is their native tongue. 90% of the people are Orthodox Christian i.e. Armenian Apostolic. Over 5% of the people are evangelical and there is a reproducing church movement among them. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God Story's* video, audio gospel recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

17437

Basque (6,700)

These people are immigrants from Spain who work in commerce, education, and as professionals. Basque is their native tongue. 90% are Protestant Christians with no evangelicals living among them. Likewise, no active church planting has been conducted in the last two years. The Bible was completed in 1855 with more recent versions being available. They also have access to the *Jesus* film and Christian gospel recordings.

17438

British (28,000)

These people are expatriates and immigrants from the UK that work in commerce, professionals, and in industry. English is their native tongue. Protestant Christians make up 79% of the people with 5.36% of the people being evangelical. There is a widespread, disciplined church. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, audio recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

17439

Chilean (15,915,000)

(See the history of the country for the background of European and tribal contact)

These people are a mestizo population, a mixture of European and Amerindians.

Because of the various groups that came into the country over the years, most have mixed with the native population. Overall, they make up around 90% of the total population of the country. Spanish is their official and mother language. 88% of the people are Roman Catholic and there are 24 dioceses. 16.71% of the population is evangelical Christian.

They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God Story's* video, gospel audio recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mestizo>

17440

Chilean Aymara (52,000)

These people inhabit the mountains of extreme north, first region Tarapacá; Arica, Parinacota, Iquique. They are related to the Aymara in Bolivia. They reside in adobe houses in the Andes and high oasis valleys.

Central Aymara is their mother tongue. In the urban areas, they are lingual in Spanish. Because of the predominance of their language, Bolivia has two television stations and several radio stations that transmit only in Aymara.

Their history dates back to 500 and 1200 AD living near: ake Titicaca in a city called Tiwanaku. During the 15th century, the Incas conquered the Aymara which forced many to migrate. Because of the Spanish invasion, many were reduced to slaves for the empire even though they joined the Incas to fight the conquest. The Spanish forced them to work in the mines. In addition, they attempted to force them to become Catholic through the influence of Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries. Uprisings resulted against their oppressors in 1781 and 1814. In the 1930s and 1940s, they were forced to speak and taught Spanish. During the 1960s, they began to move into the urban areas.

One rite of passage is the first haircut. Children's hair is allowed to grow until they are able to walk and talk. After that, the head is shaved bald. Extended families are the norm. Women have inheritance rights and their ownership is passed to their daughters. Divorce is allowed and is a simple process. Western clothing is becoming more popular, but most continue to dress in colorful clothing, which is drastic compared to the drab high elevations. Oral traditions continue to play an important role in their society. However, they have adapted many of their cultural and social ways. 90% of them live in poverty.

Most work as subsistence farmers in the high altitudes. Potatoes are their primary crop. Others raise animals such as llamas, cattle, and sheep.

Their tradition belief is that the god, Tunupa, is the creator of the universe. Likewise, he taught people customs like farming and singing. These views are currently mixed with

religion imposed by their invaders. Being conquered by the Incas, they accepted their idols and beliefs in natural forces. Catholicism was introduced by the colonization of Chile. Today, many will attend Mass and various events, but hold religious festivals true to their traditional beliefs. For instance, an offering to Mother Earth is common in order to produce a bountiful crop.

Overall, 70% of the people profess Christianity, but only 0.25% are evangelical. The Bible was finally translated in 1987 with some recent versions. They also have access to the *Jesus* film, Christian broadcasting, and audio recordings.

<http://www.tropentag.de/2004/proceedings/node364.html>

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17441

Chilean Quechua (8,400)

These people are located in Northern second region. South Bolivian Quechua is their mother tongue.

The Quechua are considered descendents of the Incas and originated from the southern Peruvian highlands. The Quechua language became the major language during the time of Spanish colonization. By attempting to hold off the Spanish, the Quechua were placed in low paying jobs and removed from authority within the country. Education has become one tool for them to integrate with society and grow in their role in Ecuador, socially and politically. Unfortunately, less than 1% finishes school. Today, because of the diversity among the Quechua speaking people, they have been classified in various ethnic groups. Family plays a major role with extended families dictating decisions. Marriages are prearranged through the parents, but agreed upon by the community. Most work as farmers or as gold miners. As farmers, they harvest cotton, rice, beans, and plantains while as miners they gather tin. Culture revolves around the family. For instance, they farm the land as an extended family.

The major religion is animism. Others hold to a mixture of Roman Catholicism with animism. Together they constantly fear the gods. For example, *Pachamama* is their earth goddess whom must be appeased through an animal sacrifice or the pouring of alcohol. Illnesses and accidents occur for failure to appease the deities. As miners, they make offerings to *Tio*, a deity that controls the events of the mines or *Awiche*, an old woman who protects those from mining accidents.

Evangelicals make up 11% of the people. There is a reproducing church movement among them. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, gospel audio recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

17443

Chinese, Mandarin (30,000)

These people live throughout the country. Mandarin Chinese is their native tongue. A majority of them are non-religious with Buddhism being their second dominant religion.

Christians make up 29.99% of the people with evangelicals being 4%. No active church planting has been conducted in the last two years, but they do have a reproducing church movement. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, gospel audio recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

17445

Chinese, Min Nan (30,000)

These people live throughout the country. Min Nan Chinese is their native tongue. Buddhism is their dominant religion. Bible translations and gospel recordings are available in their language.

17444

Chinese, Yue (1,000)

These people live throughout the country. Yue Chinese is their native tongue. Buddhism is their dominant religion. Bible translations, the *Jesus* film, and gospel recordings are available in their language.

00000

French (3,300)

These people are immigrants from France that work in professions and industry. French is their mother tongue. 76% of the people are Christian with evangelicals being greater than 5%.

There is a reproducing church movement. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God Story's* video, audio recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

00000

German (27,000)

These people are immigrants from Germany that converse in Standard German. 78% claim Christianity and evangelicals are around 10%. There is a widespread, disciplined church. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God Story's* video, audio recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

00000

Greek (6,200)

These people are immigrants that work in commerce and trade. The first immigrants came in the 19th century. In the 1920s, many came to work with copper and nitrate. One of the first cities they came to the city of Antofagasta. Greek is their mother tongue. 0% of them claim Greek Orthodoxy. Around 5% are evangelical and there is a reproducing church movement. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, audio recordings, and web broadcasting in their language.

<http://www.apocatastasis.com/story-greeks-chile-antofagasta.php>

17446
Huilliche (166,000)

These people reside in South of the Mapuche, Tenth Region, from Valdivia to Chiloé among the mountain valleys. They are considered the southernmost Araucanian Indian people of Chile. During the 19th century, others attempted to assimilate them into their mestizo culture. Others came into the Mapuche.

While Huilliche is their native tongue, most converse in Spanish. 60% of the people are Catholic while .04% are Evangelical. However, no active church planting has been conducted in the last two years. They have gospel recordings in their own language.

00000
Italian (31,880)

These people are immigrants from Italy. Their native tongue is Italian. 83% claim Catholicism with around 10% evangelical. They have a widespread, disciplined church among them. There has been an increase in Pentecostal leadership. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, gospel audio recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

00000
Jew (22,000)

These people live throughout the country and various centers for Jewish culture exist. Spanish is their mother tongue. Judaism is their dominant religion and only .1% of the people are Christian.

There is one known Christian church among them. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God Story's* video, audio gospel recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

17448
Kauescar (12)

These people are located Channel Region, western Patagonia, Isle of Wellington off south Chilean coast, 49 degrees south with center in Puerto Edin. Qawasqar is their native tongue with the youngest speakers between three and twenty. They are a nomadic

group that serves as fishermen for shellfish, hunting marine birds, sea lions, and porpoise. In order to fish, they travel by canoe.

The Salesian missionaries formed a mission for them in 1888. However, because of imported disease, their numbers were greatly reduced. Most are Roman Catholic while the rest of shamanists. There are no evangelicals among them and no active church planting has been conducted in the last two years. They do not have access to Christian materials in their language.

00000

Kunza (2,200)

These people live in the village of Chiu Chiu. Spanish is their mother tongue. Their primary religion is unknown and only 8 people are Christian. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, audio gospel recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&list_uids=10903614&dopt=Abstract

17450

Mapuche (303,000)

These people inhabit the mountain slopes, riverine, and coastal plains between the Itata and Tolten Rivers. Their name means “people of the land.” Mapudungun is their mother tongue while they are lingual in Spanish and Picunche. Their language is passed from generation to generation. They hold that it came from the sounds of the land. They are one of three surviving tribes of the ancient Araucanian language. Because most groups in Chile mixed with outsiders, they remain one of the few native groups to Chile. In Tirua, they make up 10% of the people of the city. Around 50,000 work as laborers in cities like Santiago, Valdivia, Concepcion, and Temuco. They are also recognized as Araucanos, a name given by the Spanish.

They are famous for their sense of tribal identity and their past of being warriors. For instance, they resisted the Incan invasion during the 15th century at the Valley of Coquimbo. Pedro de Valdivia, the Spanish conquerors, established a military fort at Santiago in 1540. After failing to capture enough workers for the mines, he moved to attack the Mapuche. However, they fought off all attempts over the next two hundred and fifty years. Spain never captured the people. Because of disease brought from outsiders, their numbers were greatly reduced from their height population. After Chilean independence in 1818, the government attempted to protect these people. Finally, in 1866, the government began a reservation policy.

The Mapuche launched a rebellion from 1869 to 1870 against the mestizo settlers. Again in 1880, they rebelled against the incoming settlers. From 1884 to the 1920s, they were finally forced to settle in reservations. Today, there are around 2,200 reservations.

Human rights abuses are still being reported. The Mapuche are demanding more land rights as well.

Because of their Mongoloid appearance, they are distinct from Chileans of European descent. Their code of practice is called Ad-Mapu in which a group of elders doles out advice and authority to the community. In certain villages, the Lonko or chief is the highest authority in the group. It is not a cultural norm for one to receive a great amount of money. That person would be frowned upon and it is normal for the windfall to be dispersed throughout the community. Public education is on the rise. Most work as peasant farmers.

70% of the people are considered Christian, but most are christopagan. 20% are polytheists, 1% Baha'I and around 3% evangelical Christian. They are considered deeply religious. Most of their belief system is based on a world created by a celestial family who created all and hold the power of nature. A ceremony called Nguillatun is a civil and military ceremony in which they call on the Nguinechen, the Mapuche god.

There is a reproducing church movement among them. The New Testament was completed in 1997 while they have access to the *Jesus* film and gospel recordings.

<http://quickstart.clari.net/voa/art/eb/2005-03-07-voa63.html>

<http://www.sim.org/country.asp?cid=21&fun=5>

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http://www.photius.com/countries/chile/national_security/chile_national_security_military_tradition_a~7207.html

17442

Easter Islander (5,000)

These people live on an island 3,500 km from the west of Chile. This island is an ecological disaster because of continue reduction of the forest and eroding of the land by the constant moving of religious monuments around the island. The island are not populated by many of the original peoples, there are between 200 and 300 of them living in Chile, some in Tahiti, and USA. The remaining islanders are very friendly and still celebrate their lost culture.

Rapa Nui is their mother tongue. They are also recognized as Rapa Nui from the Tahitian sailors name for their island. Tourism, AIDS and alcohol have caused disintegration of their culture. Most were of Polynesian descent. 2001 a couple was translating NT into their language. Most work as fishermen or craftsmen. 70% of the people are Roman Catholic. Less than 9% of the people are evangelical and initial church planting has been conducted in the last two years. They do not have access to Christian materials in their native language.

<http://www.netaxs.com/~trance/def.html>

17453

Russian (1,700)

These people are refugees from Russia after the revolutions in 1917 and 1945. Russian is their mother tongue. 70% are Russian Orthodox Church. The Russian Orthodox Church has a congregation in Santiago.

The number of evangelicals is unknown, but there is a reproducing church movement among them. No active church planting has been conducted in the last two years. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God Story's* video, audio gospel recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

<http://directory.sjcp.org/parishes.php?country=CHILE&submitButtonName=Go>

17454

Serb (3,400)

These people are refugees from the former Yugoslavia. Serbian is their native tongue. 85% of the people are members of the Serbian Orthodox Church. A small group of evangelicals (.30%) live among the Orthodox groups. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, audio gospel recordings, and web broadcasting in their language.

00000

Spaniard (9,800)

These people are immigrants from Spain. Their mother tongue is Spanish. 90% of the people are Catholic with 10% being evangelical. There is evidence of a reproducing church movement. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, audio gospel recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

17455

Turk (700)

These people are immigrants from Turkey. Their mother language is Turkish. 99% of the people are Sunni Muslim. Less than 2% of the people are Christian. There are no churches, but a few believers. No active church planting has been conducted in the last two years. They have access to the Bible, the *Jesus* film, *God's Story* video, audio gospel recordings, broadcasting, and web broadcasting in their language.

Missiological Implications

1. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek to understand the particular situation that faces Christianity in Chile. As seen in the history and people group sections, Chile is a desperately divided nation. Political and social divisions remain and produce continuing strife including violence. The Roman Catholic Church has been seriously impacted by Liberation Theology and Marxist

- philosophy. These realities influence the religious situation and impact the Evangelical work in the country.
2. Evangelical Christians and churches should continue efforts among the lower socio-economic peoples but attempt to expand evangelism and church planting among the upper socio-economic groups. The middle and upper classes have been less reach by Evangelicals than others.
 3. Evangelical Christians and churches should develop a method to help local believers share the Good News of Christ with nominal Roman Catholics and those involved in spiritism.
 4. Evangelical Christians should emphasize evangelism among the non-religious who number almost 10% of the population or 1,450,000 persons. This group is increasing at 2.1% annually.
 5. Evangelical Christians and churches should develop plans for evangelism and church starting among groups such as the Mapuche (303,000), the Jewish people (22,000), the Chinese (3 groups with over 61,000), Huilliche (166,000), and Italians (31,000).
 6. Evangelical Christians and churches should develop plans to help people in Chile avoid the threat of Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons. Jehovah's Witnesses clam as many as 650 congregations with almost 60,000 members and the Latter-day Saints have over 1050 congregations with 270,000 members. True biblical teachings will help people avoid these teachings.
 7. Evangelical Christians and churches should aid the believers in Chile in training leaders (career and lay) for service in the churches. One problem for the churches of Chile is a distrust of theological education. Genuine help in leadership training on all levels could contribute to the Christian work in Chile.
 8. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek to help evangelize the peoples from Chile who have migrated to the Argentina area known as the Patagonia. These people who have moved could be open to the Message of Jesus.
 9. Evangelical Christians and churches could aid the peoples of Chile with training in agricultural, fishing, land reclamation, reforestation, and cattle tending (including dairy). Chile also has vast needs in health care especially in the slums where lack of sewage facilities threatened health.
 10. Evangelical Christians and churches should consider evangelism and church starting among the Roma Gypsies in Chile who have respond in some numbers to the Seventh Day Adventists in the nation. This fact shows some degree of receptivity among this people group.

11. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek to minister to the many Chileans who migrate to Argentina yearly to an area known as the Patagonia. Missionaries are needed to evangelize these migratory families. The missionaries could be teachers and health specialists.

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