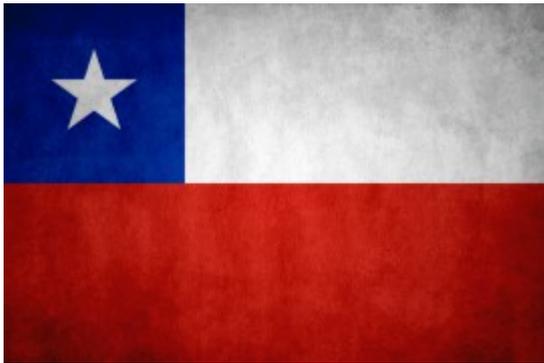


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# Chile

**Total area:**

756,096 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:**

18,006,407 (2015 es)

**Literacy:**

95%

**Official languages:**

Spanish

**GDP (PPP) per capita:**

\$24,797 (2017 est.)

**Life expectancy:**

79 years

**Religions:**

71% Catholic, 15% Protestant, 8% Agnostic or Atheist, 6% other religions

## Prayer points

**Born to Love project brings children hope**

Give thanks for the Born to Love project being run by the Chilean Bible Society to promote Christian and family values among children and teenagers. Pray, as these young people read God's word together, that many lives will be changed as they meet with Jesus. (Scottish Bible Society - August 2019)

**Immigrants to Chile helped by the church**

Over the last two years Chile has received immigrants from different parts of Latin America and Africa. Regrettably some of these immigrants have faced discrimination and prejudice. Several churches and Christian organisations are starting Spanish courses and offering legal advice and advocacy. Pray that the Lord will touch the lives of the immigrants through the preaching and testimony of the church, and that he will challenge the prejudices and xenophobic attitudes in sections of the wider population. (Latin Link - April 2019)

**IFES movement bearing fruit across South America**

IFES movement in Chile recently employed Pablo as staff in Punta Arenas to support student ministry there and, working with the Argentinian movement, to pioneer across Patagonia. In January, Pablo and a team travelled 4000km around Argentinian Patagonia, making contact with many believers, including Matias, soon starting university in Comodoro who is keen to start a group there. He organised a meeting to encourage believers to start Christian groups on campus, and his friend's non-believing girlfriend came. Pablo writes: "It wasn't the most appropriate place, maybe it wasn't the

most appropriate talk for a non-believer, but that young guest gave her life to Jesus. It was not within our plans, but God is full of grace." Ask God to continue to draw students to him across Patagonia. (IFES - April 2019)

### **The Church against discrimination**

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### **More than a Carpenter**

Lately, we have been giving away copies of *The Way to God* (D.L.Moody) and *More than a Carpenter* (Josh McDowell) in an evangelism effort to reach thousands of people in our country. Please pray for those who have received, or will receive, one of these books. May God be revealed to them as they read, changing perceptions, and encourage them to pass the book on to more friends and family. (CLC International (UK) - November 2017)

### **Children in broken homes**

Most of the children who attend Los Trigales (The Wheatfields) school are vulnerable: they come from homes where parents are alcoholics, abusive, or in prison, and live in an area rife with drugs and theft. The school was started in the 1980s by Encuentro con Cristo (Encounter with Christ) church, and aims to improve the educational and spiritual aspects of the children's lives. Every day starts with a prayer and there is frequent Bible teaching through RE lessons and assemblies. The pastor often visits the homes of children who are sick or in particular need. The school also gives the children a hot meal at lunchtime. Pray that the love of Christ will penetrate the lives and hearts of these precious children. (Latin Link - September 2015)

### **Divisive social changes**

Mission partners in Chile ask us to pray about big social changes proposed in Chile. Last week Civil Unions became law and President Bachelet has tabled a bill in Congress to legalise abortion in cases of rape or when there is a threat to the mother's or the baby's life. There is currently a total ban in Chile, as in seven other Latin American countries. These issues are painful and often divisive. Please pray into the situation. (Church Mission Society - March 2015)

### **Outreach to homeless people**

Every Tuesday and Thursday, students from the Intensive Mission Training in Chile visit a day centre for homeless people in Recoleta, an area of the country's capital Santiago. For two months straight, the team taught English classes in the centre by singing English Christian worship songs every Thursday. A man named Gabriel came to the classes. His English was quite good, as he has picked up many words through watching films in English. On the second Thursday, Gabriel shared a poem he had written using words that he had learnt the previous week; it was a poem about God's love for us. One of the students shared how her surprise at discovering that Gabriel had really understood the message had reminded her of Ephesians 3:20-21. She concluded: "Praise be to God that He does more than we could ever imagine!" (Operation Mobilisation - September 2014)

### **A new society**

"In Chile 70% of students will be the first generation of professionals in their families. That means that in 5 years time there will be a new society, a new culture, a new mentality and new expectations being born..." (Evangelicals, Politics and society in Chile, Fediakova, 2013). Please pray for the church in Chile, that it would have an influence in the new country that is being born. Pray that the church in Chile will get a vision from God to be an influence to those who will be leading the country in the next

generations with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Church Mission Society - March 2014)

### **Safe place to socialise**

The sounds of laughter, conversations, and the clinking together of dishes drift through the door and to the streets of Loja, Ecuador. At *El Sendero (The Path)* many young people are hanging out and enjoying a snack, talking, and playing games. It is becoming a popular place for the hundreds of university students that populate this small college town. *El Sendero* is a unique place in Loja. Although the city has a large population of students, there are very few safe places for them to socialise, and even fewer resources for them to be cared for, counselled, and introduced to a living relationship with Christ. Please pray for the students who come to the café and for the conversations that take place. (Serving In Mission - March 2013)

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