

Human geography and global studies



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Chile and Its Competition against the Always Seemingly Better United

States
Introduction The country of Chile, located on the western border of South America, is one of the continent's most flourishing and secure countries. Its location is ideal for trade, as well as full of agricultural resources which keep the country economically stable.

The human development of Chile is rising per year and currently leads the Latin American nations with an HDI ranking of 45. When comparing Chile to the United States, with an HDI ranking of 4, the numbers are not too far apart. Although there is not a significant difference, statistics still support the common notion that the United States is an overall more economically developed country and has a conveniently better site and situation to promote and preserve its well-being.

Low Stationary Stage
Crude Birth Rates and Crude Death Rates and Rate of Natural Increase As illustrated in Figure 1, the crude birth rate of Chile is the same as the United States equaling 14, but the crude death rates of each country are slightly different as the United States is 8 and Chile is only 5. The United States is considered a more developed country according to the Demographic Transition rate as it stands further along in stage 4 of development in which a country is defined as having low birth and death rates and little or no population growth**. Chile is also in stage 4 of the Demographic Transition rate, but is not as far along as the US due to its lower death rate resulting in a higher number of natural increase. The economic effects of Natural Increase

Chile's higher rate of natural increase may also be explained by its lack of family planning. When compared to the United States, at 35.

9, Chile has an adolescent fertility rate of 59.8, as seen in figure 4. This substantial difference is possibly the result of lack of education in Chile. Chilean teens may not be aware of, or have access to the resources around them, which can be concluded by looking at the amount of only 32.5/100 internet users as seen in figure 4.

If Chile's education was improved it is possible that women could control their child birth and the country's rate of natural increase could decrease. Despite Chile's shortcomings in the chase to be in line with the US, both Chile's rate of .9 and the United State's rate of .6 are very low in comparison with the world's rate of natural increase set at 1.2. This fortunately affects the economy and well-being of each country as they are further away from approaching carrying capacity. As seen in Figure 3.

1, Chile's projected population in 2025 consists mostly of middle age adults and not a larger child population. This indicates that people in Chile are not having as many children, or perhaps have seen an increase in the percent of women in the work force which is a hopeful prediction for the country's economic standing. 3. Fertility Trends Total Fertility Rate and Life Expectancy at Birth and Infant Mortality Rate Modern technology allows for people to be able to choose how many children they want and when they want to have them. This technology is generally found in more developed countries such as the United States and Chile. While government policies do have an effect on the availability of birth control technology, the numbers speak for themselves.

In Chile the total fertility rate is 2 which is barely lower than the United States. These numbers are far lower than the world total fertility rate which currently stands at 2.7. This contrast demonstrates that while the United States is considered a more developed country, Chile also falls into that category with a below replacement level fertility rate. This can also be classified by how little the amount of infants they lose at birth is opposed to the United States which currently holds an infant mortality rate of 6.

6. Chile keeps a slightly higher rate of 8.8 infants out of 1000.

Chile's population as seen in figure 3.2 is below replacement birth rate in 2050 whereas the United States is at replacement level according to figure 2.2. Both countries life expectancy rate at birth is the same at 78. Although Chile's numbers are extremely close to the United States in every statistic, the US is still ruled the more developed country as it is simply more stable.

4. Health and Well-Being As far as population numbers go, the US is the more developed country, but other aspects must be looked at. With 72 percent of the country living in the cities and a population with only a

2 percent of HIV/AIDS from ages 15-49 it would seem that Chile is quickly approaching the last aspect of stage 4 of the demographic transition, and may even pass up the US sometime soon. They have also made advances in medicine allowing for a lower crude death rate than the United States.

Location is even in their benefit in comparison with the US as they are less affected by natural disasters and have better chances of keeping up with agriculture and supporting themselves through exportation. Although a well

developed country should not rely on agriculture, but much rather on sciences and industry, Chile's high working force population allows for growth within the economy while keeping their population down. Their unemployment rate is only fairly higher than the United States as shown in figure 4. Chile is certainly a model for other countries to follow.

Conclusion It may be concluded that with an improvement in education and a small jump in the world of technology that Chile may be closer to the United States when it comes to human development and economy than expected. Overall, the country should be well recognized as economically stable and self-sufficient in nearly every way. Works Cited Page Central Intelligence Agency. World Factbook. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>. (accessed November 8, 2010). Fellman, Getis.

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