

# JILIN 吉林

With a population of more than 1.7 million people, Jilin City lends its name to the province of the same name. Jilin City is officially divided into two administrative regions: the city area itself, with 1.36 million, and the Jiaoqu District which contains 415,000 people. For the purposes of this book we have combined these two nearby areas into one profile. Formerly known by the Japanese-name *Kirin*, Jilin was part of the Manchukuo State created by the Japanese between 1933 and 1945. Manchukuo covered almost the entire northeastern part of China. *Jilin* means 'River City' in the Manchu language, as the Songhua River loops around the city.

**Population:**  
1,320,208 (1990)  
1,774,200 (2000)  
2,384,300 (2010)

**Province:**  
Jilin

## Major Ethnic Groups:

**Han** 89.9%  
**Manchu** 5.2%  
**Korean** 2.8%  
**Hui** 1.7%

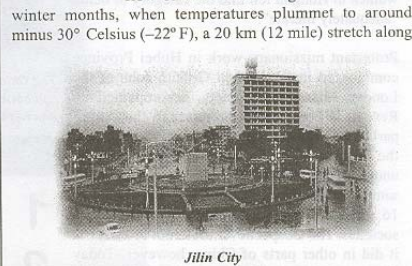
**Christians:**  
13,500 (0.8%)

Jilin City today is a modern and highly industrialized city with a concentration of factories, chemical plants and big industry. Other major economic sectors in Jilin include iron mining, automobile production, textile and electronics. A massive building boom has hit Jilin City. In 1990 more than 60,000 men were employed in the construction industry. Hotels, businesses and schools are going up at a frantic pace.

Ironically, one of the three big chemical plants in Jilin City has created the city's main tourist attraction. The Fengman Hydroelectric Station produces a warm flow of water into Songhua Lake. In the winter months, when temperatures plummet to around minus 30° Celsius (-22° F), a 20 km (12 mile) stretch along

Located about two hours east of Changchun, the provincial capital, Jilin City is located at the end of the Changbai Mountain Range. About 90% of the population of Jilin City are Han Chinese. Significant representations of Manchu (69,000), Koreans (37,500) and Hui (22,300) also live in the City, as do smaller numbers of 2,700 Mongols and 300 Xibe.

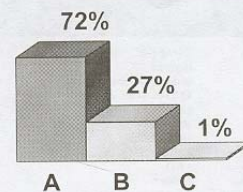
Jilin was originally a small village in the territory of the now-extinct Ula tribe. In 1651 the Manchus, concerned about Russia to the north, built a shipyard in the city. In 1673 Jilin was fortified, and in 1676 the headquarters of the Manchu governor was transferred here.



Jilin City



## Status of Evangelization (Awareness of Christ and the Gospel)



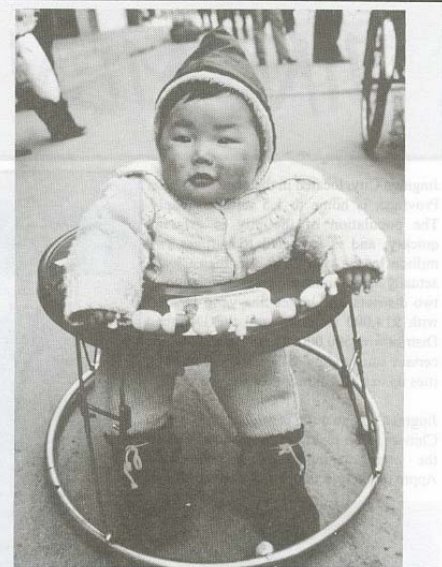
A = have never heard the Gospel or the name of Christ  
B = were evangelized but have not yet become Christians  
C = Adherents to any form of Christianity

the shores of the lake turns into a wonderful sight as icicles form on the branches of the pine-trees and willows. During the Chinese New Year in January and February thousands of Chinese and foreign tourists come to the city to view the spectacular show. Jilin City is also one of the few places in China with a ski-resort. The Songhuahu Qingshan Ski Resort is located some 16 km (10 miles) outside the city.

One of the religious strongholds in the city is the Jilin Confucian Temple, built in 1736 by Emperor Qianlong. Inside the Dacheng Hall are statues of Confucius and his disciples and an exhibition of the sage's life and teachings. Although not technically considered a religion, Confucianism has left its imprint on the thoughts of every Chinese generation for the past 2,500 years. In the North Mountain Park are found several ancient temples that blend influences of Confucianism, Buddhism and Daoism.

Although missionary work in Jilin City commenced in the late 1800's, the number of laborers was small and little lasting impact was made on the city's inhabitants. The exception is among the ethnic Koreans, who number thousands of believers. Many Korean Christians sought refuge in Jilin during World War II, as they fled Japanese occupation forces.

The most prominent church in Jilin City is a former Presbyterian building located on Henan Street. Sunday attendance is about two hundred people. Chaoyang Church, just outside the city, was solely a Korean congregation until 1993 when they started a Mandarin service to accommodate a growing number of Han believers. Despite the presence of these and other churches in Jilin City, the vast majority of the city's population have yet to hear the Gospel for the first time in a manner that allows them to make an intelligible decision to accept or reject Jesus Christ.



A baby in Jilin City, well-protected from the wintry chills. Will this child grow up with knowledge of the Gospel?

## Pray for Jilin

- 1 Jilin City is known for its cold weather, but pray the hearts of the people would not be cold against the Gospel. Ask God to raise up a large and powerful church in Jilin.
- 2 Pray the evangelistic Korean Christians throughout the province would continue to reach out in love across ethnic lines. Pray God would use them to glorify His Name in Jilin.
- 3 Pray all people in Jilin City would soon have the chance to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## Overview of Jilin

Pronunciation	"Jee-lin"	Employed people	737,702 (55.9% of total population)
Old Spelling	Chi-lin, Kirin (Japanese name)	Main Industries	Industrial 47.2%; Professional 15.0%; Commerce 9.0%
Location	Jilin Province, northeast China	Educational	University: 2.6%
Population	1,320,208 (1990 census)	Attainment	High School: 64.0%
Males	668,052 (50.60%)	(highest level)	Primary School: 23.7%
Females	652,156 (49.40%)	attended	Never attended any level of school: 9.7%
Households	352,240	Population under 15	21.5%
Average household	3.75 people	Adult Literacy	91% (men 95%; women 87%)
Divorced people	13,830	Major Nationalities	Han 1,187,557
% of population	1.05%		Manchu 69,121
Centurians (1990)	18 people aged 100 or more		Korean 37,554
Immigrants to City	22,930 per year		Hui 22,300
From same province	18,517 (80.7%)		Mongol 2,710
From other provinces	4,404 (19.2%)		Others (27 groups): 966
		Christians	13,500 (0.8%)