

Management of Educational Policies in Argentina: Critical Challenges in a Context of Demographic Change

By Prof. Maria Aurelia Lupis

aurelia.lupis@gmail.com

Coordinator of the Observatory for Management
in Education, Science and Technology
IGEDECO | University of Buenos Aires (UBA)

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Demographic shifts in Argentina

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Argentina: Decline in Birth rates over the last 10 years

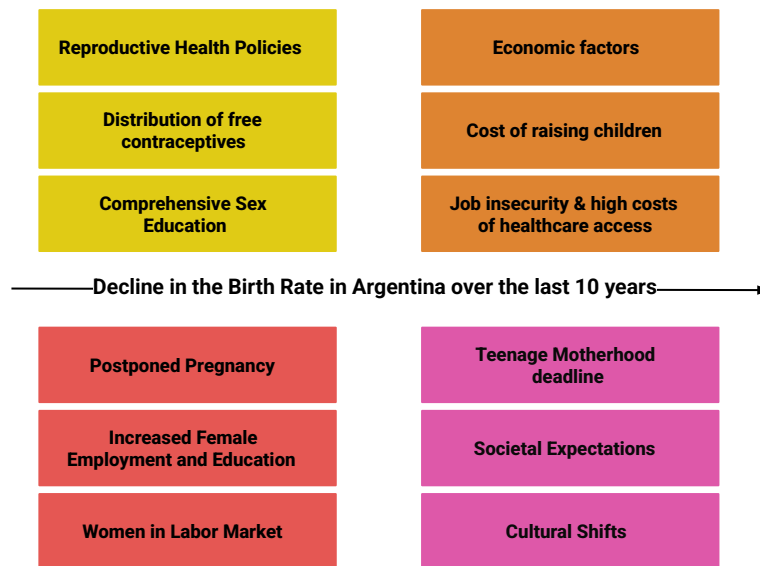
» Census 2022:

- An increase in the elderly population,
- A rise in women heading households,
- A sharp decline in birth rates.

» Live births per woman: **1.4**

» Since 2014, birth rate has decreased by more than 40%.

Analyzing Argentina's Birth Rate Decline



Decline in Birth rates and population aging in Argentina

» Decline in Birth Rates

Argentina's birth rate dropped 46% from 2014 to 2024, with fertility below replacement level at 1.4 children per woman.

» Population Aging

The elderly population is increasing, leading to a demographic shift with more seniors and fewer young people in Argentina.

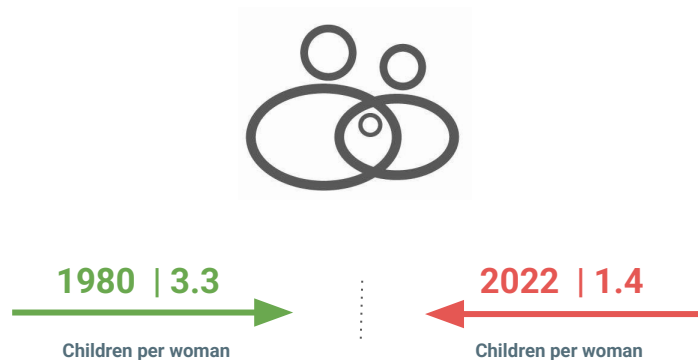
» Changing Household Dynamics

Single-person households rose to 25%, reflecting delayed motherhood and more individuals choosing to remain childfree.

» Societal and Economic Impact

These demographic changes impact social services, labor markets, and require education systems to adapt to fewer students.

Argentina's Total Fertility Rate



Impact on education system

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Characteristics of the Educational System in Argentina:

Decentralization and Funding Inequities

- » **Decentralized Education Structure:** Since the 1990s, educational responsibilities have shifted from the national government to the 24 provincial governments, resulting in unequal regional capacities.
- » **Funding Imbalance:** Provinces contribute 78% of educational funding while the national government provides 22%, creating territorial inequities.
- » **Budget Allocation Constraints:** 85-92% of the education budget is spent on salaries and operations, limiting funds for infrastructure and quality improvements.
- » **Data System Challenges:** Lack of a unified national data system complicates planning, assessment of teacher needs, attendance, and learning outcomes.

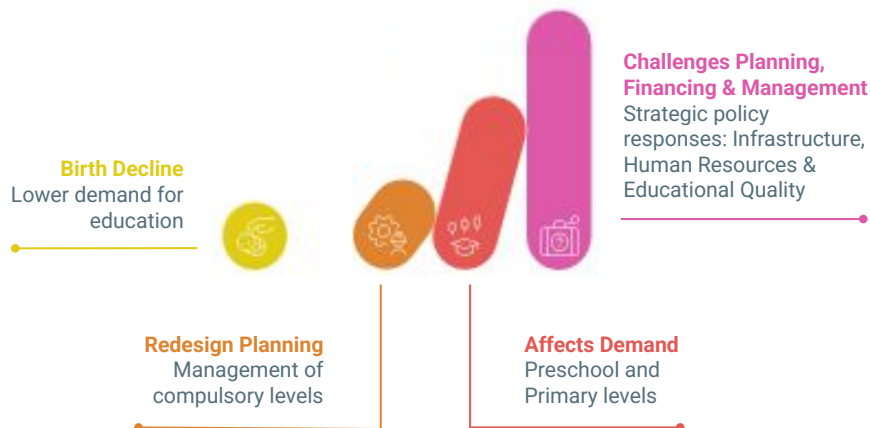
Argentine Educational System					
Level		Ages		Modality	
EARLY CHILDHOOD	Nursery/ CDI	0 to 2			
	Preschool Kindergarten	3 4 and 5			
PRIMARY (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL)		6 to 11/12	COMPULSORY	Special education/ Lifelong education for young and adults/ Rural/ Intercultural bilingual/ Educ. in contexts of deprivation of liberty/Home and hospital education	High school/ Technical High school
SECONDARY (MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL)	Basic Cycle	12 to 14			
	Oriented cycle	15 to 17			
SUPERIOR (HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION)	Tertiary	18 and up			
	University	18 and up			
	Postgraduate	18 and up			

Compulsory education:
ages 4 to 17.

The most direct impact of population decline occurs in the early stages of schooling -Early childhood and Primary (Elementary School) levels-.

Impact of these demographic trends on the educational system

Declining Birth Rates Impact Education



» Impact on Early Childhood Education:

- Critical Challenges: Policies Focused on Access, Retention strategies to prevent school dropouts, and Quality education.

» Impact on Primary Education (Elementary School)

- Critical Challenges: Plan School enrollment in advance, and Increasing Effective Teaching Time

» Impact on Secondary Education (Middle & High School)

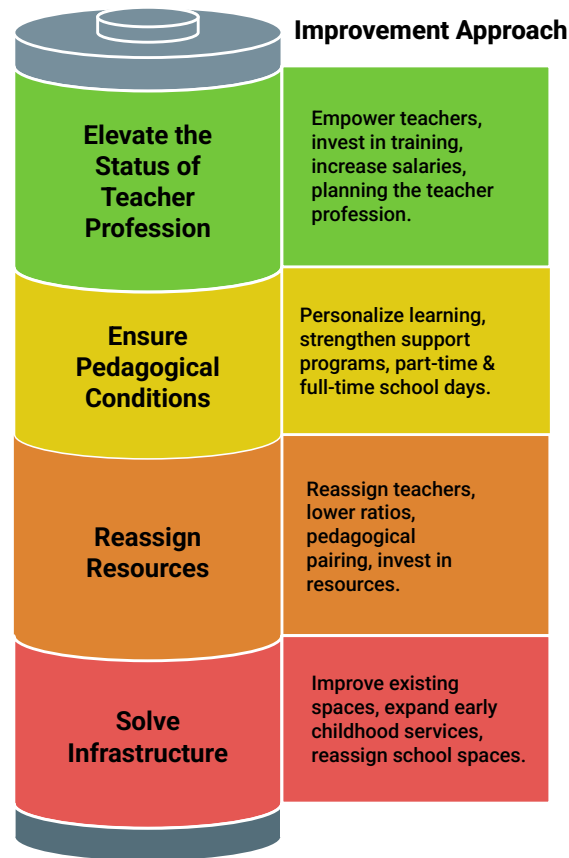
- Critical Challenge: Provide a quality education that ensures Access, Retention, and Completion.

Strategic action lines

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Educational quality improvement strategies range from reactive to proactive.



Opportunities ahead

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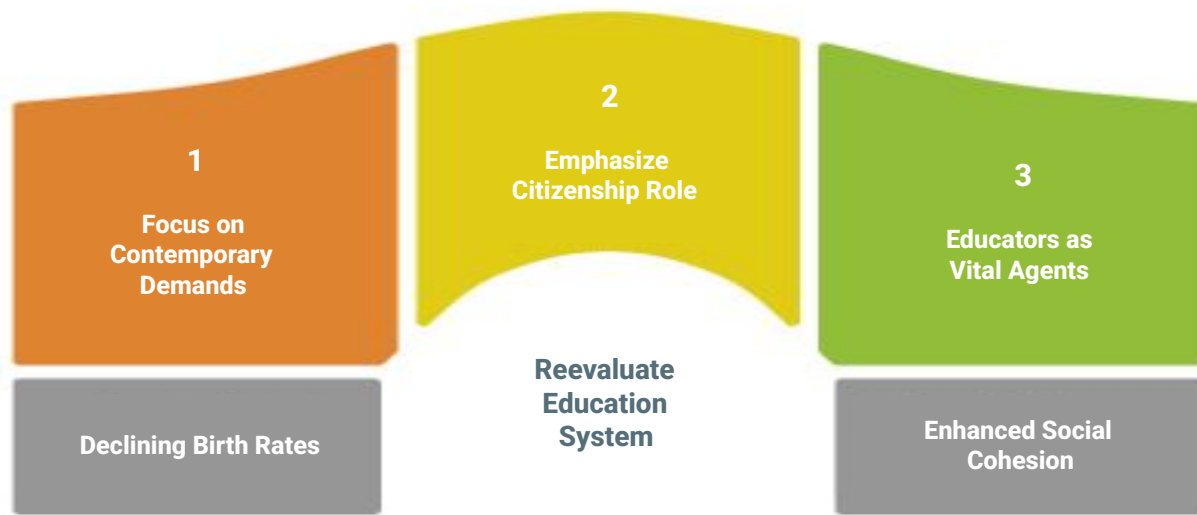
How to take advantage of Demographic Trends for Reform

- » **Personalized Learning:** Smaller class sizes allow for more personalized learning experiences and a better student-teacher ratio.
- » **Strategic Infrastructure Use:** Repurposing underutilized school facilities can better serve broader community needs.
- » **Elevating the Teaching Profession:** Improving working conditions and professional development is crucial for addressing Argentina's educator recruitment crisis.
- » **Innovation Catalyst:** Viewing these demographic shifts as a chance to innovate will help build a resilient and equitable education system for the future

Conclusions

» Education is the pillar of social cohesion

The drop in birth rates is a chance to rethink Education



Thank you!

igedeco.uba@gmail.com

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