

Thirty Successful Experiences of Redistribution, Reduction,  
Recognition, Remuneration and Representation in Care Work

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# Comprehensive Program for the Recognition of Periods of Service in Care Work, Argentina

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**Country or location of implementation:** Argentina

**Instances and/or legal framework responsible for its implementation:** National Social Security Administration (ANSES).

### Specific issue covered and beneficiaries of the action or policy

The recognition of social security contributions for caregiving work brings to light—and repairs—a historical and structural inequality in the distribution of these tasks, recognizing and valuing the time women dedicate and have dedicated to raising their sons and daughters. This measure levels the playing field and generates the necessary conditions for thousands of women to access the right to retire (ANSES, 2021).

The Comprehensive Program for the Recognition of Periods of Service in Care Work combines three modalities that contribute to the reduction of the gender gap in social security matters and that will allow immediate access to a retirement benefit. These three modalities recognize:

- One year of social security services per child for women and pregnant women with children born alive or adopted as minors.
- Two additional years for women who have received the Universal Child Allowance (AUH in Spanish),<sup>3</sup> and the child who has received this benefit for at least 12 months. So far, 2.3 million women receive the AUH and account for 94 percent of beneficiaries.
- Registered female workers who have taken maternity leave or leave of absence will also be recognized for the same period of time for the purpose of accessing the right to a pension (p. 12, 2021).

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3 The Universal Child Allowance (AUH) is a monthly allowance paid by the National Social Security Administration (ANSES) for each child under 18 years of age or child with a disability. See: <https://www.anses.gob.ar/asignacion-universal-por-hijo#:~:text=Es%20una%20asignacion%3%B3n%20mensual%20por,padres%2C%20priorizando%20a%20la%20mam%3%A1.&text=Ahora%20pod%3%A9s%20consultar%20tus%20cobros,Clave%20de%20la%20Seguridad%20Social>.

The target population is women of retirement age (60 years or older) with children, who have not contributed for the required number of years. This benefit will be available to women without an approved or paid pension, or a pension that is being processed.

### Results expected from and obtained with the action or policy

It is estimated 44% of women of retirement age cannot currently access a pension benefit because insertion in the labor market, especially in the formal sector, is more difficult for women than it is for men. Approximately 300,000 women between 59 and 64 years of age are not eligible for a retirement pension because they do not have the required 30 years of service in their registered contributions. Of all these women, 155,000 could have immediate access to a pension. The measure would enable another 30,000 women to retire next year (p. 12, 2021). According to ANSES information, web-based applications began to be processed as of August 1, 2021.

### Obstacles and challenges in the implementation of these policies and actions

As the program has only been recently implemented at the time of this research, it is not yet possible to adequately assess obstacles and challenges.

### Justification of compliance with the inclusion criteria

The recently launched program for the recognition of periods of service in care work in Argentina is a historic achievement for the country since, for the first time, caregiving and child-rearing tasks will be recognized as computable years for social security services. This measure recognizes care work as work that allows access to a social security benefit such as a retirement pension – a fundamental income for a dignified old age. This is an action that recognizes and remunerates care work.

**For more information, visit** [www.anses.gob.ar/reconocimiento-de-aportes-por-tareas-de-cuidado](http://www.anses.gob.ar/reconocimiento-de-aportes-por-tareas-de-cuidado)