The Health Care System

3 Sectors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sectors</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>The wealthy (10% of the population)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obras Sociales</td>
<td>Workers in unions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Sector</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
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</tbody>
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Each Sector has a separate network of hospitals ranging from rundown public hospitals to high tech private hospitals

Finance:
Taxes paid by everyone finances the public sector
Obras Sociales is funded by compulsory payroll contribution
The private sector is an out of pocket expenditure
Total health expenditure makes of 8% of the GDP

The Population

Major causes of mortality and morbidity:

Children:
- Congenital anomalies
- Premature birth
  The Argentine infant mortality rate is 117th, which is 55% higher than would be expected for its per capita income

Young Adults:
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
  Condoms are available for free at almost every public and private venue

Adults:
- Coronary Heart Disease
- Stroke
- Pneumonia
  In the past 20 years there has been a decline in exercise and fruit and vegetable consumption

The Politics

Until 2001 the Argentine pesos was pegged to the U.S dollar
In 2001 the market crashed
Hundreds of thousands lost jobs and government had limited revenue to give to hospitals
Not until recently has Argentina been able to recover economically
The health care budgets are distributed equally to each county without consideration of needs because of a lack of specific guidelines in health care policy

CONCLUSION

While there are a lot of kinks in the system Argentina may become a model that the US can use to find solutions to its health care system problems as Argentina's economy recovers fully.

References