

RECONSTRUCTION of the PAST

WIREL

(WP 1.1 – 1.3: Historical analysis of the religious composition of the population in Vienna)

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Programme of WIREL WP 1.1-1.3

- Objectives and research questions
- Data and methods (ideal)
- Lacking flow data
- Exploring new and additional data
- Estimations, indirect techniques
- Measuring demographic phenomena
- Uses of results

WIREL's objectives and research questions

- Reconstruct the annual **population stock** by age, sex and religion, using the six decennial censuses 1951 to 2001,
- and **flow data** on births, deaths, migration, and change of religion, in order to
- **analyze the demographic factors** *fertility, mortality, migration, and secularization*, and their effects on the present (2001) religious distribution, shown in figure 1.
- Also, the **transmission of religious affiliation** from parents to children has to be analyzed.

Fig. 1: Age pyramid of the Viennese population according to five religious categories (Source: 2001 Census)

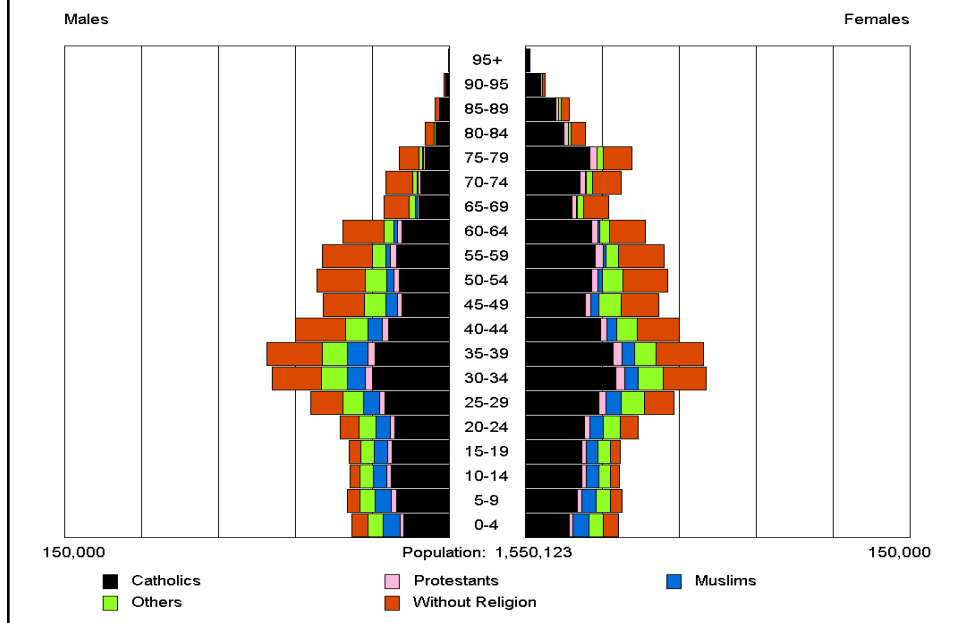
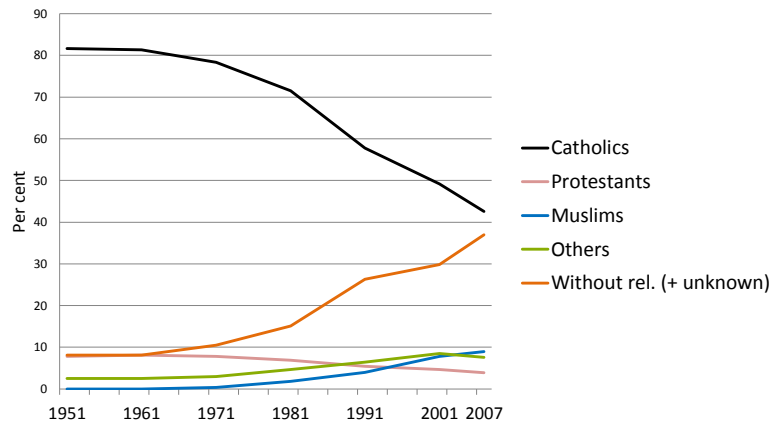


Fig.2: Proportions of five religious categories in the Viennese population 1951-2001 (censuses) and 2007 (est.)



Data and methods (ideal)

- Population at 1st January, 1951 ff., by single years of age (= birth cohort), sex and religion
- Annual flows (all by age, sex and religion) of:
 - Live births (age 0 only)
 - Deaths
 - In- and out-migration
 - Change of religion (in and out)
- Population equation:

$$P_0 + B - D + IM - OM + IR - OR = P_1$$

Lacking flow data by religion

- **Migration**, except for question on residence five years prior to census 1971, 1981, 1991
- Hence decennial inter-census net migration (NM) must be estimated by rearranging the population equation: $NM = P1 - P0 - (B - D) - (IR - OR)$
- Annual NM by age and sex is available as a frame
- NM by religion requires IR and OR by age and sex
- Data on **persons leaving** their **religious community** (OR) by age groups and sex is available for Vienna only, but only up to 1987. Total in 2008: 9.685.
- STAT collects annual totals of persons (re-)entering religious communities (IR) from the churches

Exploring new and additional data

- Can “Religionsaustritte” (OR) be tabulated from administrative records (MA 62) for years since 1988?
- Are age schedules available for “(Wieder-) Eintritte” (IR) at religious communities?
- Other pertinent data from churches: time lag between birth and baptism, ...
- Uses of the religion data from the residency registration system (Meldezettel)

Estimations, indirect techniques

- **Transmission** of religion from parents to children: Compare annual birth totals by religion of mother and father with children's religion in the census
- Check **recent estimates** of stocks provided by rel. communities against the 2001 census
- Make estimates for muslims before 1971 and orthodox before 1981
- Calculate **expected** totals of OR by using last empirical age structure of 1987
- **Retrojections** of population by age, sex and religion from 1971 back to 1961 and 1951

Measuring demographic phenomena

Uses of results

- Age-specific and age-standardized rates of: fertility by religion of mother, mortality by religion of deceased, net migration by religion, change of religion (persons leaving / entering), and transmission of religion
- Different levels and trends by religion
- Arrangements and analyses along cohort lines
- Policy-relevant numbers and structures
- Formulating hypotheses/scenarios for population projections by religion