

# **An End to Catholic Majority Spain?**

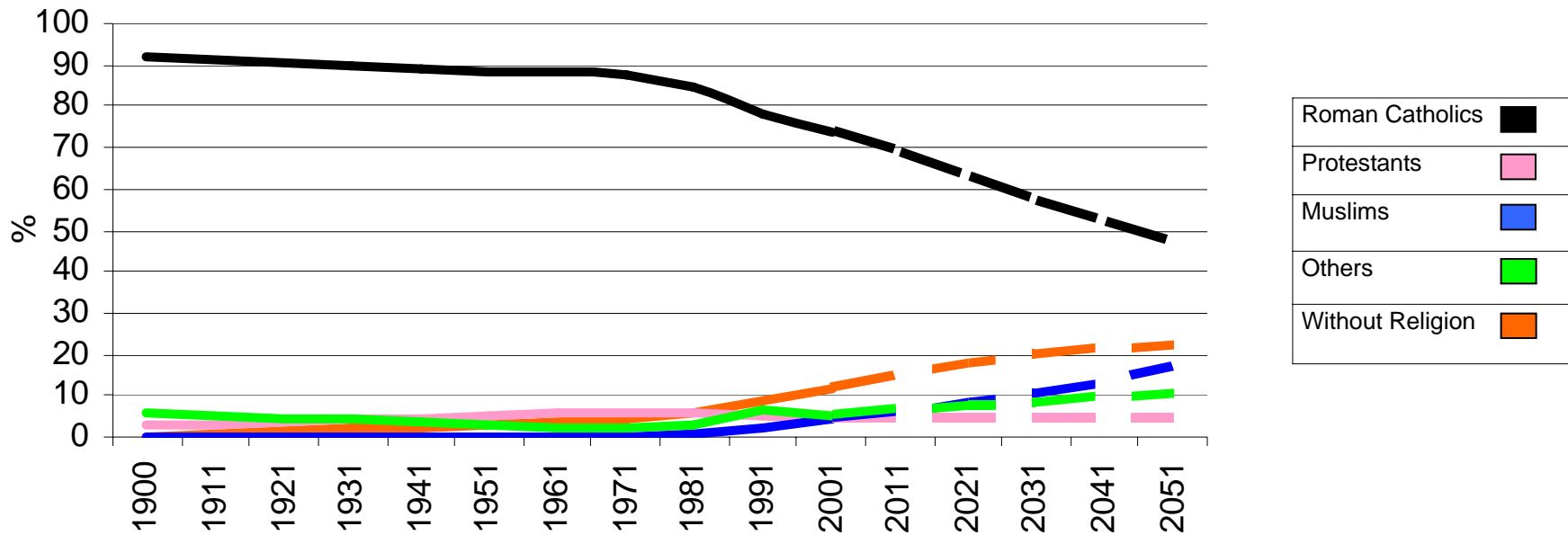
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# Motivation

- Spain relevant
  - For long period: religiously homogenous
  - Last few decades: Rapid secularisation as well as rising religious diversity through migration
- Motivation
  - How will migration influence the religious structure of Spain?
  - To which extent will secularisation continue?
  - Will Spain be dominated by the “religious light” or the “religiously devout”?
- We project both denomination and religiosity
  - Religiosity, to our knowledge, not projected earlier

# Example of religious change over time: Austria



Source: Goujon et al. 2007

# Spain

## - recent changes in religious composition

- Spain considered a Catholic 'bastion' during Franco regime
  - high church attendance partly a result of intimate Church-State link rather than individual commitment
  - religious freedom introduced only in 1978
- Large drop in religious practice since democratisation accompanied by second demographic transition and a drop in fertility
  - individualisation, female autonomy, high use of contraception even among active Catholics

# Religiosity

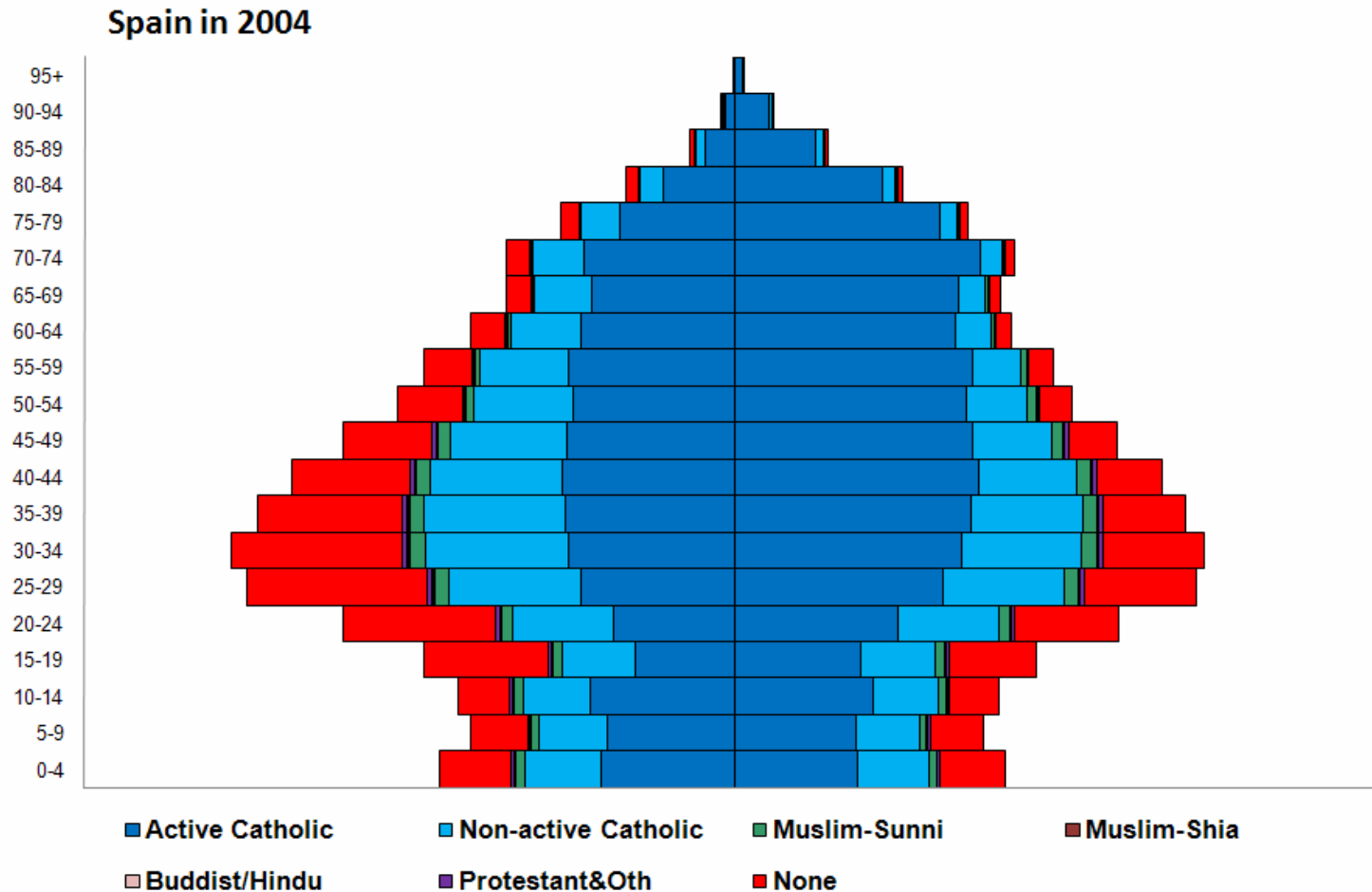
- Drop in church attendance following democratisation: possibly more accurate sorting by true intensity of religious practice
- Intensity of religious practice may emerge as stronger predictor of demographic behaviour (including fertility) than denomination.
- Earlier studies show that religion matters, also net of SES factors. However, religion could affect intermediate factors, e.g. employment, and controlling for them may bias (Adsera 2004, Goujon et al 2007)

# Approach

- Multi state cohort-component projections
- Base population: religious denomination and intensity by sex, age
- Age specific fertility by religious affiliation
- Age/sex specific conversions between religions (transition matrix)
- Mortality not affected by affiliation
- Child's religion assumed identical to mother's
- Future migrants' religion and intensity taken into account

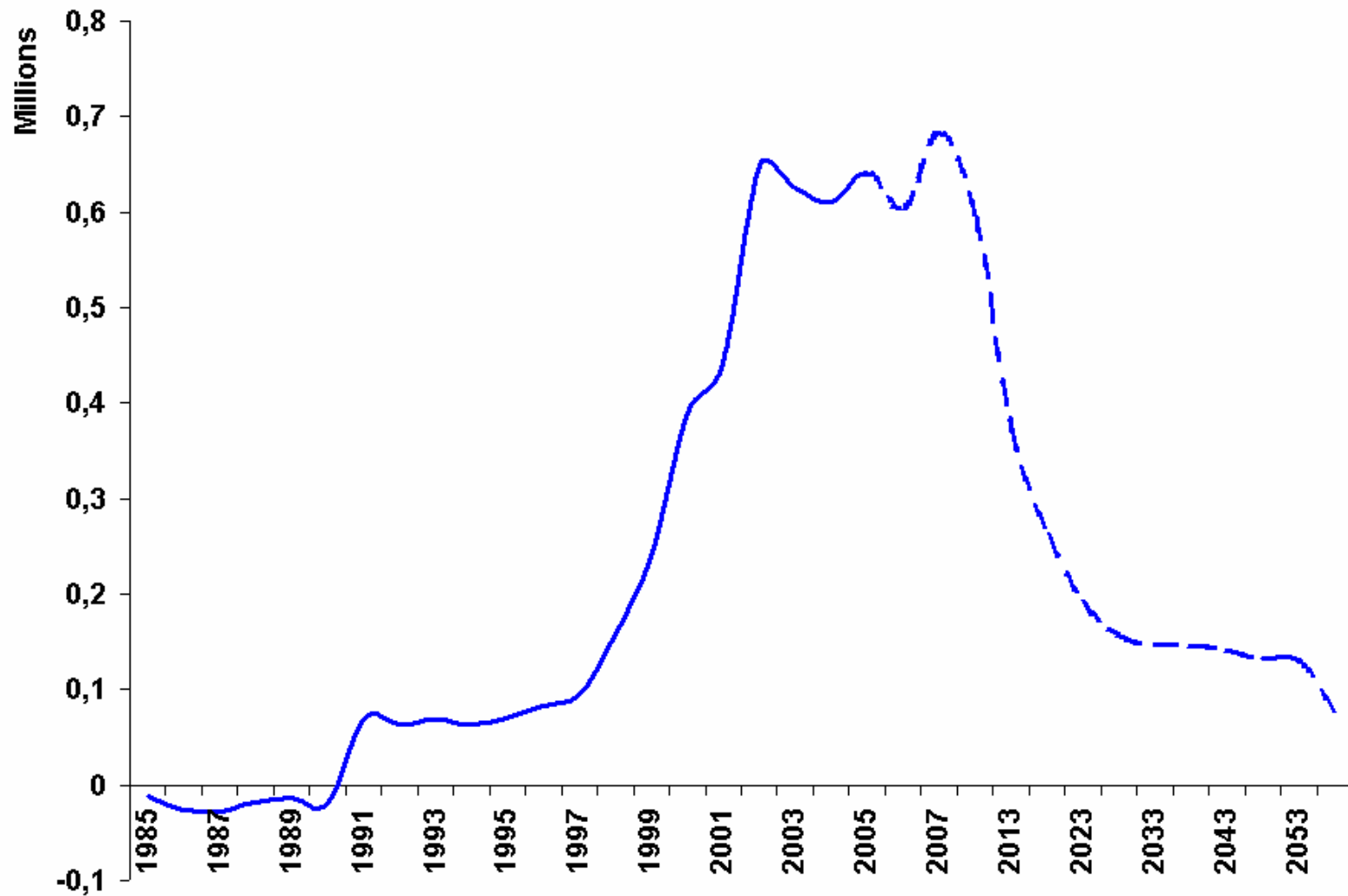
# Base data

## Population in base year by religion and religiosity



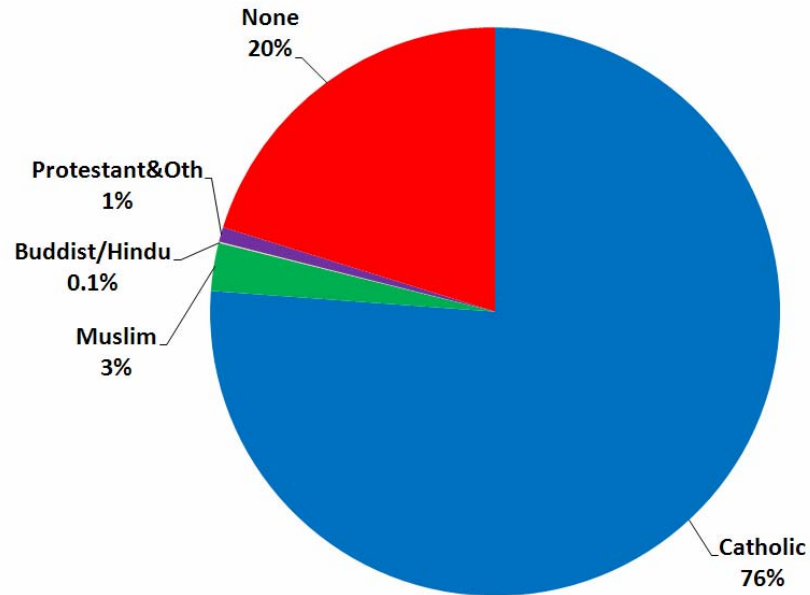
Source: Eurobarometer 2005, European Social Survey 2004/5 and 2006/7, International Social Survey Program 2004 and 2006, SHARE 2004, Centro de Investigaciones Survey 2005

# Migration to Spain can strongly affect religious composition



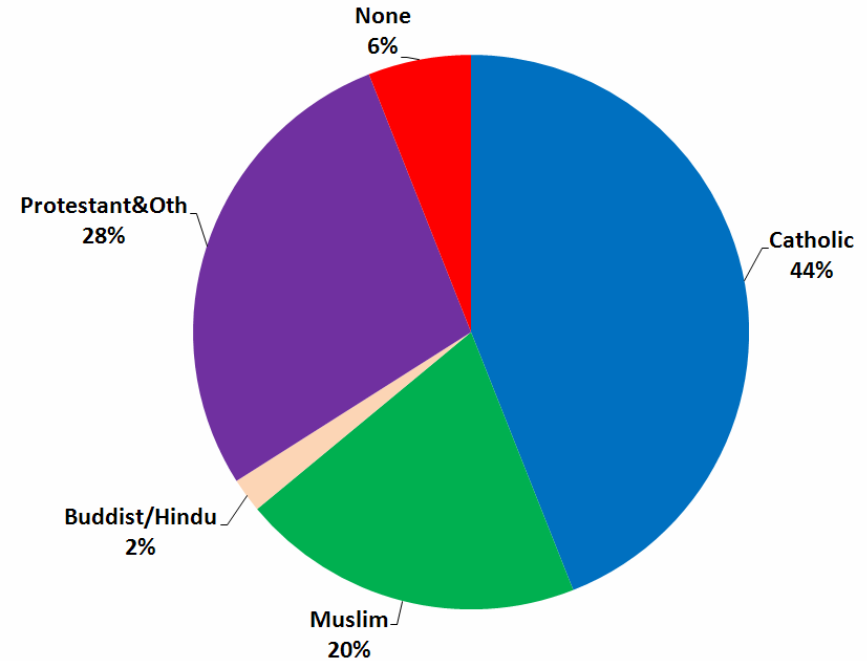
# Population of Spain and Migrants by religion

## Spain



Source: Authors' own estimates

## Migrants



Source: Eurostat, Estimates of religion by country

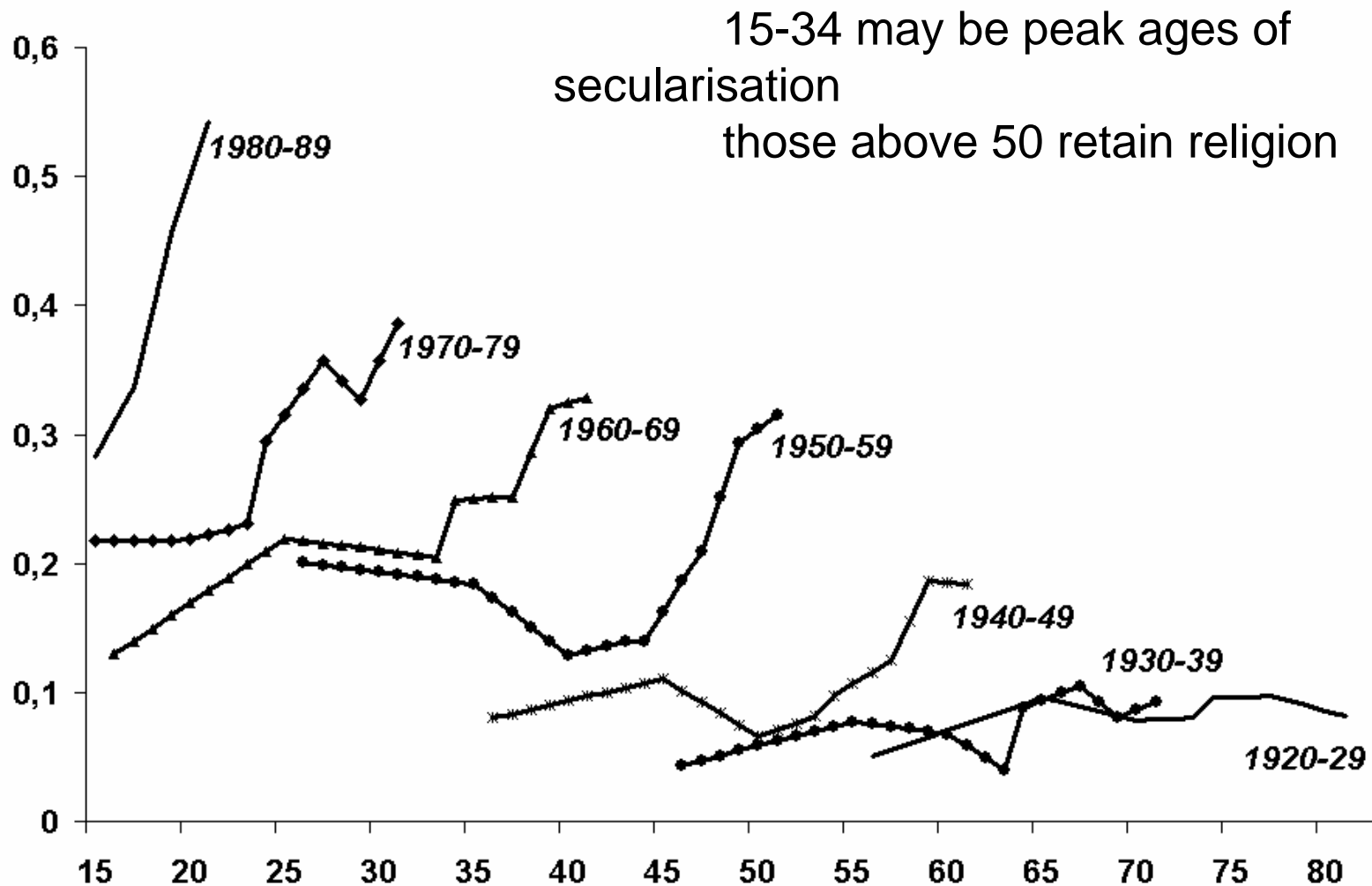
# Fertility

## Spain Relative TFR by Religion and Religiosity

<b>Active Catholic</b>	<b>1.84</b>
<b>Non-active Catholic</b>	<b>1.44</b>
<b>Protestant&amp;Oth</b>	<b>1.53</b>
<b>Muslim</b>	<b>1.76</b>
<b>Buddist/Hindu</b>	<b>1.53</b>
<b>None</b>	<b>1.00</b>

Source: Fertility level from Eurostat, Spanish Fertility Survey

# Transitions primarily take place in young age



Source: Euro-barometer, European Value Study, European Social Survey

# Projection - assumptions

## 1. Fertility:

- Relative TFR by RaR
- ASFR for the country
- RaR ASFR estimated for the first period
- Constant RaR ASFR Scenario implemented

## 2. Mortality: No Differential by Religion

## 3. Migration:

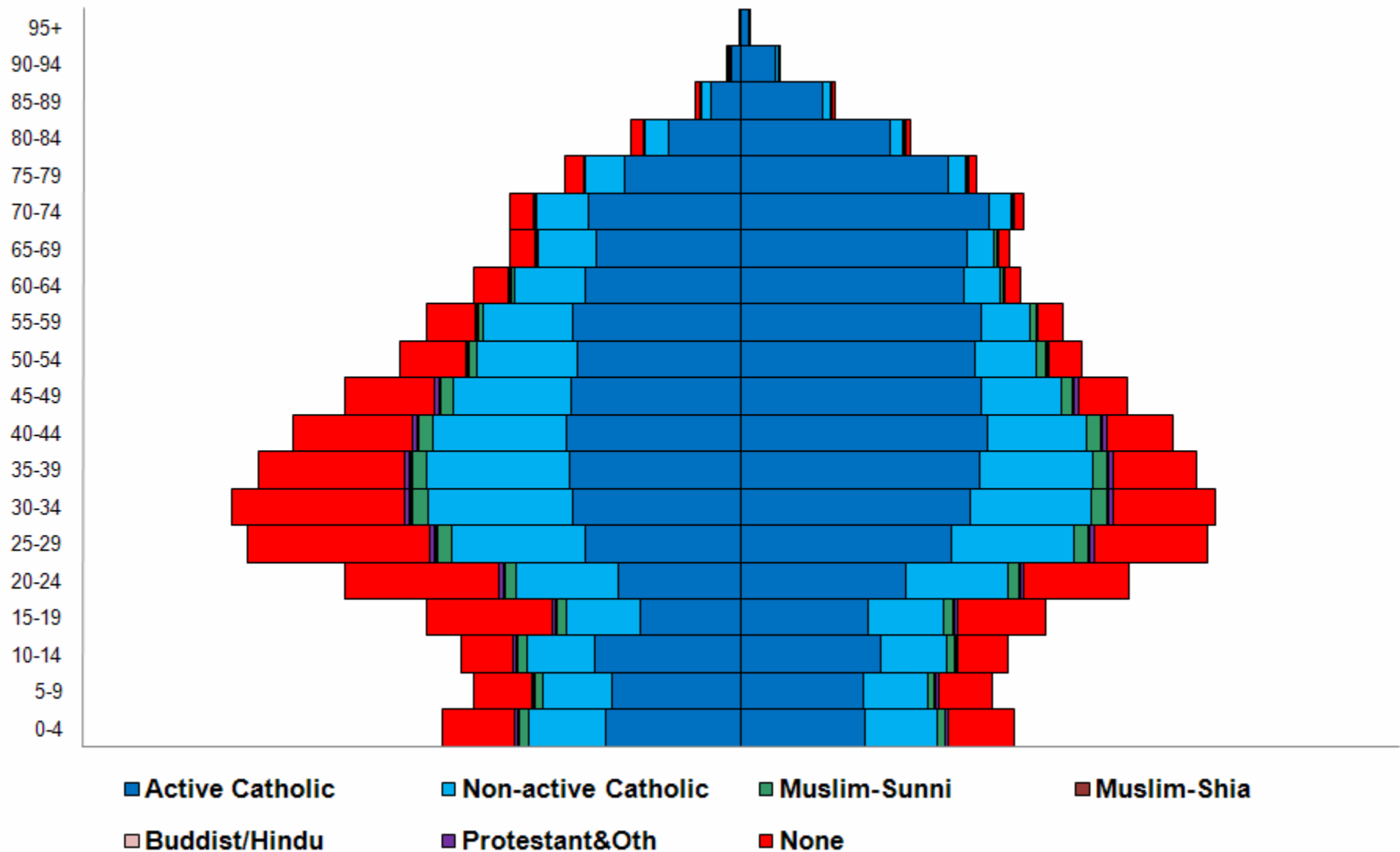
- WPP 2006 – UN data used to estimate the age-sex migration
- In each age-group if the net-migration is:
  - Negative: distributed as per receiving country
  - Positive: distributed as per sending country (regions)
- Repeated for all periods 2004-2029

## 4. Transition between RaR states:

- Linear Trend assumed for each religion
- While entering age group 15-19

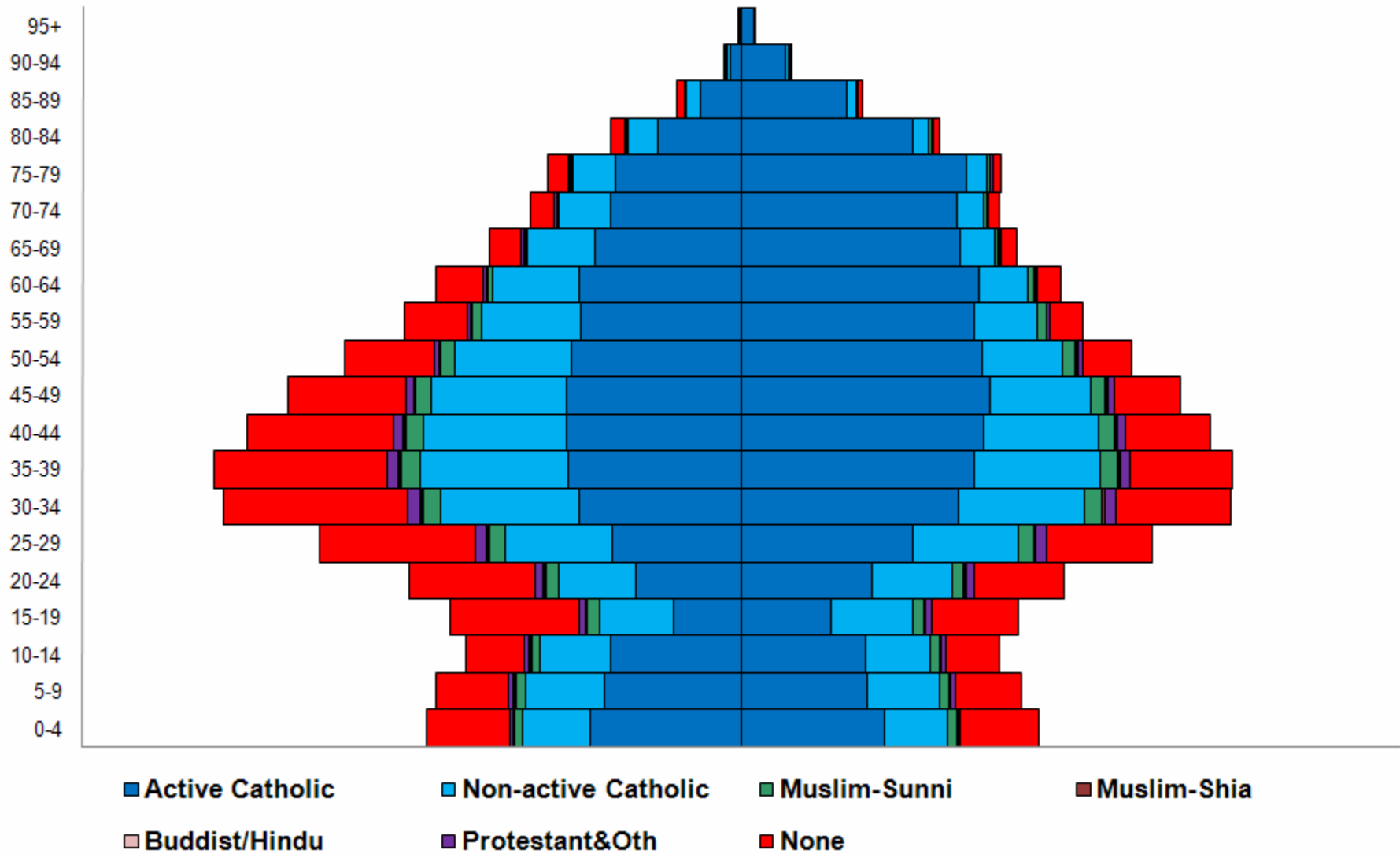
# Results

Spain in 2004



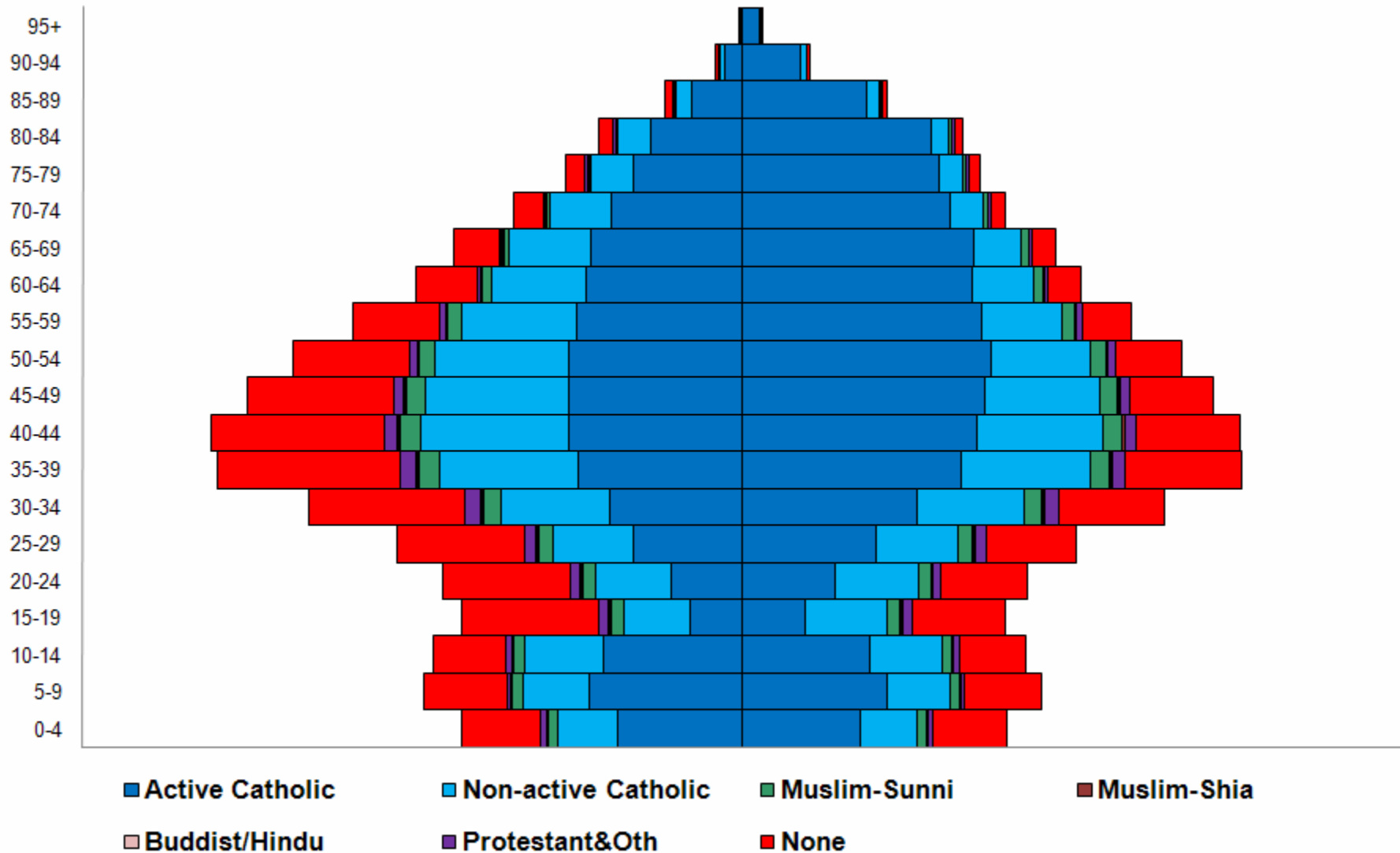
# Results

Spain in 2009



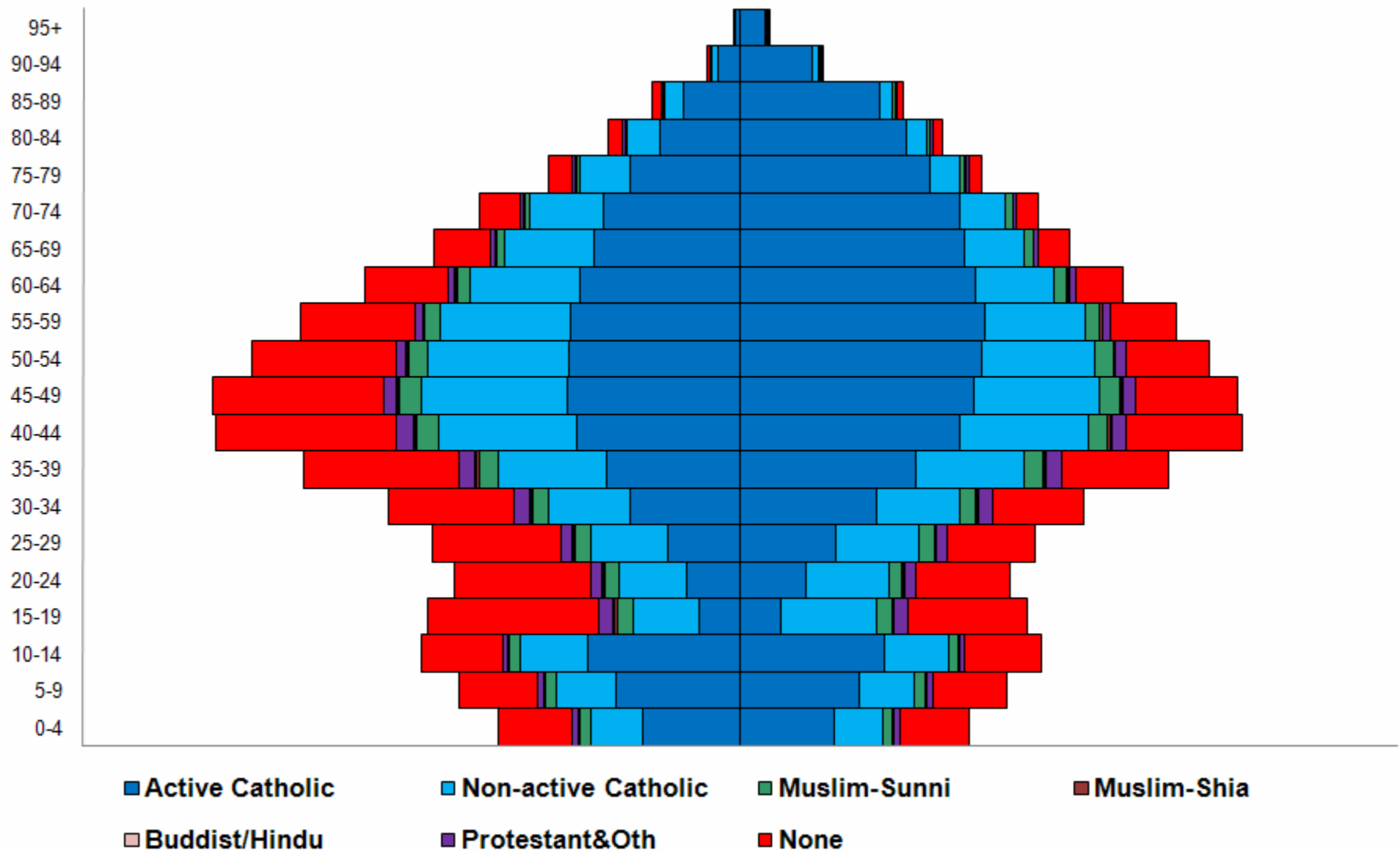
# Results

Spain in 2014



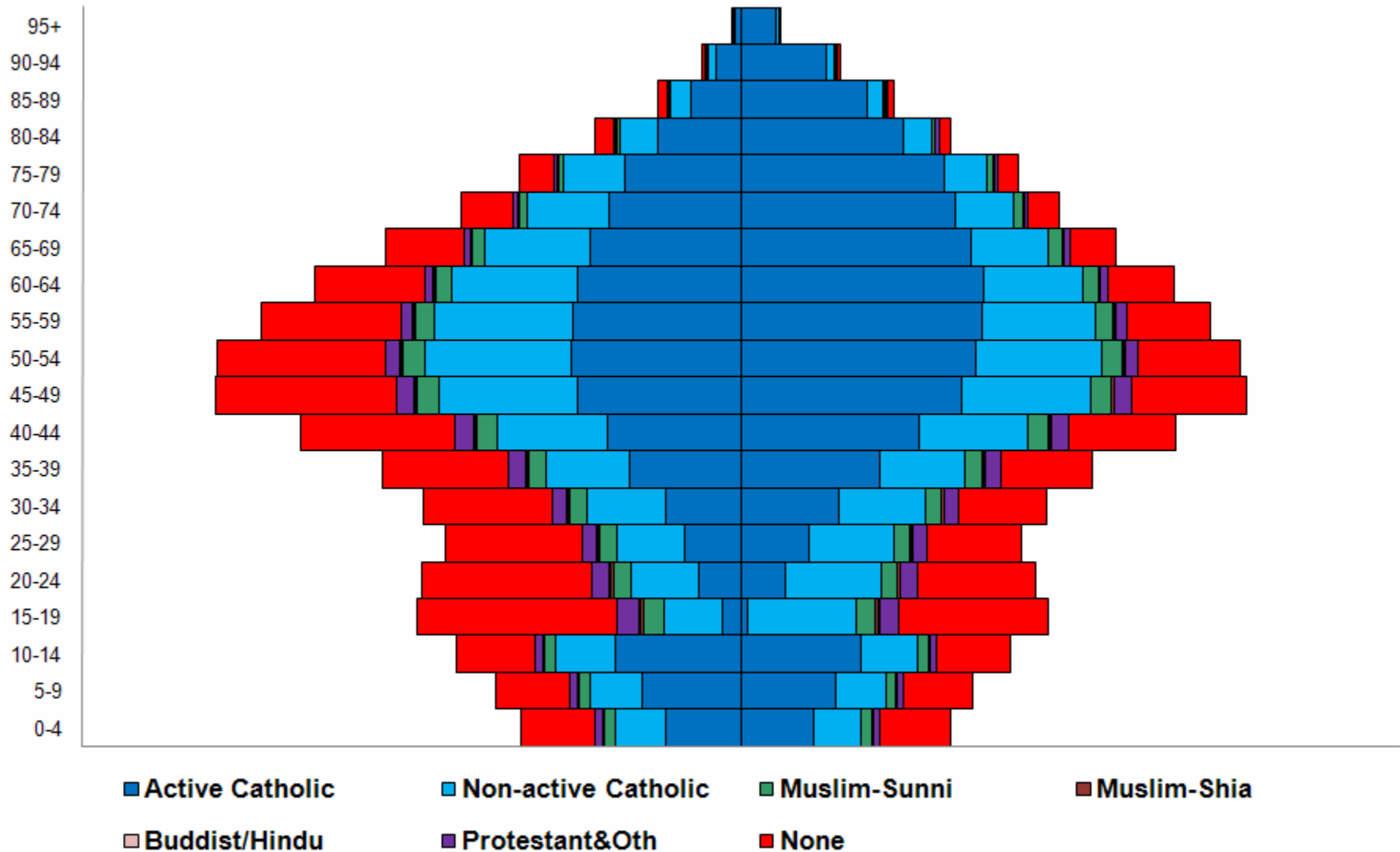
# Results

Spain in 2019



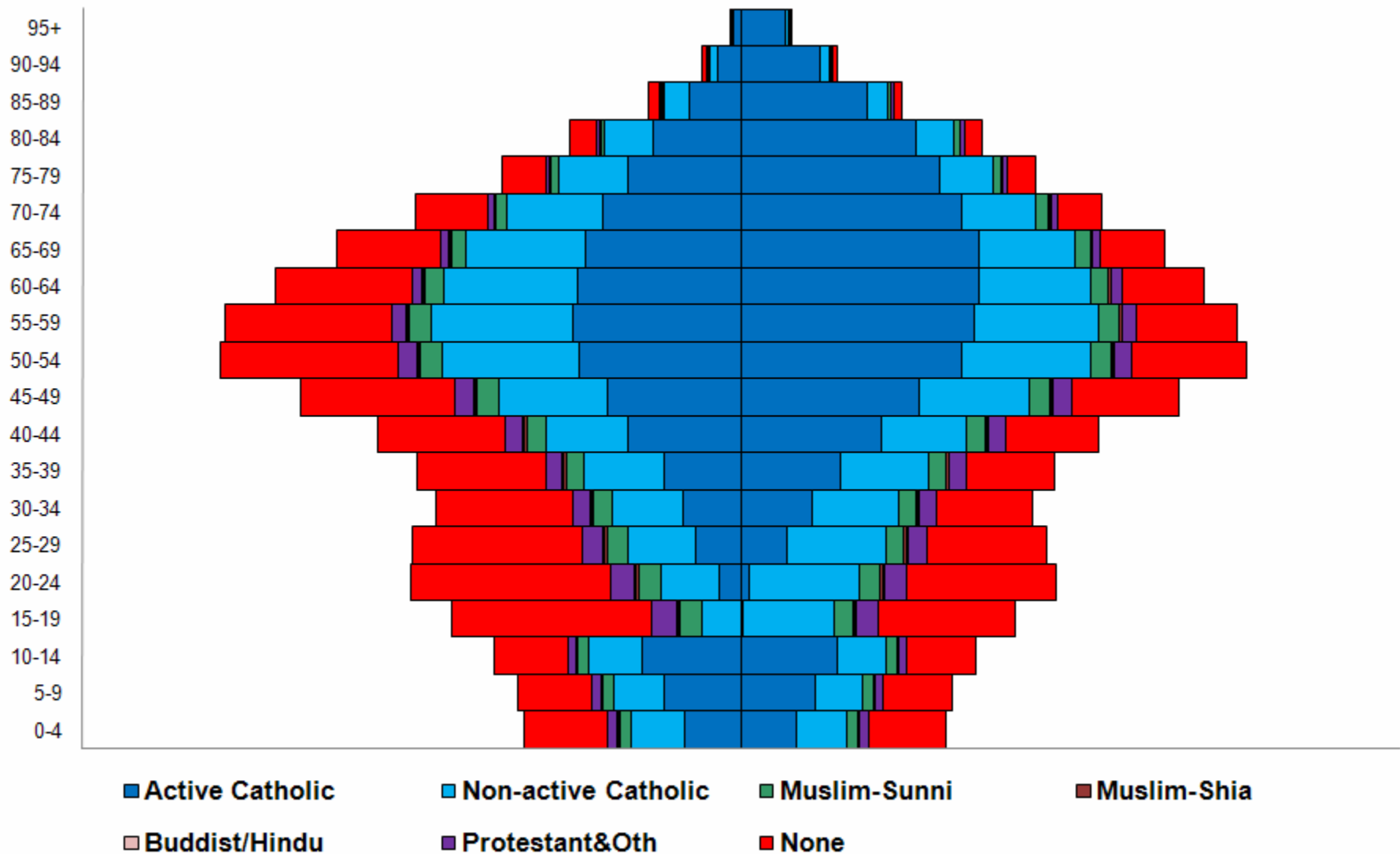
# Results

Spain in 2024



# Results

Spain in 2029



# Results – Proportion of RaR groups in Spain in 2004-2029

