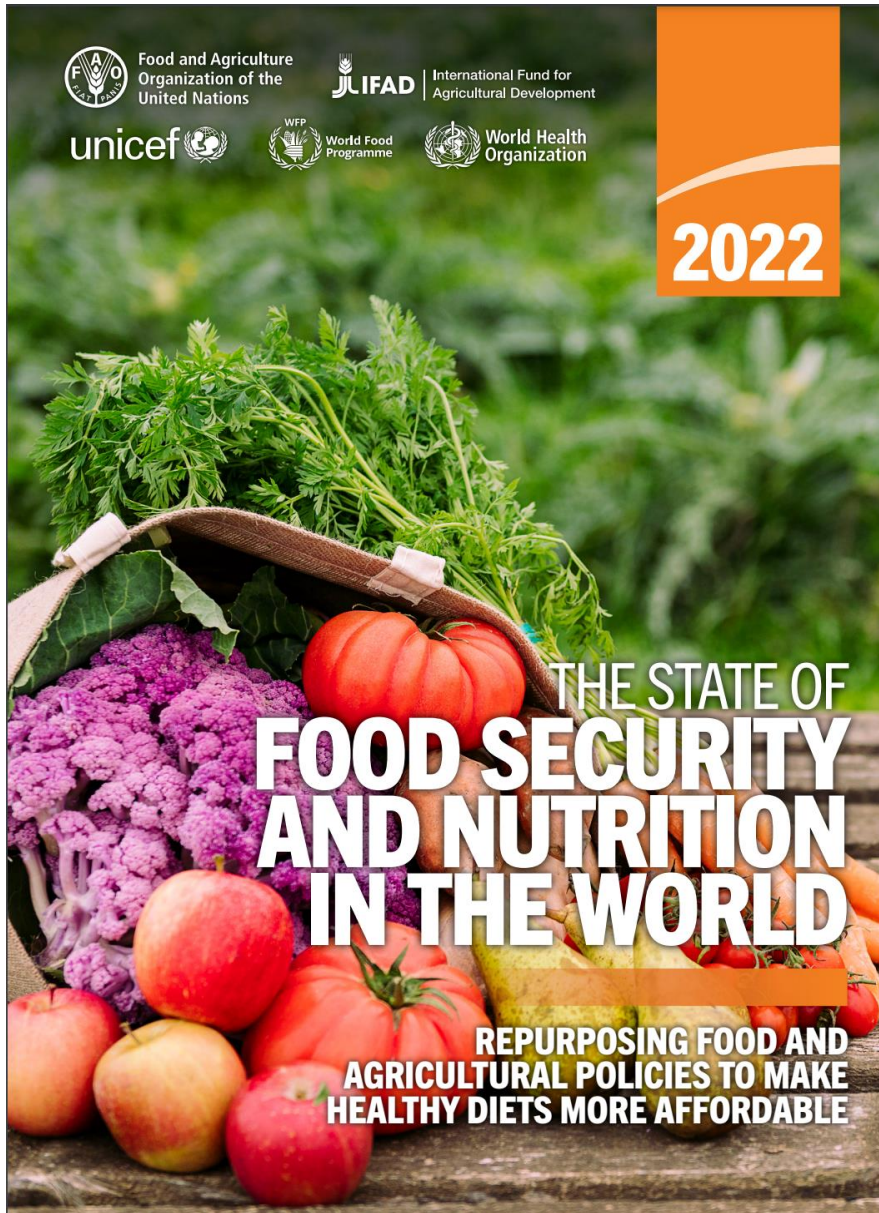




The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the US

Shoshana Farber



The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization publication, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022* (<https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc0639en>) might lead one to the conclusion that it's an elsewhere problem. That the people who are suffering malnutrition and starvation are "elsewhere", not in our backyard.

In the United States in 2022:



States had, on average, **10.8%** food insecurity

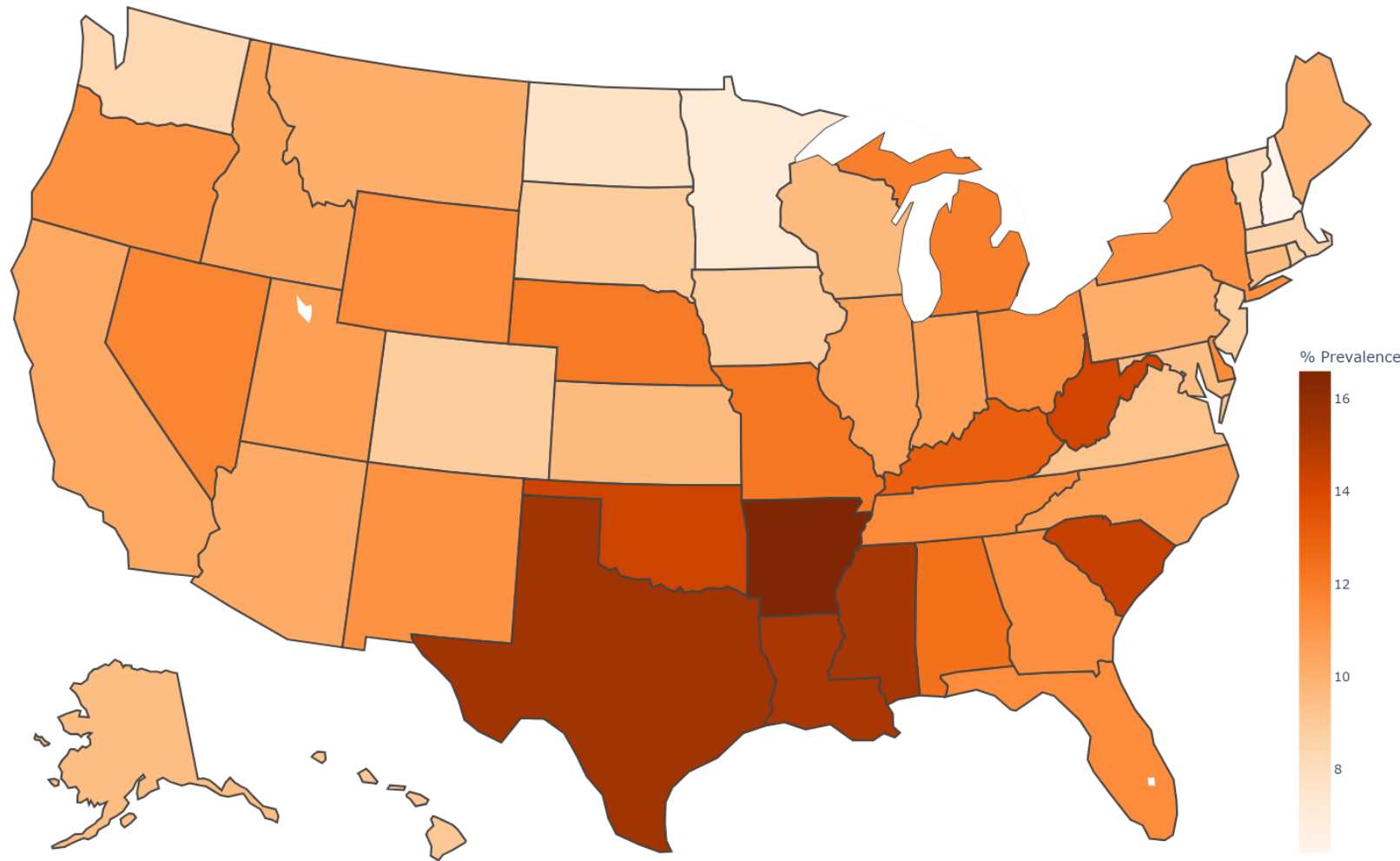


Households had, on average, **12.8%** food insecurity



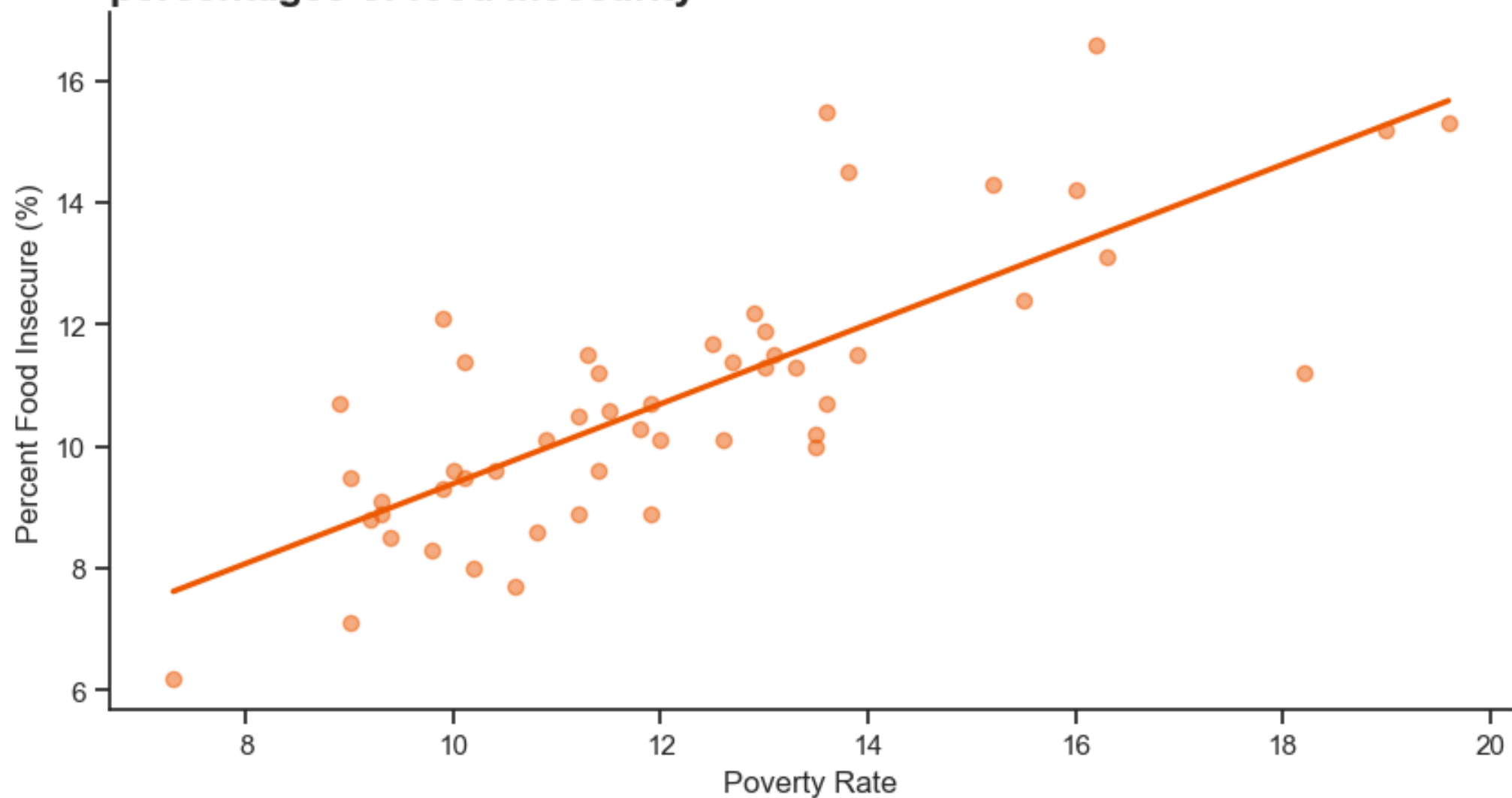
Households with children under 18 years old had, on average, **19.6%** food insecurity

Food Insecurity by State (2020-2022)

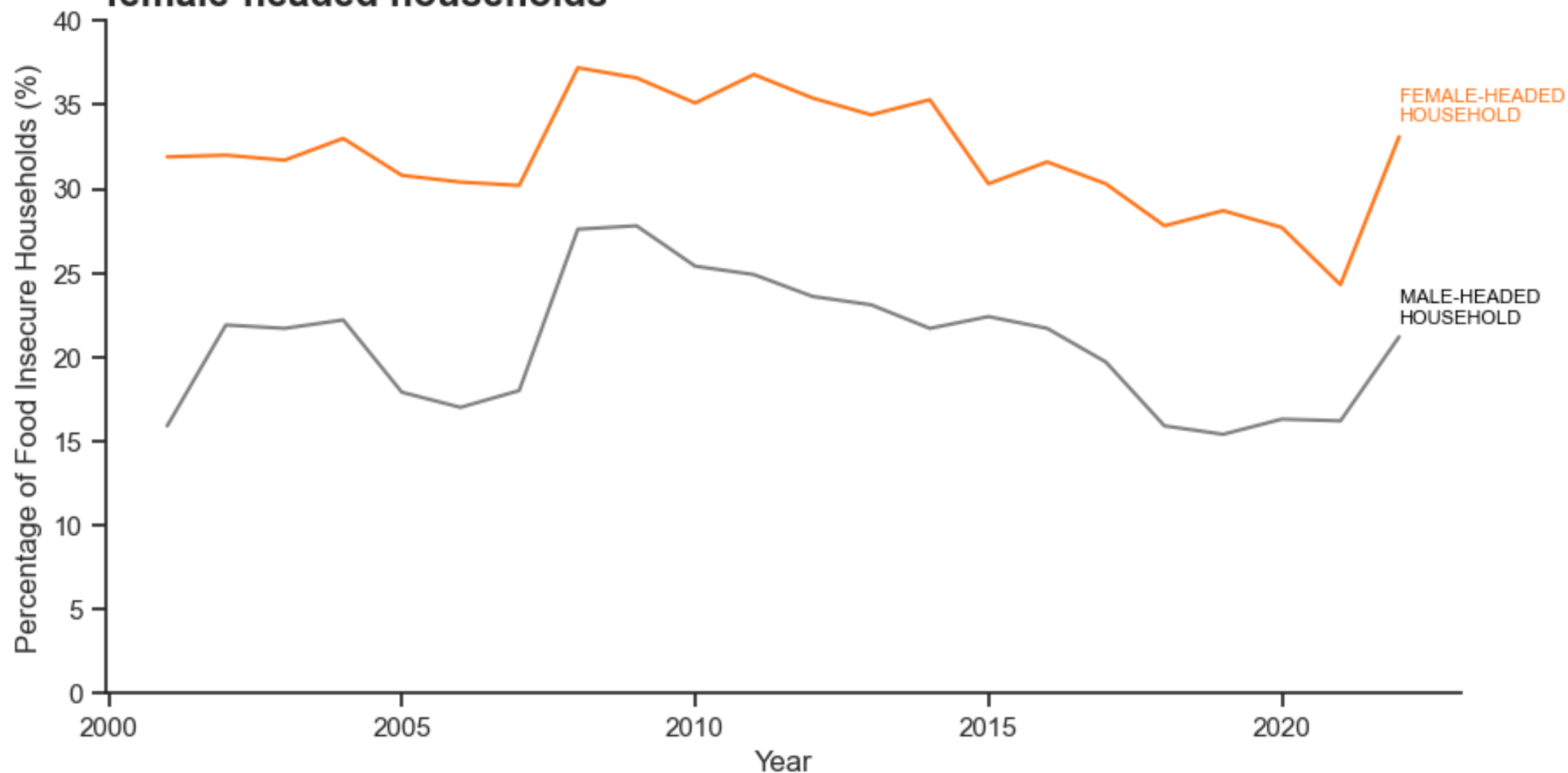


From 2020 until 2022, **southern states** had on average about **2.87% more** food insecure people than other US states. Southwestern states (**Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana**) had the highest percentage of food insecure people, as well as **Mississippi, South Carolina, and West Virginia**.

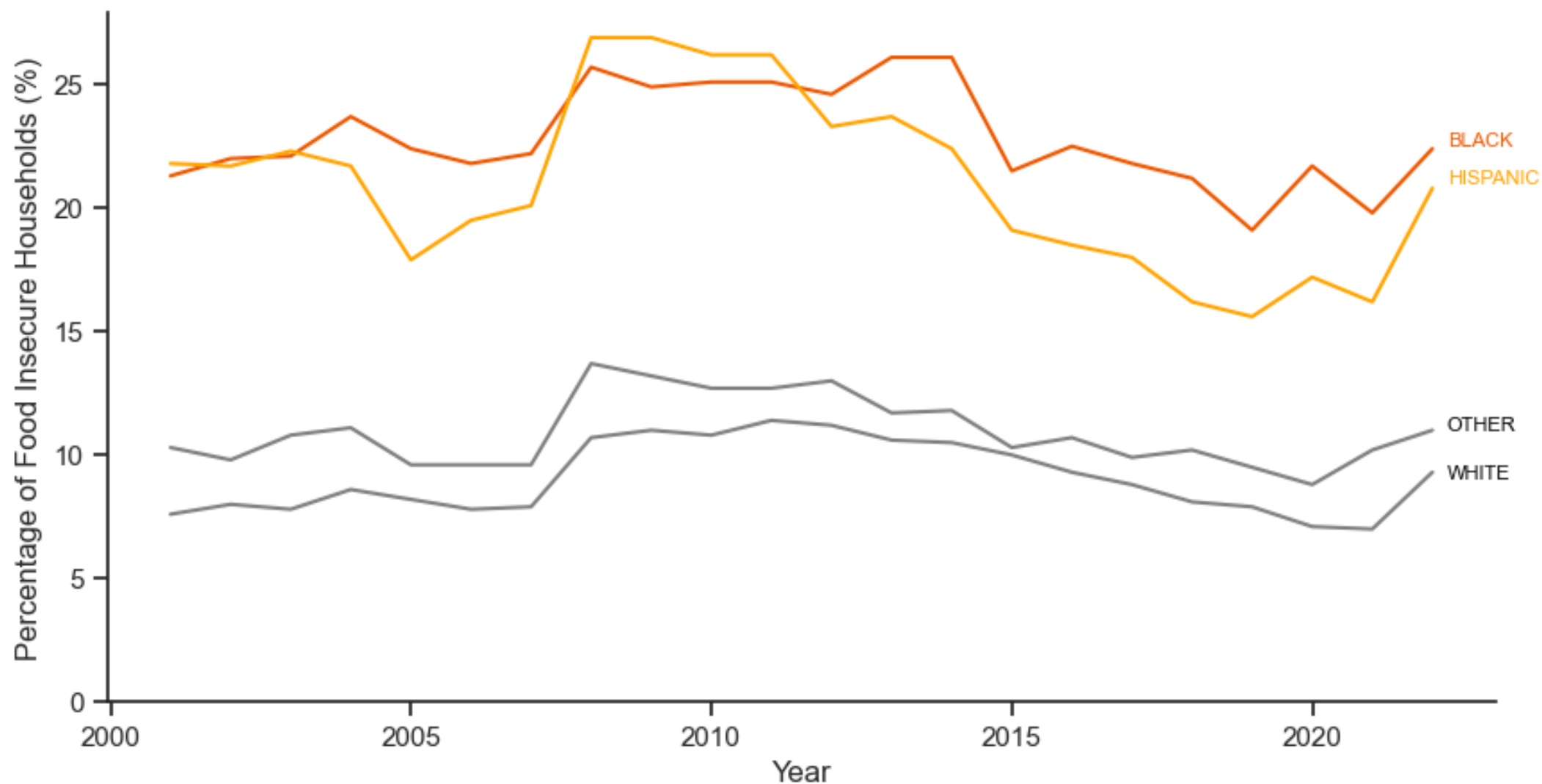
States with higher poverty rates are more likely to have higher percentages of food insecurity



For single parent homes, food insecurity is consistently higher amongst female-headed households



Black and Hispanic households have higher food insecurity than other households



Conclusions:

- Despite popular belief, food insecurity does not stop at America's borders.
- South American states have, on average, higher percentages of food insecurity than other states.
- Single parent homes headed by females have consistently higher rates of food insecurity.
- Black and Hispanic households have consistently higher rates of food insecurity than other households.
- In order to address the issues of food security in the United States, we need to address the disparities amongst these different groups.

Data Sources:

- Food Security - <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-u-s/interactive-charts-and-highlights/#trends>
- United States Regions - <https://github.com/cphalpert/census-regions/blob/master/us%20census%20bureau%20regions%20and%20divisions.csv>