Food Security and the Environment: A Brief Overview

Food Insecurity

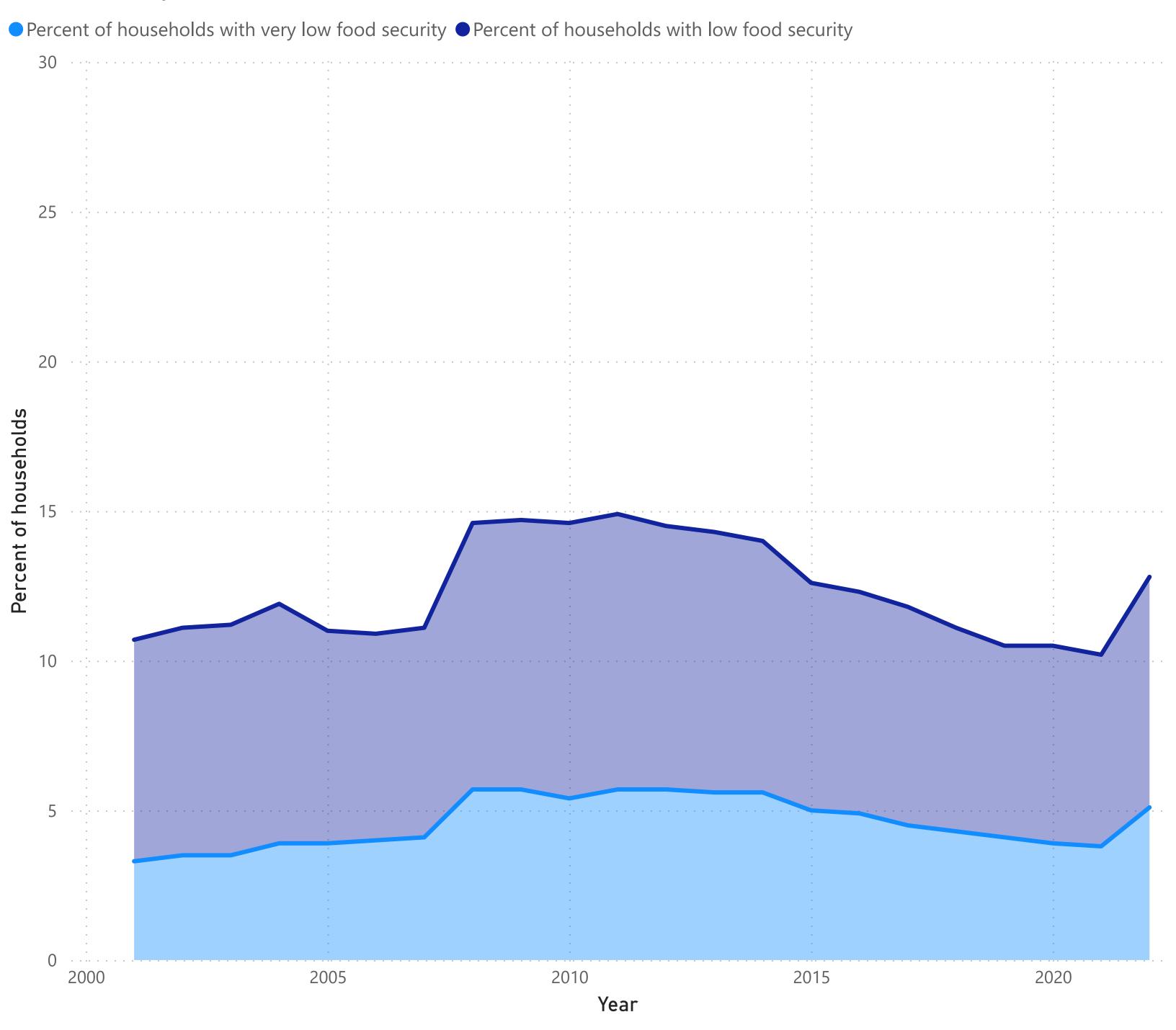
Agriculture and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Impact of Food Waste on Climate Change

Food insecurity is a profound issue facing American society. When working to solve this issue, it is necessary to understand how our food systems are deeply linked to environmental issues. This relationship goes both ways. Food production can contribute to climate change in multiple ways, such as through greenhouse gas emissions produced through food production. On the other hand, climate change can also affect food production. For example, increased droughts due to climate change may damage crop production.

This graph shows trends in food insecurity in the US from 2001 to 2022. Hover over different years on the graph to see the exact numbers from each year. This graph shows how the severity of food insecurity in the US, which has fluctuated over the past two decades.

Food Insecurity in the US



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This chart shows emissions by agricultural sector in million metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent. Use the sliders to explore how much different sectors contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. Although emissions are decreasing, this data can help us understand which sectors are the biggest polluters, which can guide the focus of future policies aimed at reducing emissions from agriculture.

Greenhouse gas emissions by agricultural sector

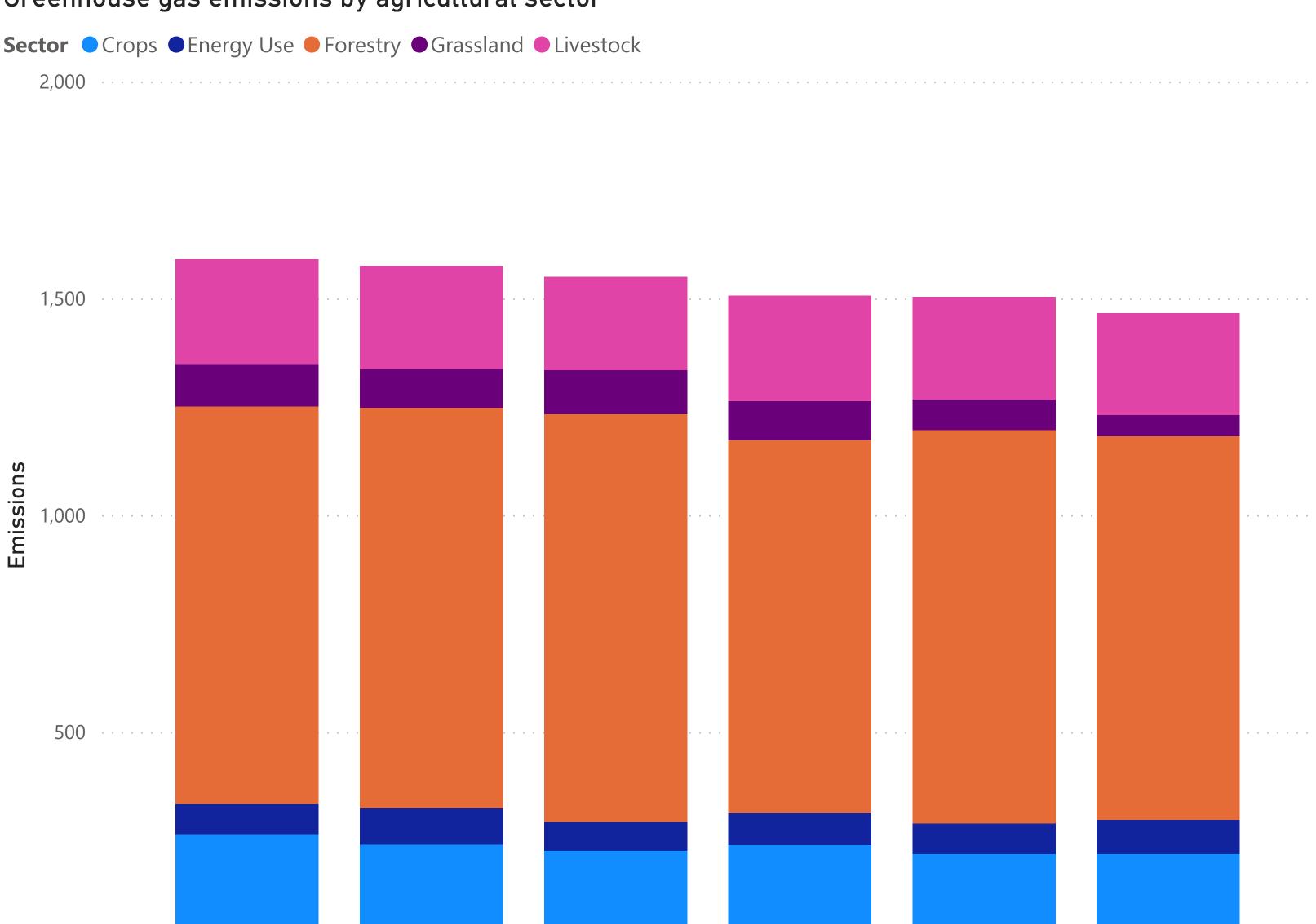
2015

Crops

Sector

1995

Energy Use



1990

2010

Year

Forestry

2005

Grassland

2000

Livestock

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This pie chart shows how much different parts of the food system contribute to greenhouse gas emissions of the overall US food system. This information can help us understand which parts of the food system could see the biggest reductions in emissions.

Percentage of Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Supply Chain Stage

