

Drought Conditions in Kansas - Week #5 (2/10/26)

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Introduction¹

This paper uses data from the U.S. drought monitor website (<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>²) to show drought conditions in Kansas. There are figures showing the level of drought both at the state level and at the crop reporting district (CRD) level.

At both the state level and the CRD level, there are two sets of graphs. The first graph within an area shows the drought conditions for a specific week of the year going back to the year 2000. The second graph within an area shows the drought conditions for each week for the past year. While the first figure is a historical representation of the same week across time, the second figure represents each of the 52 weeks of the past year.

Current soil moisture in Kansas

The U.S. Drought Monitor labels droughts by the level of severity. There are 5 levels of drought ranging from D0 (least severe) to D4 (most severe). The Drought Monitor also reports the percent of land with no drought. However, there is no recording of the percent of land with excess moisture.

There are two Likert graphs for each region. Each Likert graph is similar. Each color bar is centered on the percent of the region at drought level D1 (yellow color). This percentage for D1 is shown in the middle of the bar. On the right-hand side are the categories D0 and none. The total of these two categories is shown on the right edge. On the left-hand side are the categories D2, D3, and D4. The total of these three categories is shown on the left edge.

Figures 1 and 2 are for the state of Kansas. Figures 3 through 8 represent western Kansas. Figures 9 through 14 represent central Kansas and Figures 15 through 20 represent eastern Kansas.

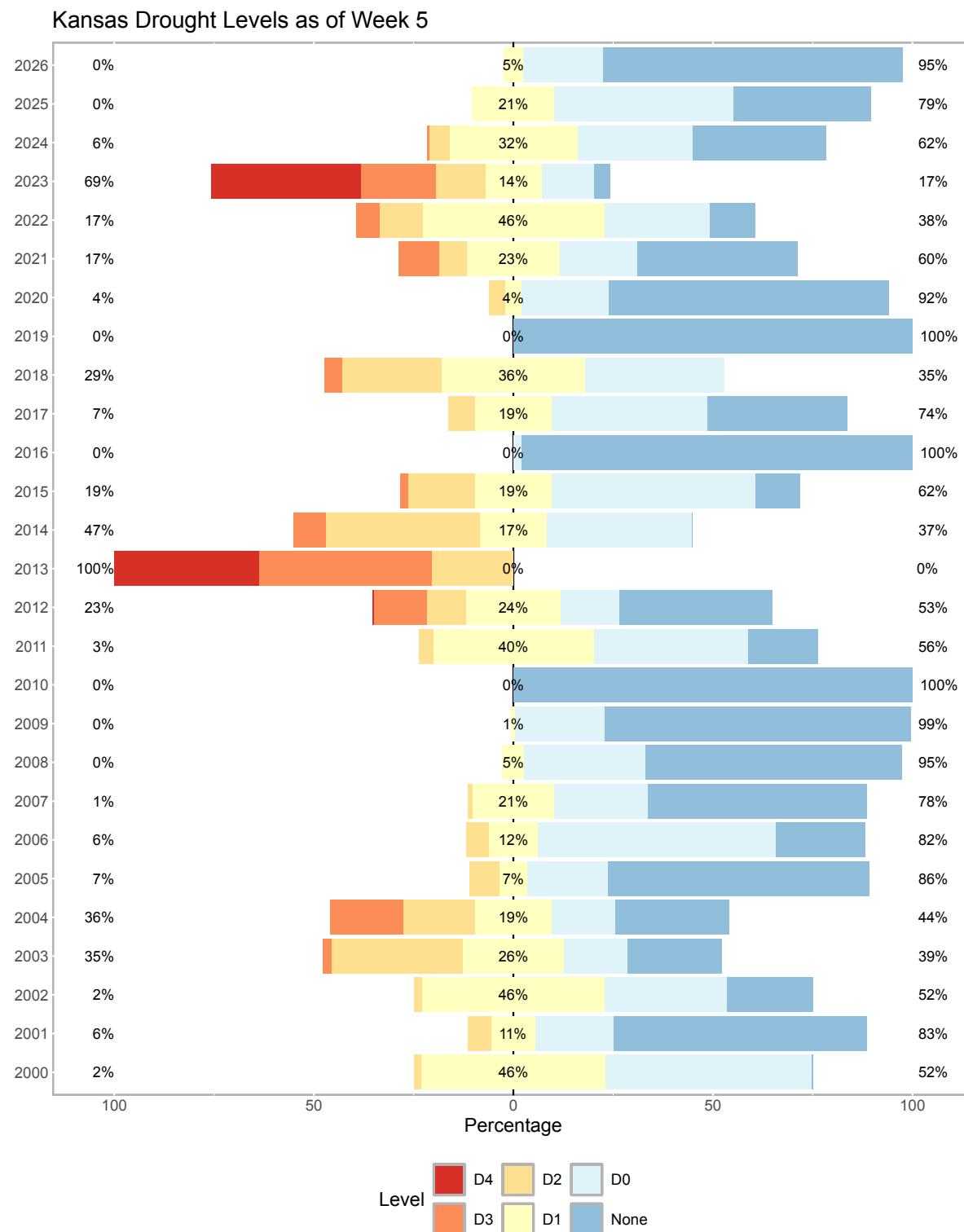


Figure 1. Kansas - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

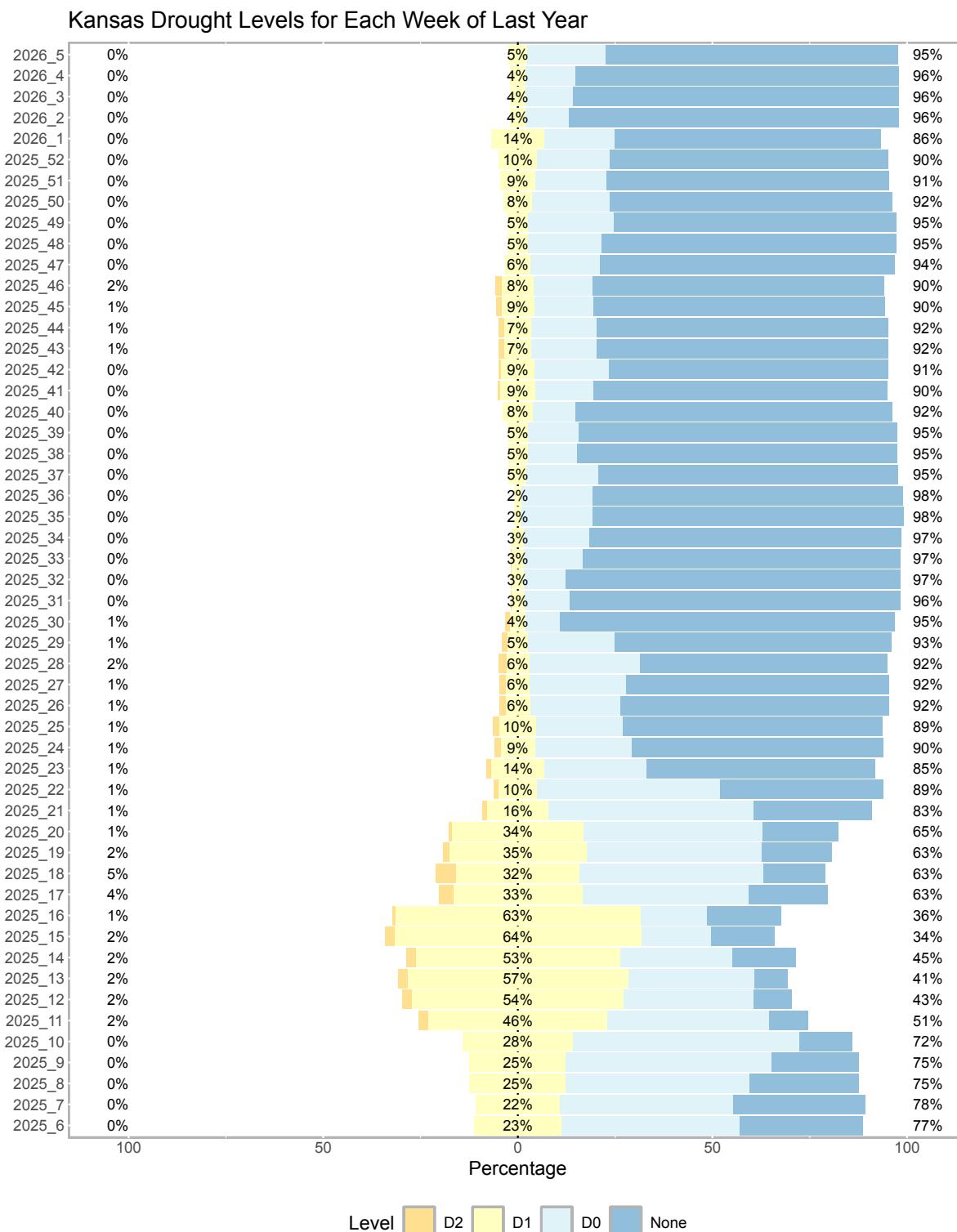


Figure 2. Kansas - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

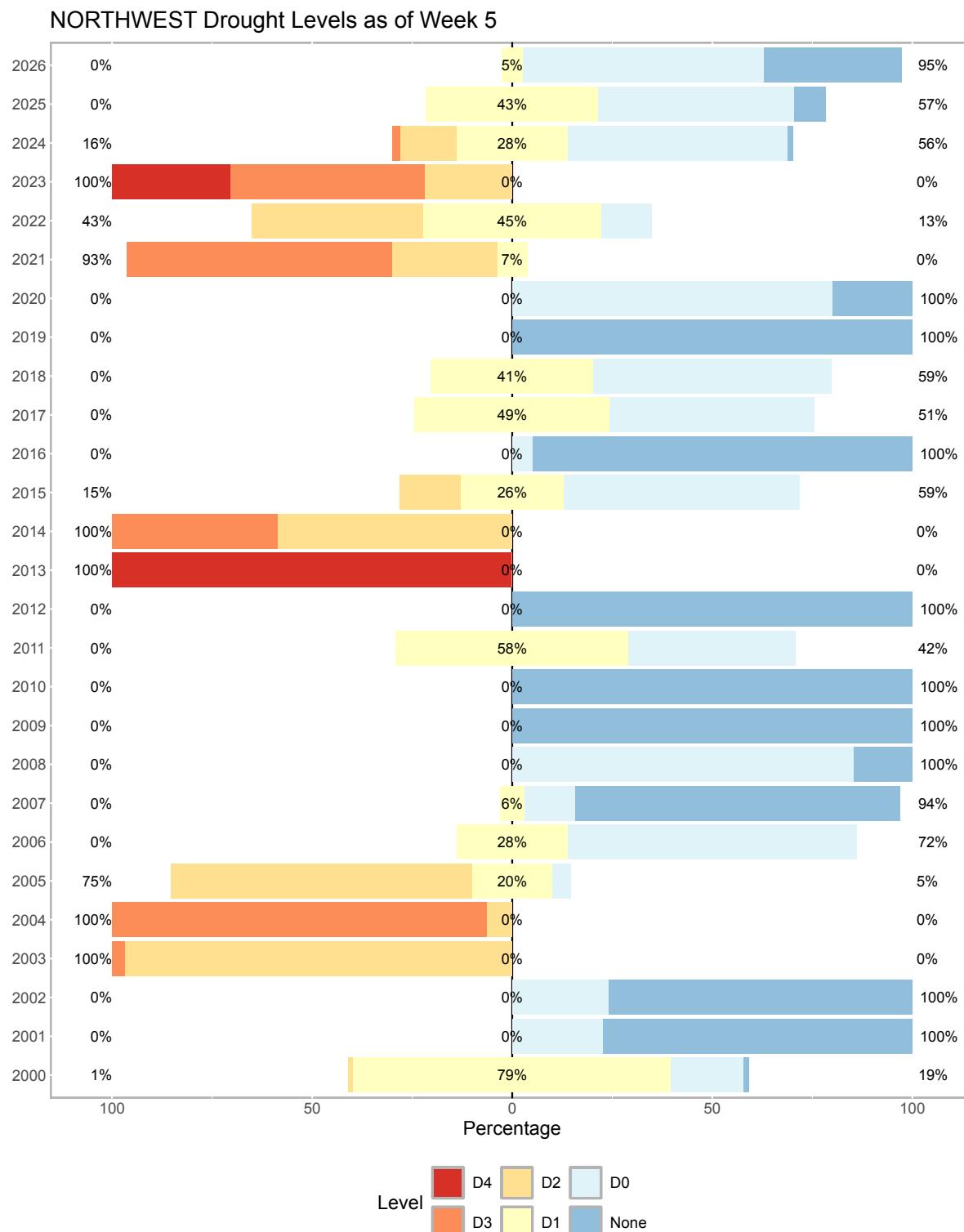


Figure 3. Northwest - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

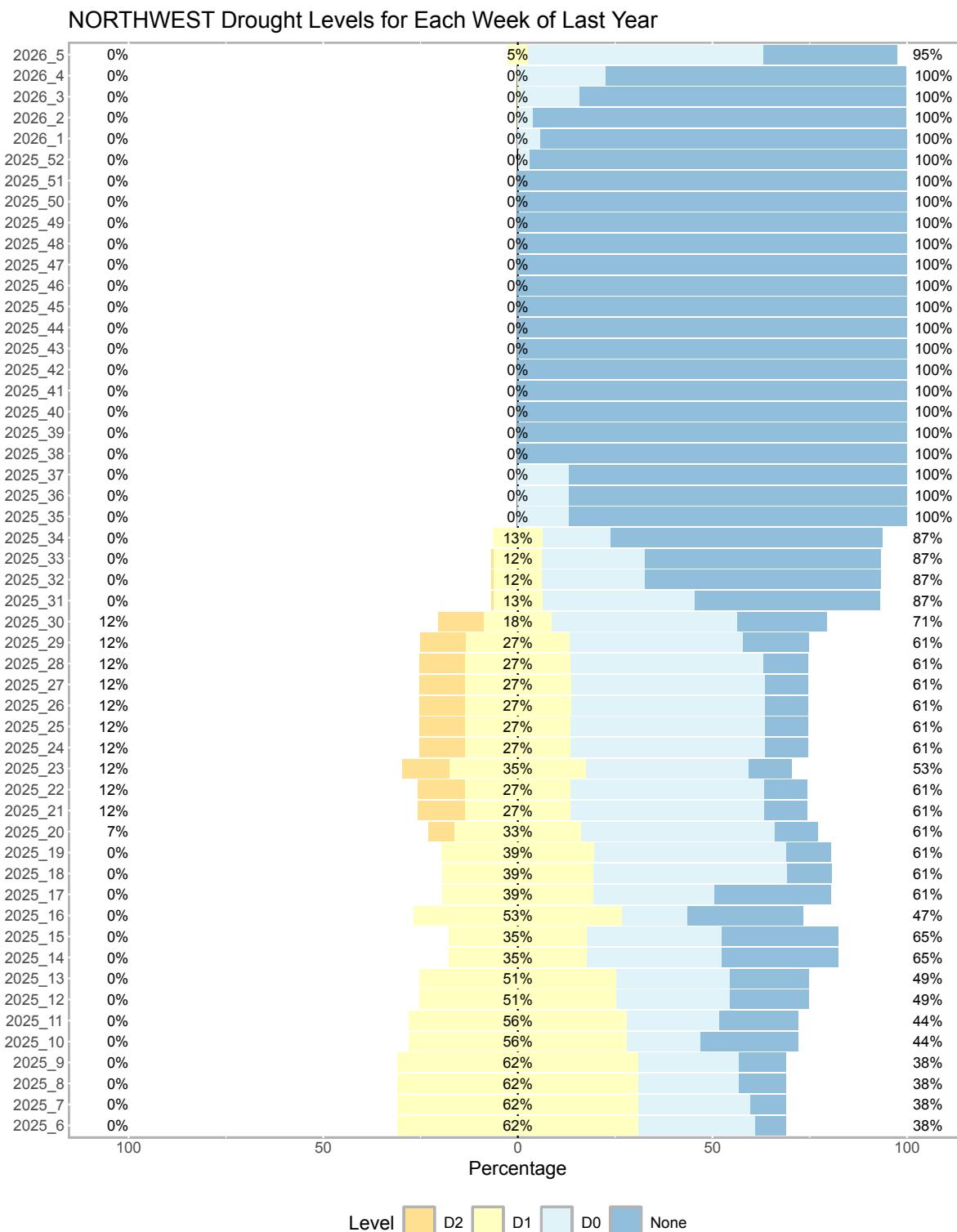


Figure 4. Northwest - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

WEST CENTRAL Drought Levels as of Week 5

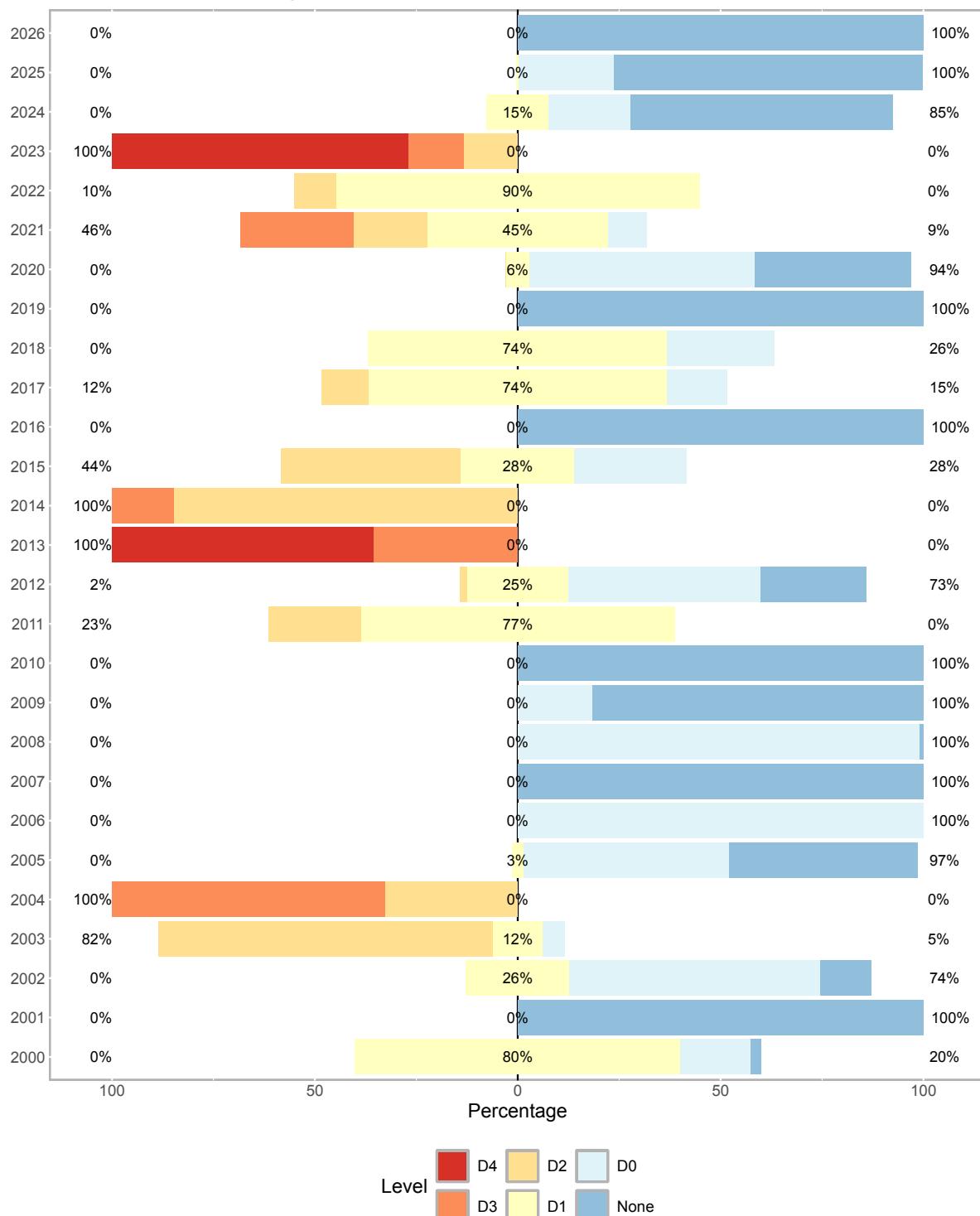


Figure 5. West Central - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

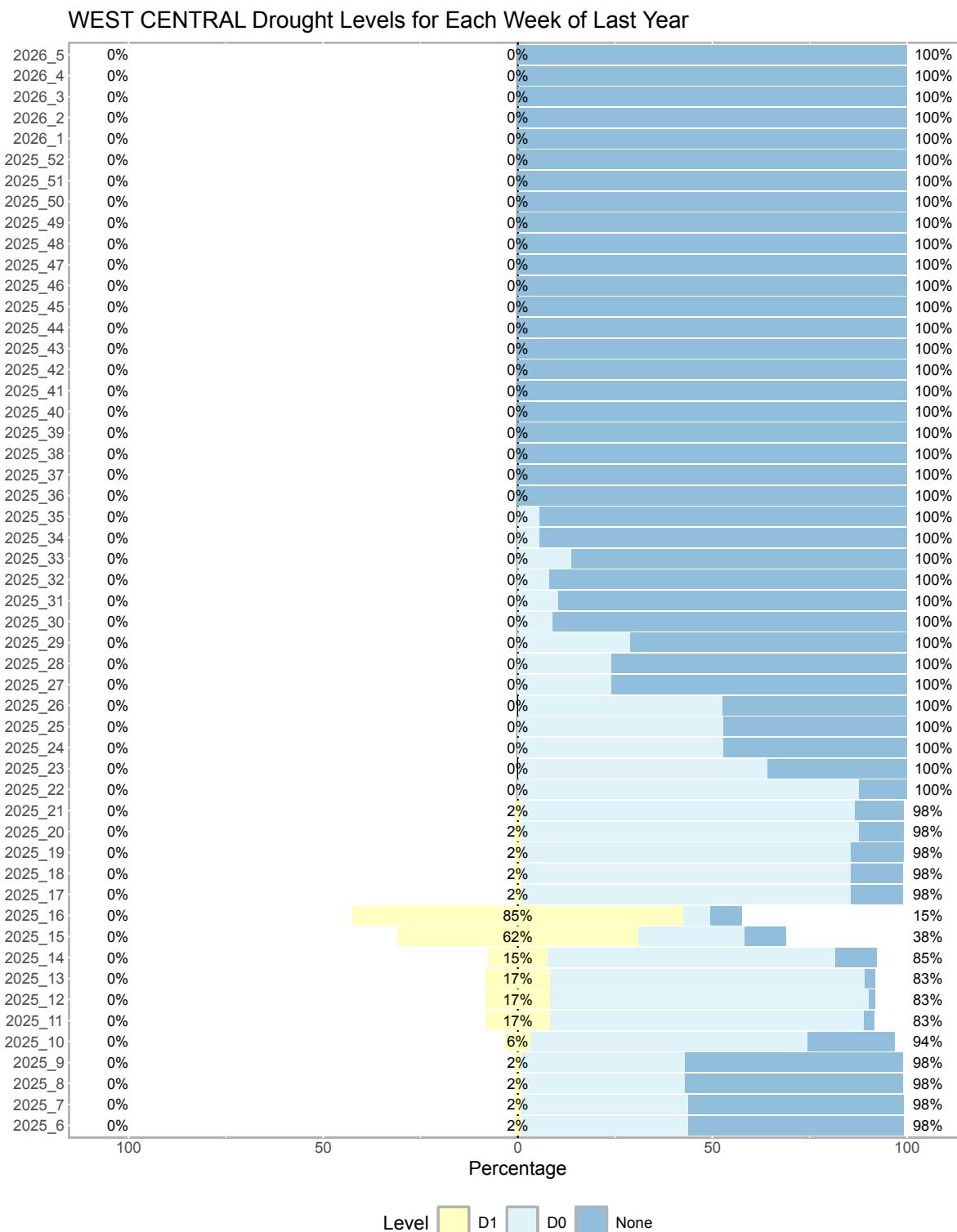


Figure 6. West Central - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

SOUTHWEST Drought Levels as of Week 5

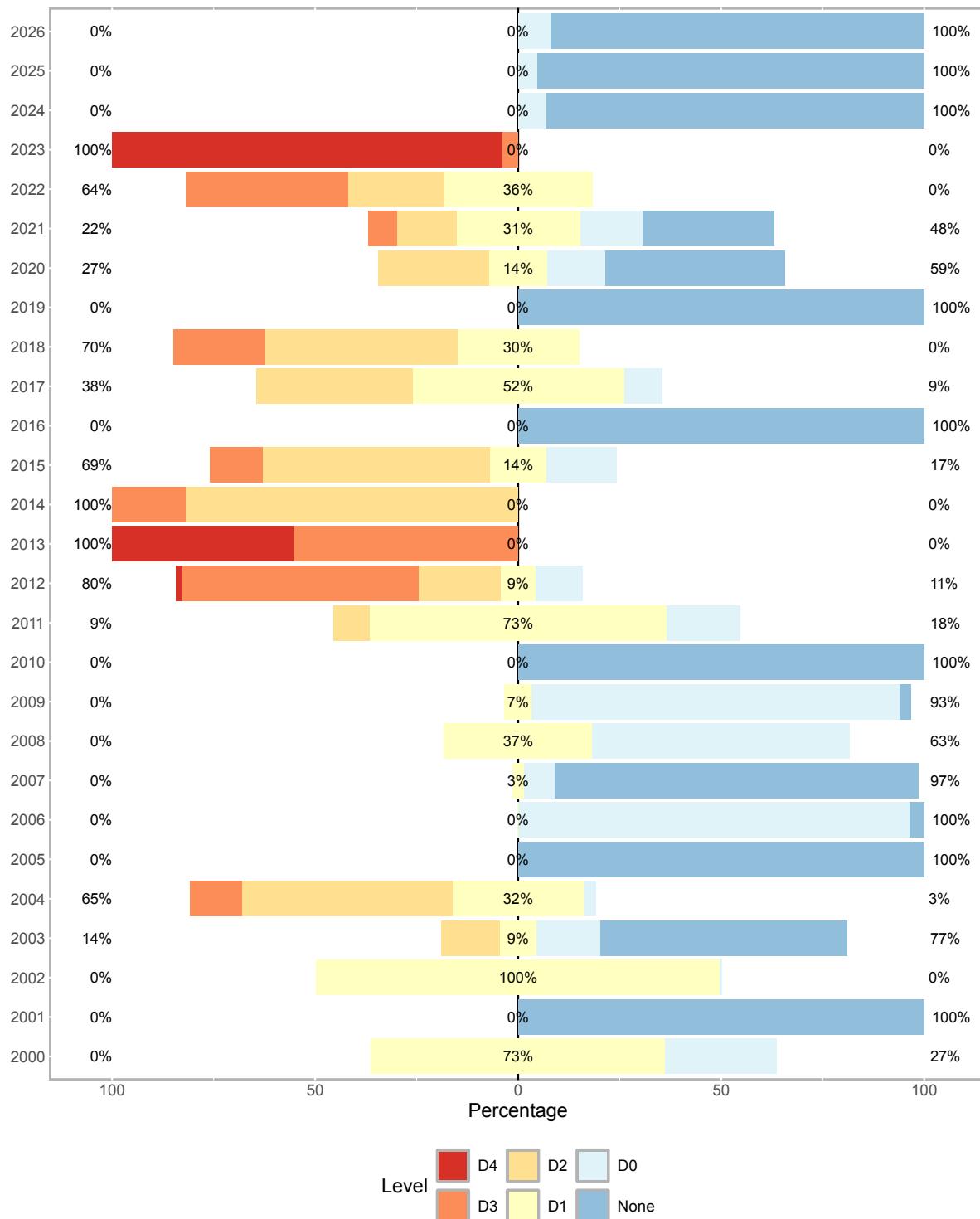


Figure 7. Southwest - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

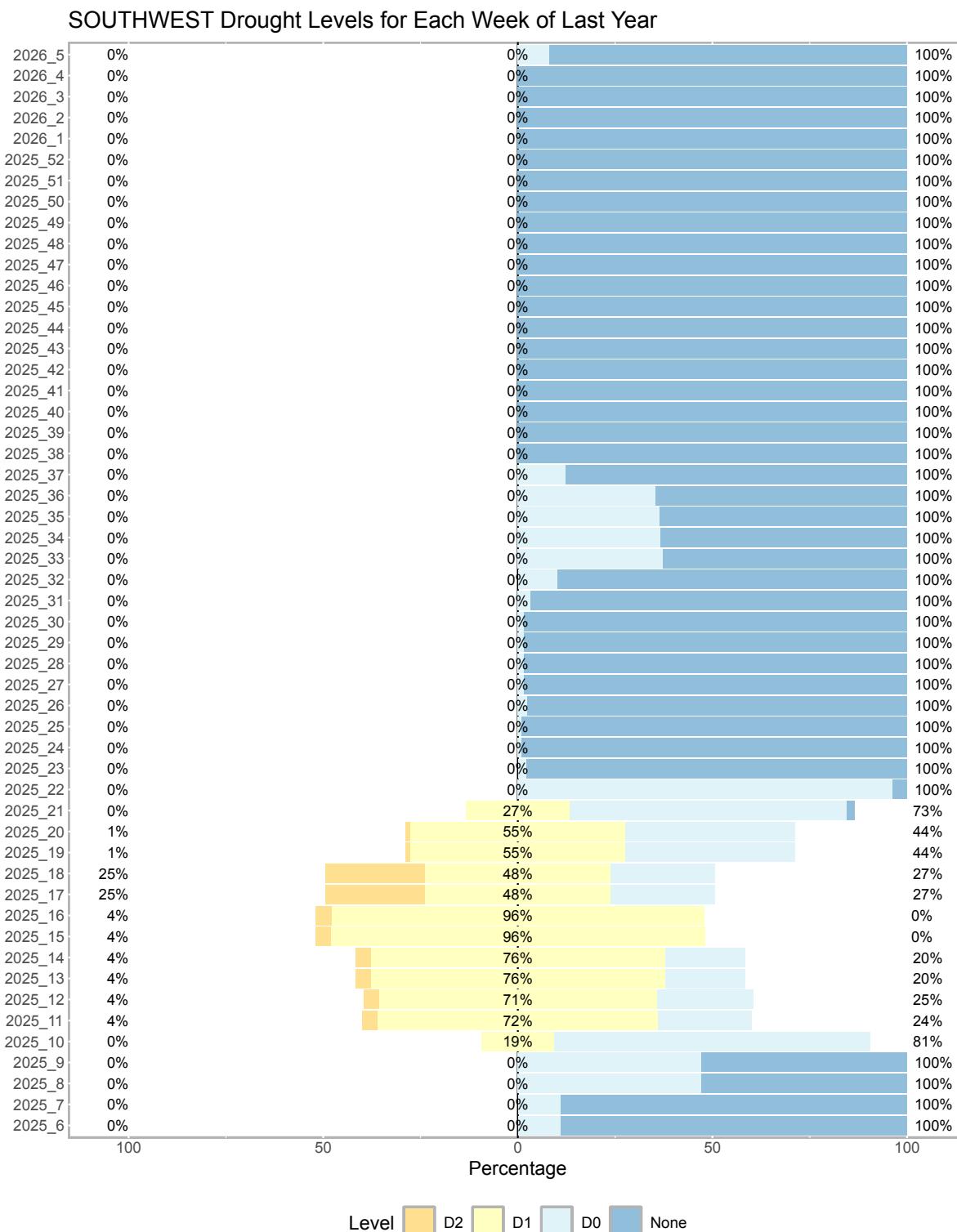


Figure 8. Southwest - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

NORTH CENTRAL Drought Levels as of Week 5

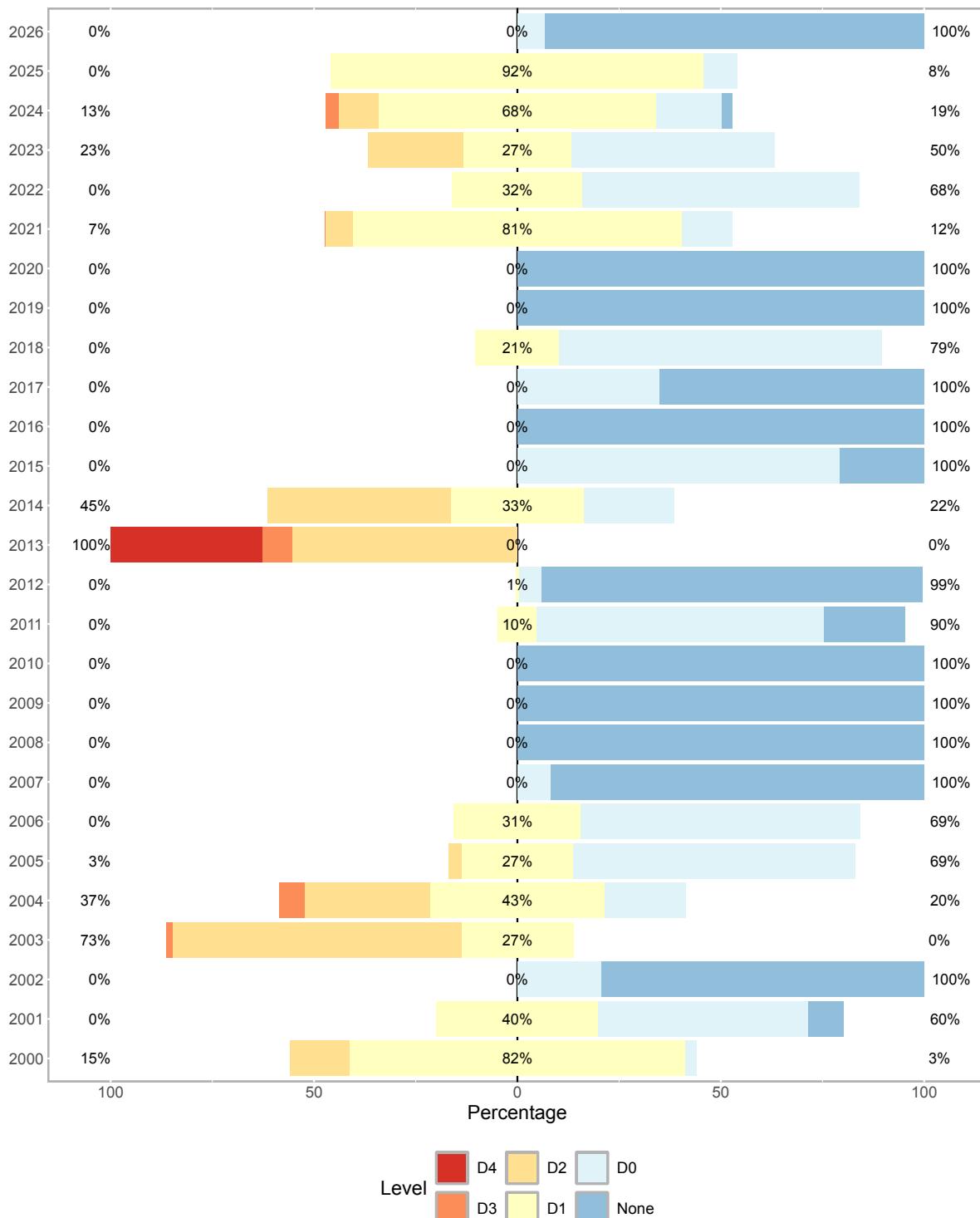


Figure 9. North Central - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

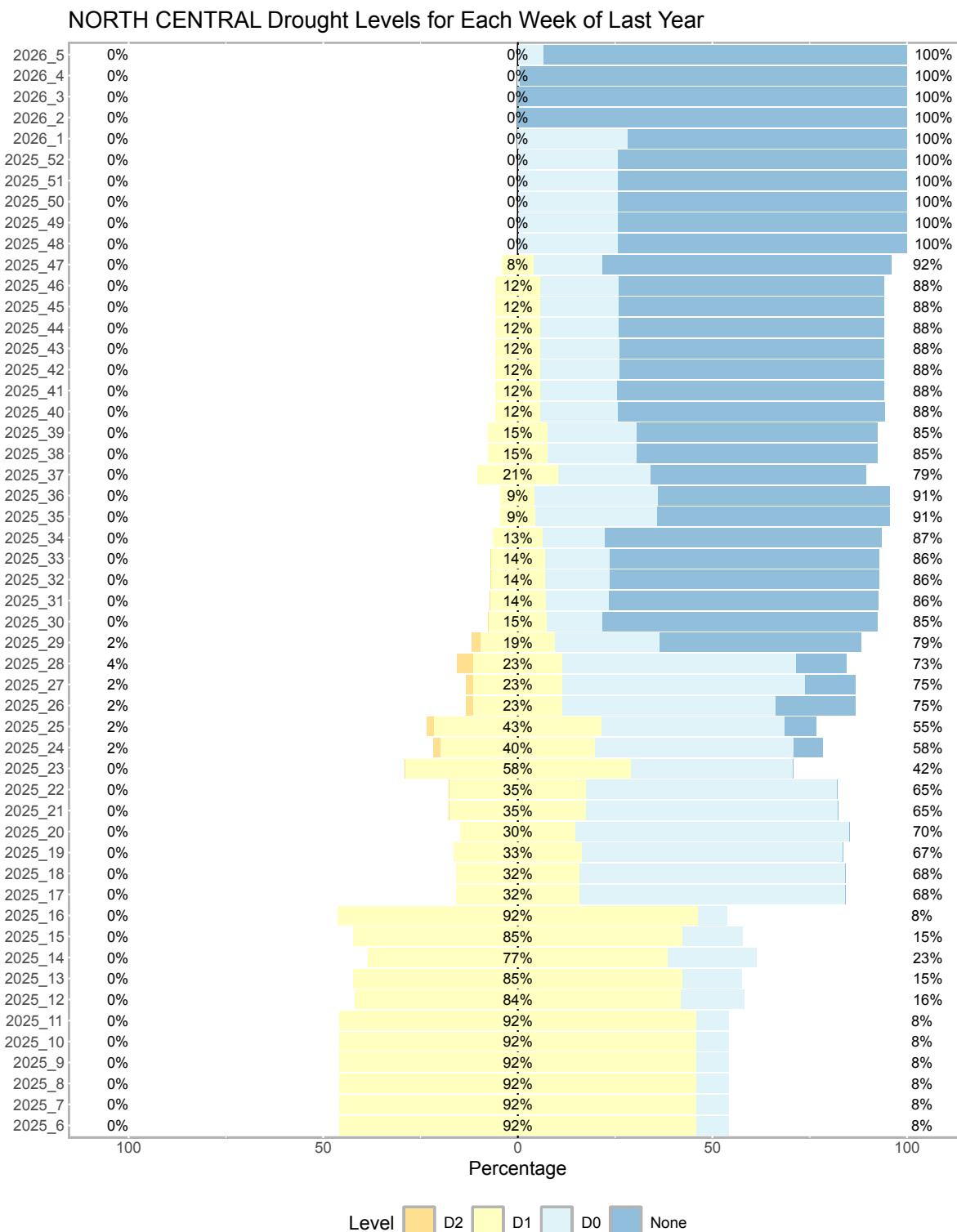


Figure 10. North Central - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

CENTRAL Drought Levels as of Week 5

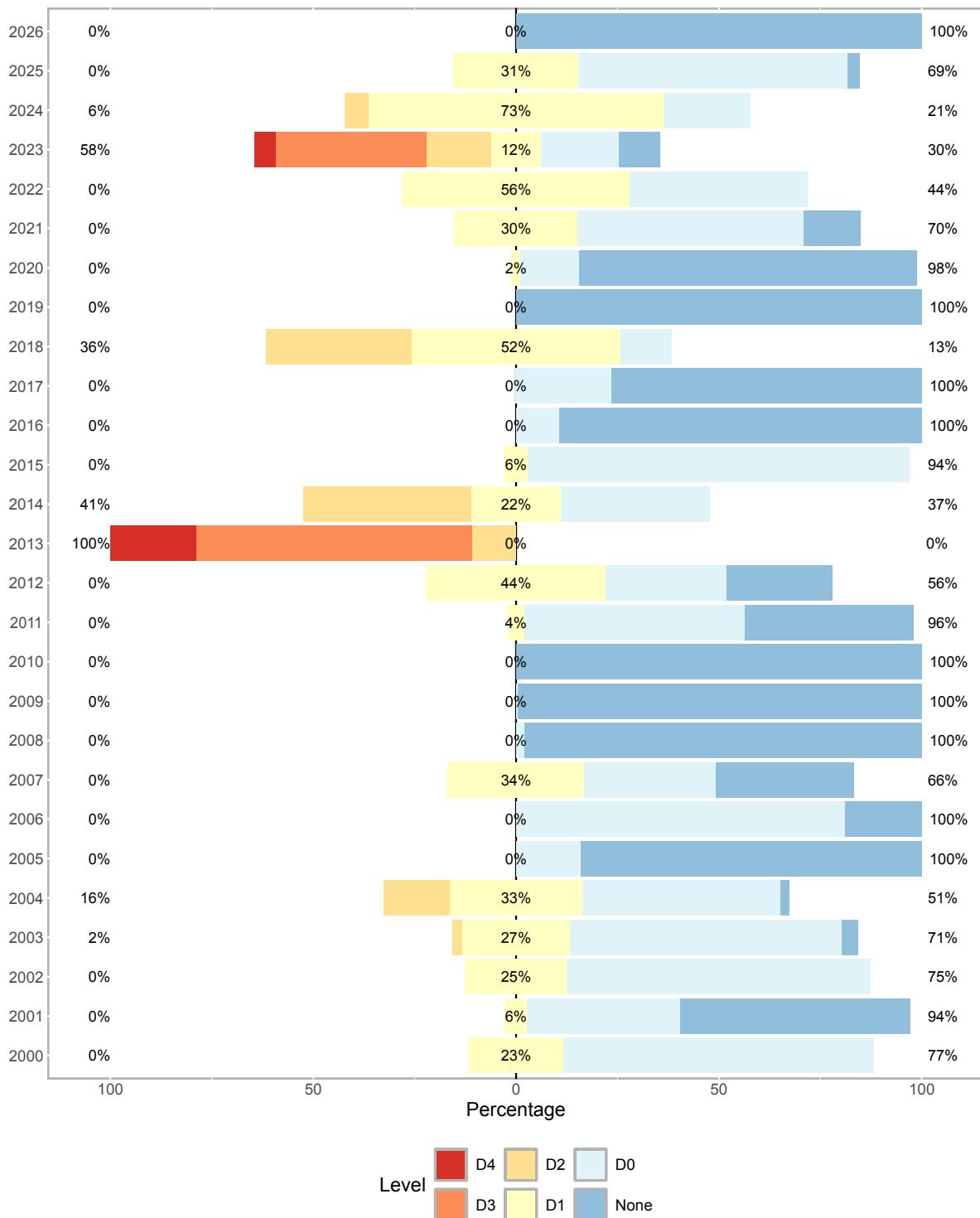


Figure 11. Central - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

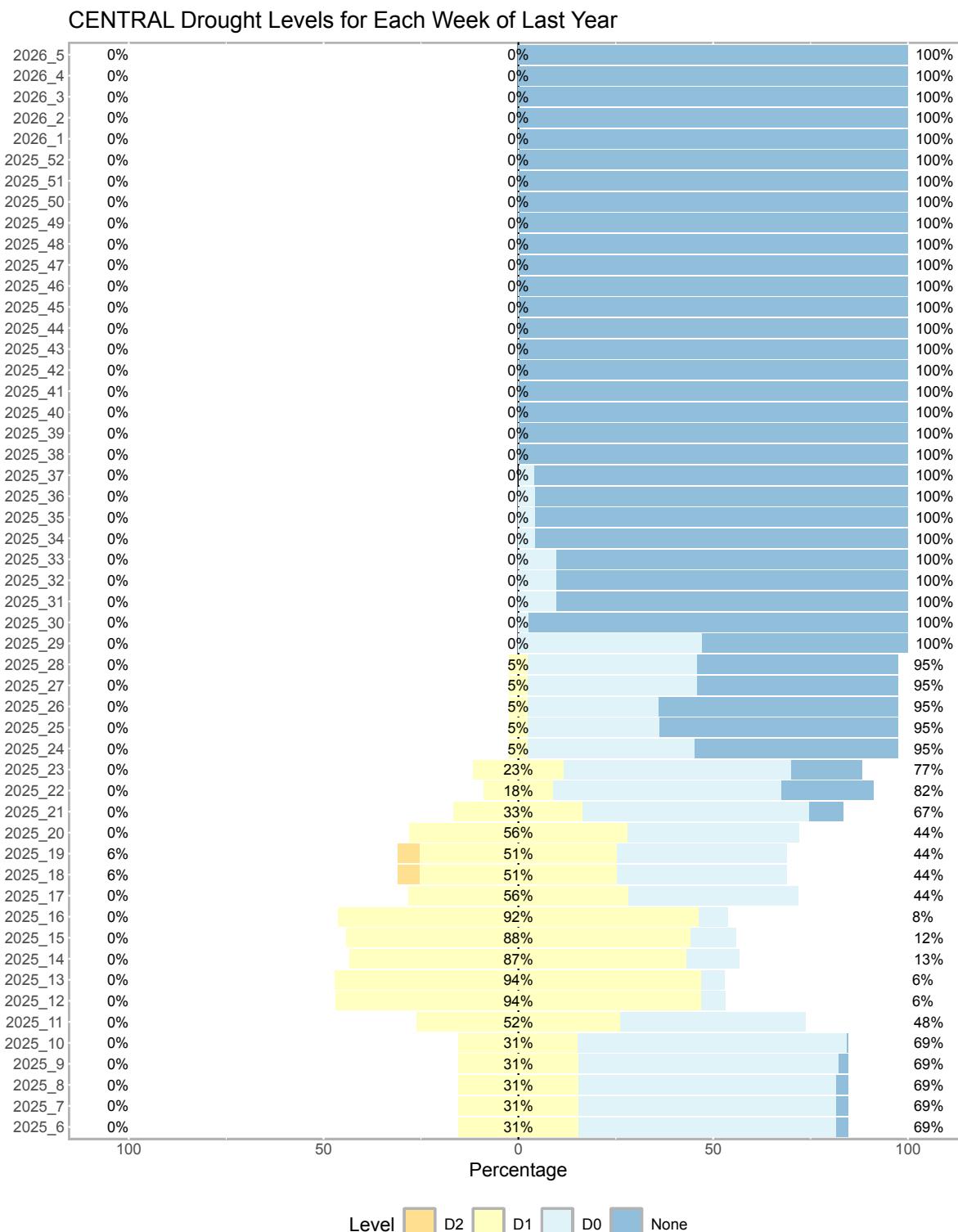


Figure 12. Central - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

SOUTH CENTRAL Drought Levels as of Week 5

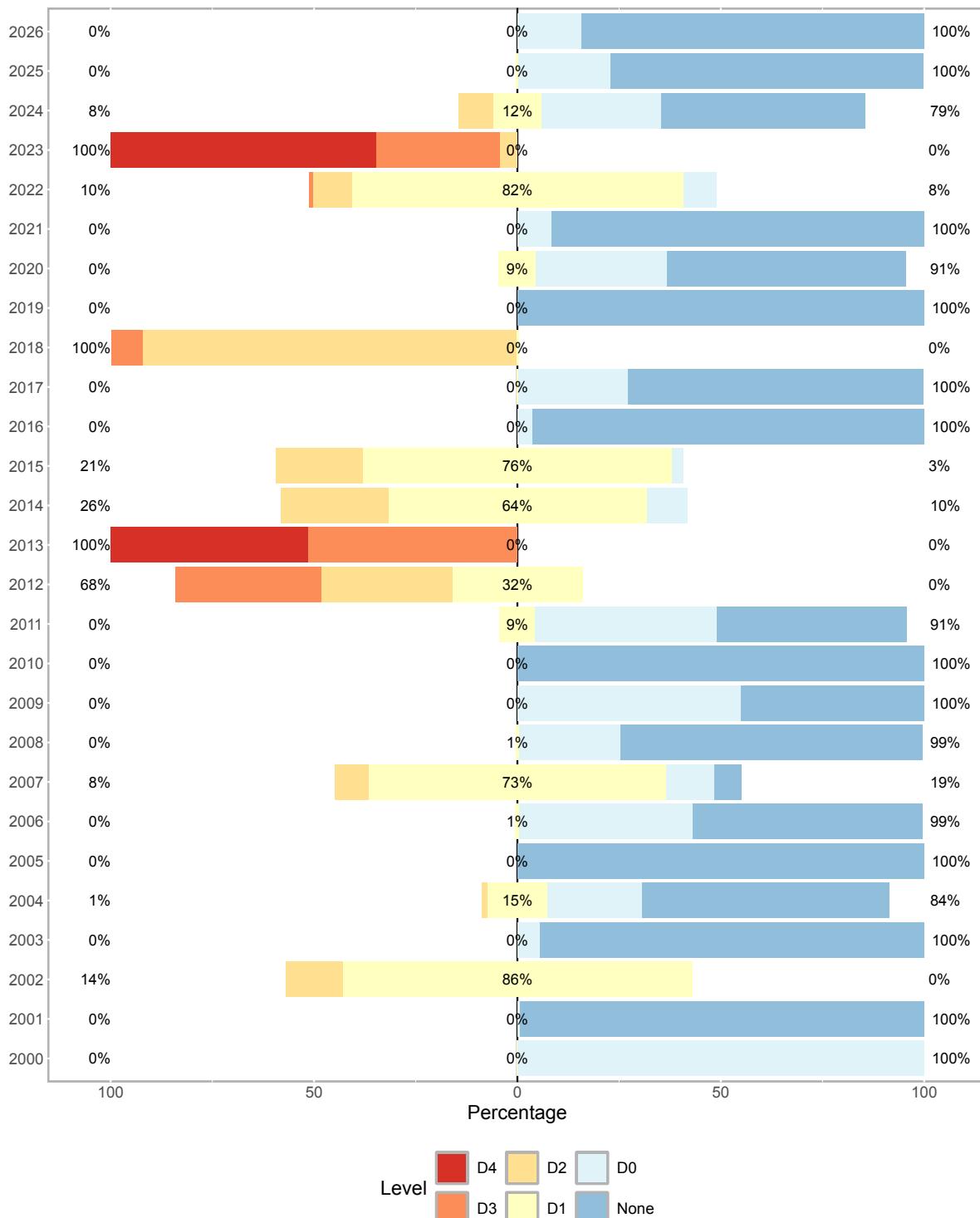


Figure 13. South Central - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

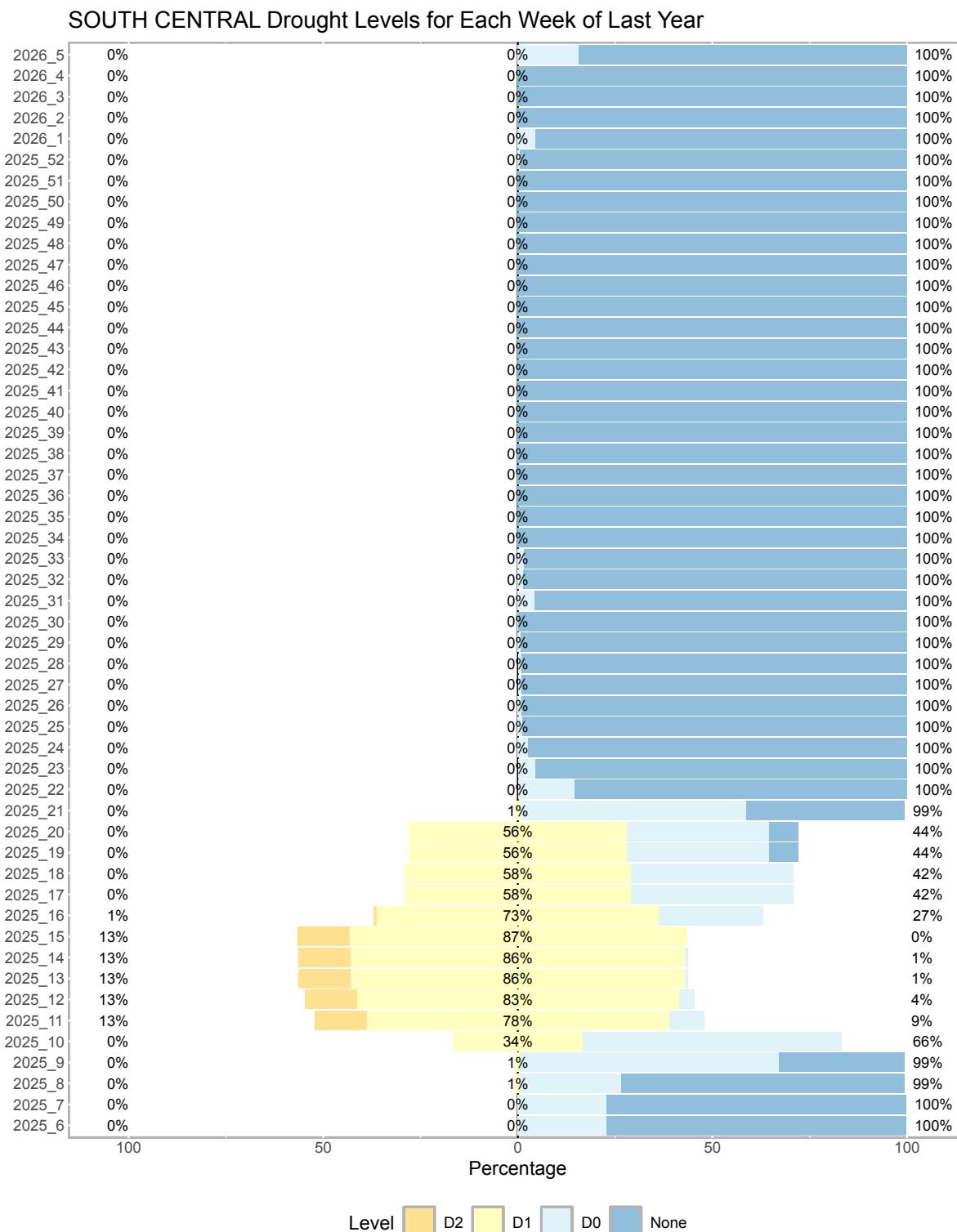


Figure 14. South Central - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

NORTHEAST Drought Levels as of Week 5

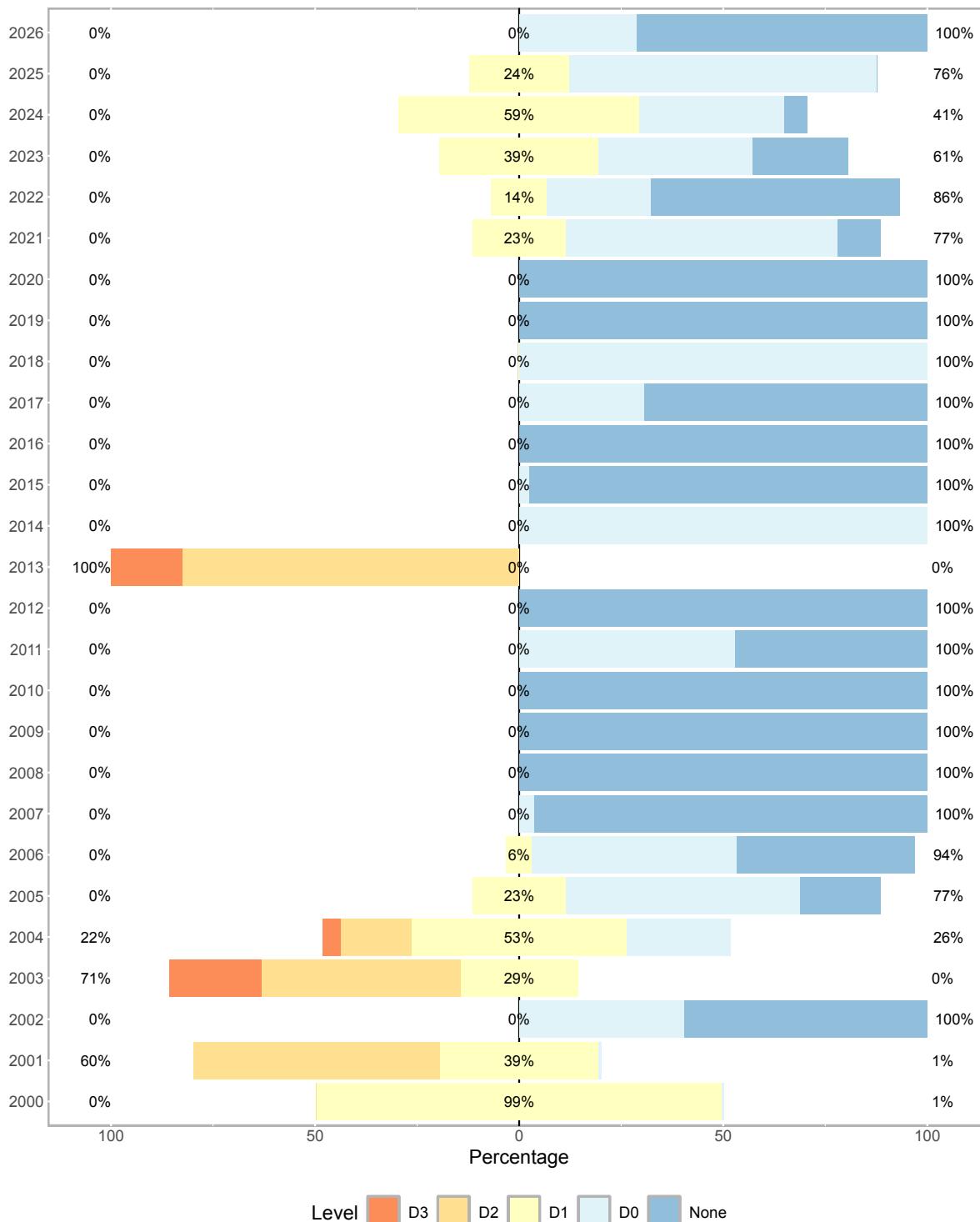


Figure 15. Northeast - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

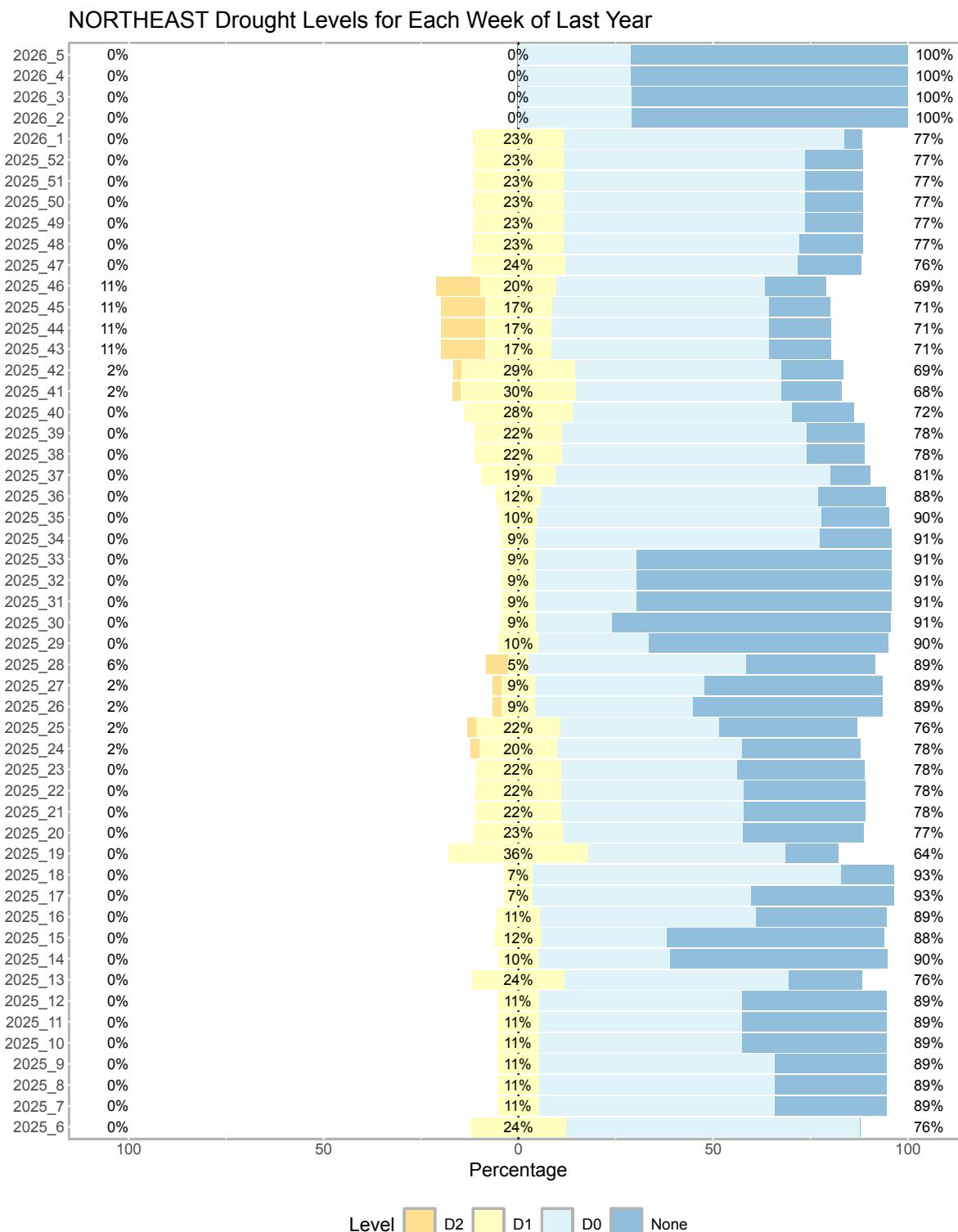


Figure 16. Northeast - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

EAST CENTRAL Drought Levels as of Week 5

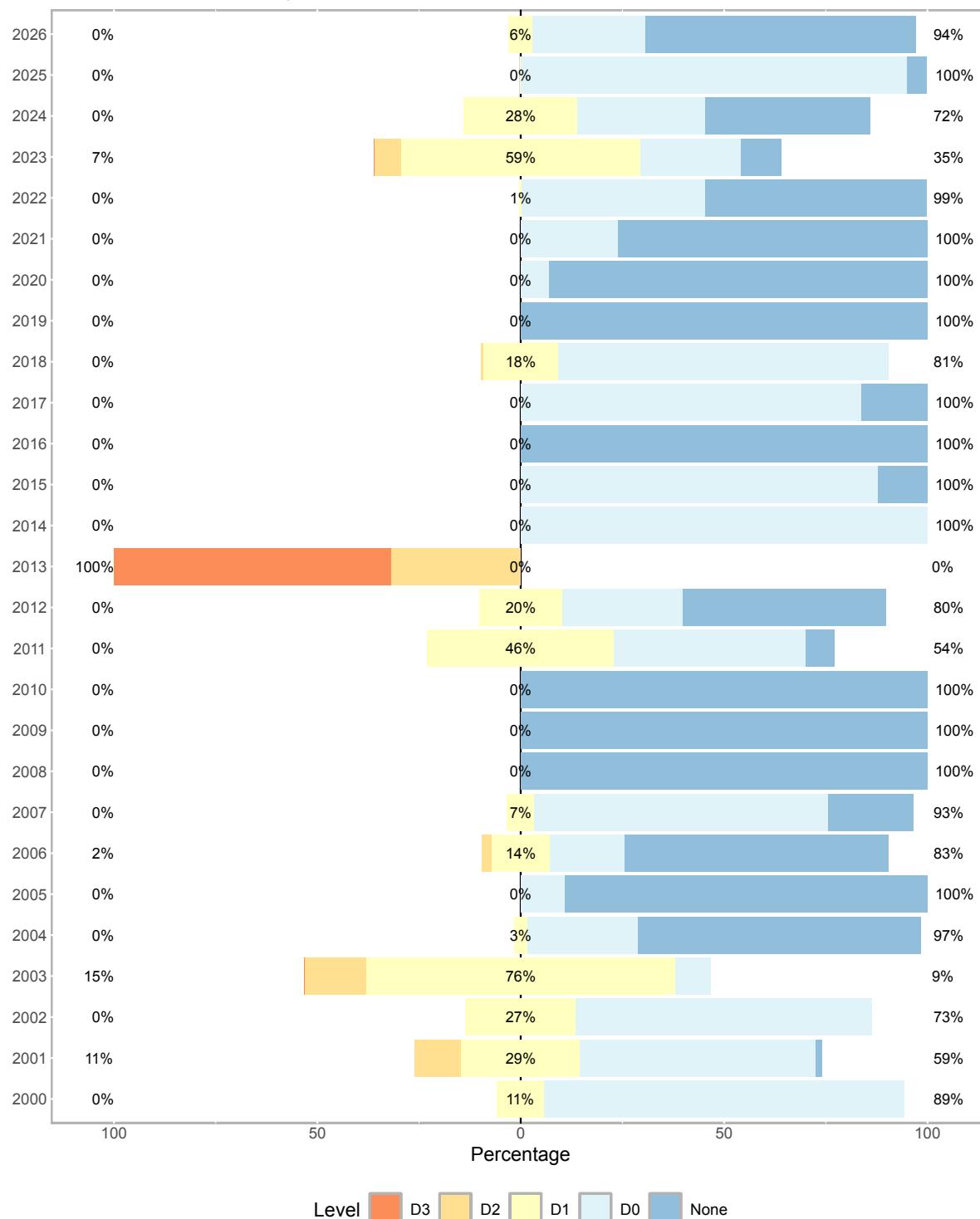


Figure 17. East Central - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

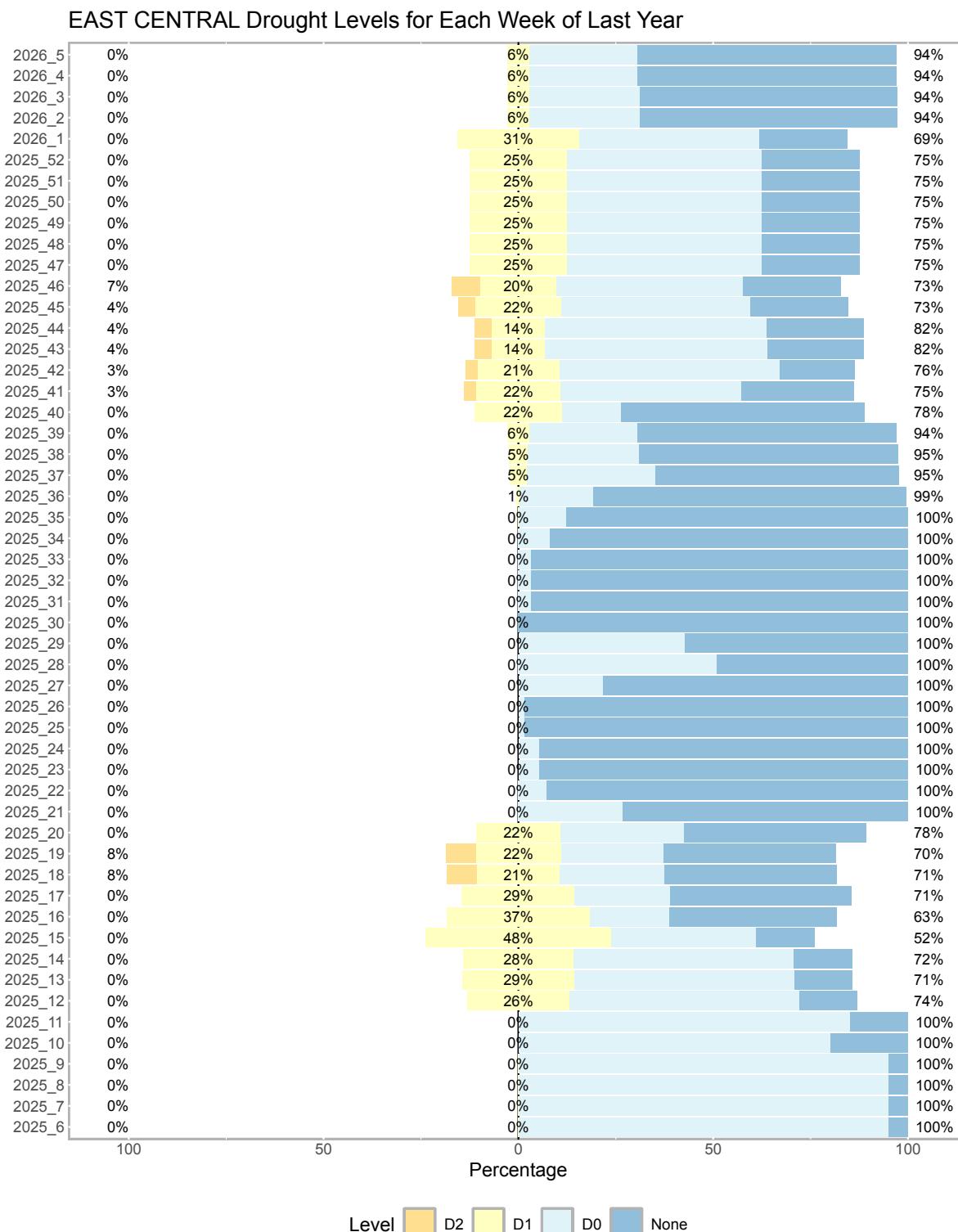


Figure 18. East Central - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

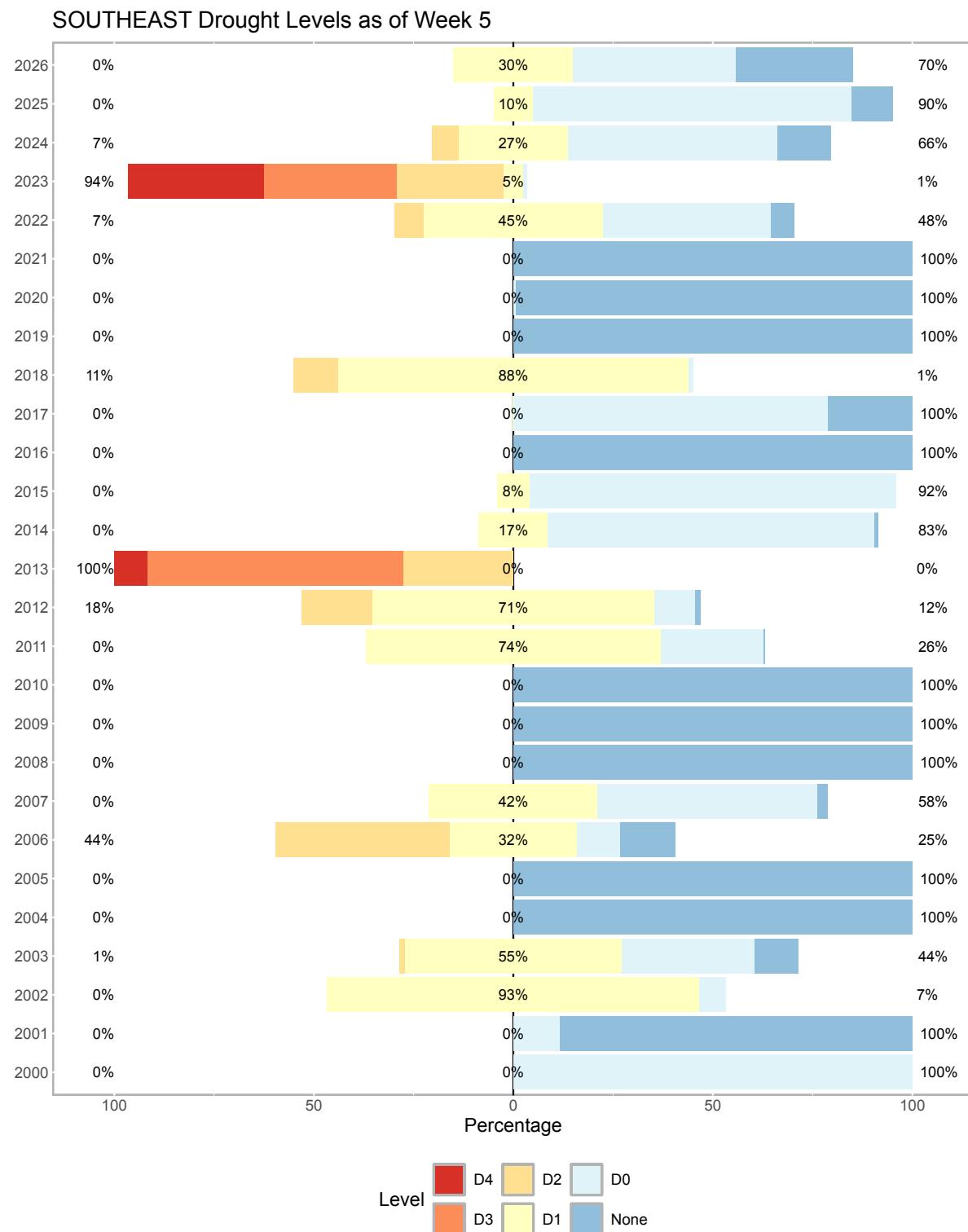


Figure 19. Southeast - Drought Conditions for Specific Week Since 2000

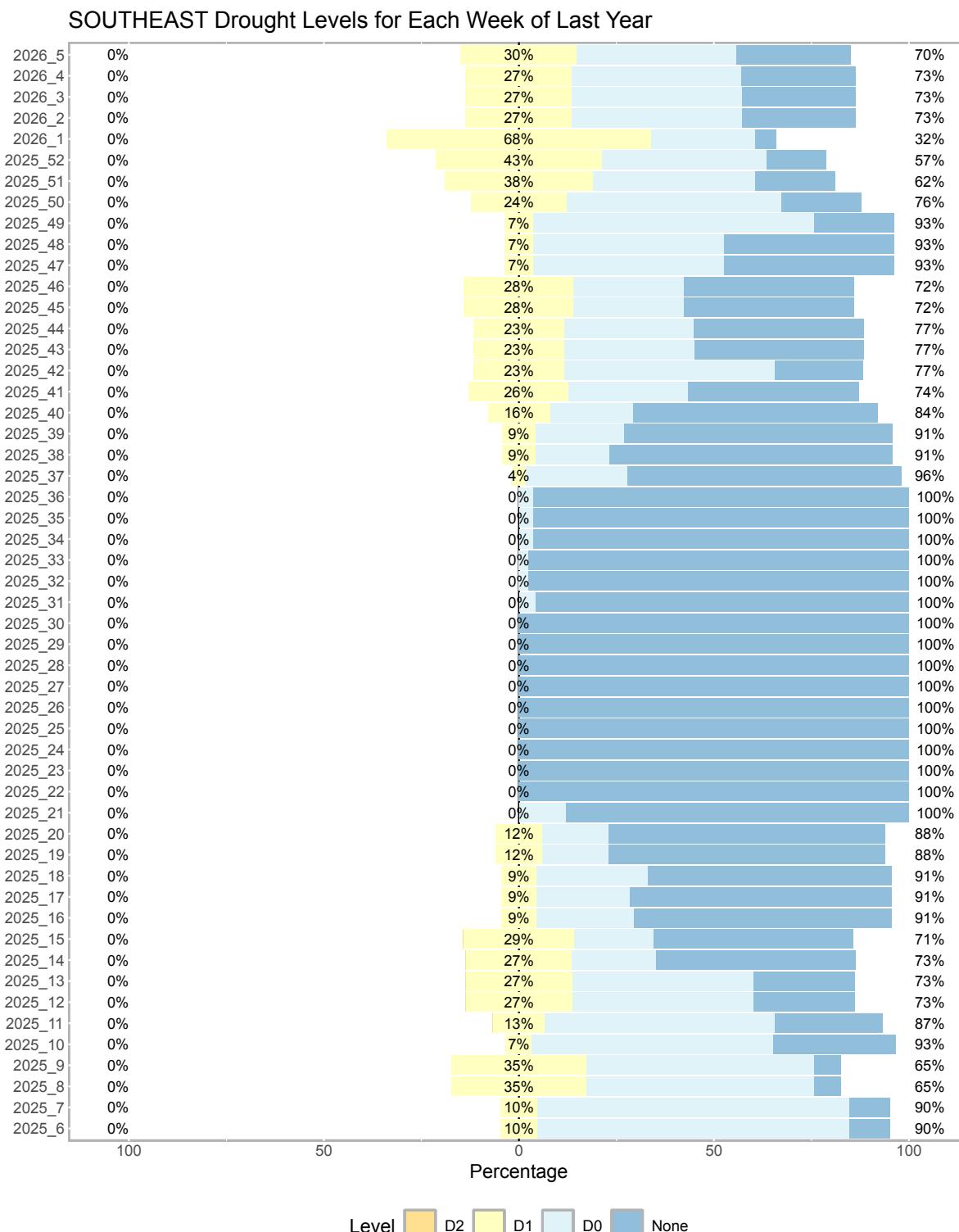


Figure 20. Southeast - Drought Conditions Each Week for Past Year

1. Kansas State University - Department of Agricultural Economics

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email: ibendahl@ksu.edu

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@little_pond_farm

Substack: <https://agricultural.substack.com>

2. U.S. Drought Monitor. (<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>).