

Washington Post wins Pulitzer Prize; New York Times takes most awards

In late 2018, Washington Post environmental reporter Chris Mooney began noticing a small but recurring theme in scientific studies about climate change: Most places on the planet had gotten warmer on average over the preceding century, but some had become hotter than others. Prolonged warming had changed these local ecosystems for the worse, indicating that climate change wasn't just an abstract future threat but an ongoing one.

Mooney began talking up the idea with his editor, and soon a series of articles, photos, videos and graphics was born. Eventually, the effort to document places on the planet that had experienced above-average warming involved 53 people in The Post's newsroom.

The project, **dubbed** "2°C: Beyond the Limit" for the benchmark two-degree Celsius temperature rise, won the Pulitzer Prize for explanatory journalism.

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The New York Times led all news organizations on Monday by winning three Pulitzers: for articles about abusive financial practices in New York City's taxicab industry; for a series about assassinations by members of Russia's intelligence services; and for writer Nikole Hannah-Jones' essay about slavery and history.

The 2020 prizes were the first to recognize audio journalism; the winner in that category was "This American Life," the long-running public-radio program hosted by Ira Glass.

This year's prizes were also the first during Donald Trump's presidency in which no news organization was recognized for its reporting about Trump's policies, finances or business practices.

Pulitzer winners receive \$15,000, except in the public service category, in which the award is a gold medal.