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ANALYSIS

## Trump: Victory at hand in Iran war ‘very shortly’



President Donald Trump declared “swift, decisive, overwhelming victories” in Iran in his address to the nation April 1. ALEX BRANDON/POOL VIA GETTY IMAGES

## Polls show skepticism as war drags on

Susan Page  
USA TODAY

On Day 33 of the war with Iran, President Donald Trump declared victory was at hand. Almost.

In a prime-time address from the White House on April 1, Trump extolled what he called “swift, decisive, overwhelming victories on the battlefield” – victories so decisive he suggested the war would wind down after an additional two or three weeks of military strikes that could “bring them back to the Stone Ages, where they belong.”

“We are on track to complete all of America’s military objectives shortly, very shortly,” he said.

**The 19-minute speech included no new details about the war’s course and no more than a passing reference to the possibility of negotiated settlement.**

But Trump made it clear that he is prepared to leave a messy and problematic situation behind.

The 19-minute speech included no new details about the war’s course and no more than a passing reference to the possibility of negotiated settlement.

But he also didn’t mention the possibility of expanding the war by deploying the thousands of U.S. ground

forces now being massed in the region. And he recast what had been described as a fundamental goal – to gain control of the highly enriched uranium now buried in Iranian territory – as a step he no longer sees as necessary.

The sites were under “intensive satellite surveillance and control” and

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## Monroe investing in babies, mothers

\$4.6M targets racial, economic disparities

Kerria Weaver

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Monroe County Executive Adam Bello stood alongside community leaders and officials on April 1 to announce details for an investment in programs geared toward improving maternal and infant health outcomes across Monroe County.

The programs are funded by \$4.6 million through the American Rescue Plan Act, approved by the Monroe County Legislature in October 2025.

The funding will be used to support community-based initiatives with a mission to reduce racial and economic disparities in prenatal and postpartum care and also strengthen long-term support for mothers and families.

For Bello, this funding is about equity, access and opportunity for every family in Monroe County regardless of their zip code or background.

“These investments, when you put them all together, expand access, they strengthen support systems and they directly address inequities in our health care system,” Bello said. “They give new parents an opportunity to raise healthy babies and healthy families.”

This funding also aligns with recommendations from the 2021 Racial and Structural Equity report.

According to the report, African American infants in Monroe County are three times more likely to die before the age of 1 and Latino infants are twice as likely as white infants to experience the same outcome.

The report also found that African American mothers are 2.5 times more likely, and Latina mothers two times more likely, than white mothers to give birth to low-weight babies.

Here are the programs the investment will support:

**United Way of Greater Rochester’s ‘ROC Family Teleconnects’ program**

This program aims to address health inequities and reduce racial disparities by expanding access to care through tele-health and in-person home visiting services.

Monroe County families receiving pediatric care at one of the participating pediatric practices will be

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**“We must continue to work toward healthy births for every mother.”**

Theresa Green  
University of Rochester Medical Center

## NY county eyes higher minimum wage

Tompkins study to include public forums on impact

Emily Barnes  
New York State Team  
USA TODAY NETWORK

An upstate New York county is considering an increased minimum wage for its residents that would exceed the state’s rate.

Tompkins County is currently holding several public discussions over the

next two months as part of a study commissioned by the county legislature to see how a countywide minimum wage would impact workers, employers and different industries across the county.

A 2025 Living Wage Study completed in part by Cornell ILR Ithaca Co-Lab, contracted by the county for the study, revealed about half of wage earners in Tompkins County earn less than the

county’s living wage, which is the minimum hourly amount a full-time worker must earn to afford basic needs such as housing, food and income taxes.

According to the study, the living wage for a single adult in Tompkins County in 2025 was \$24.82 per hour, which increased 34.5% since 2023, while the minimum wage statewide increased only 9.2% in that same

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