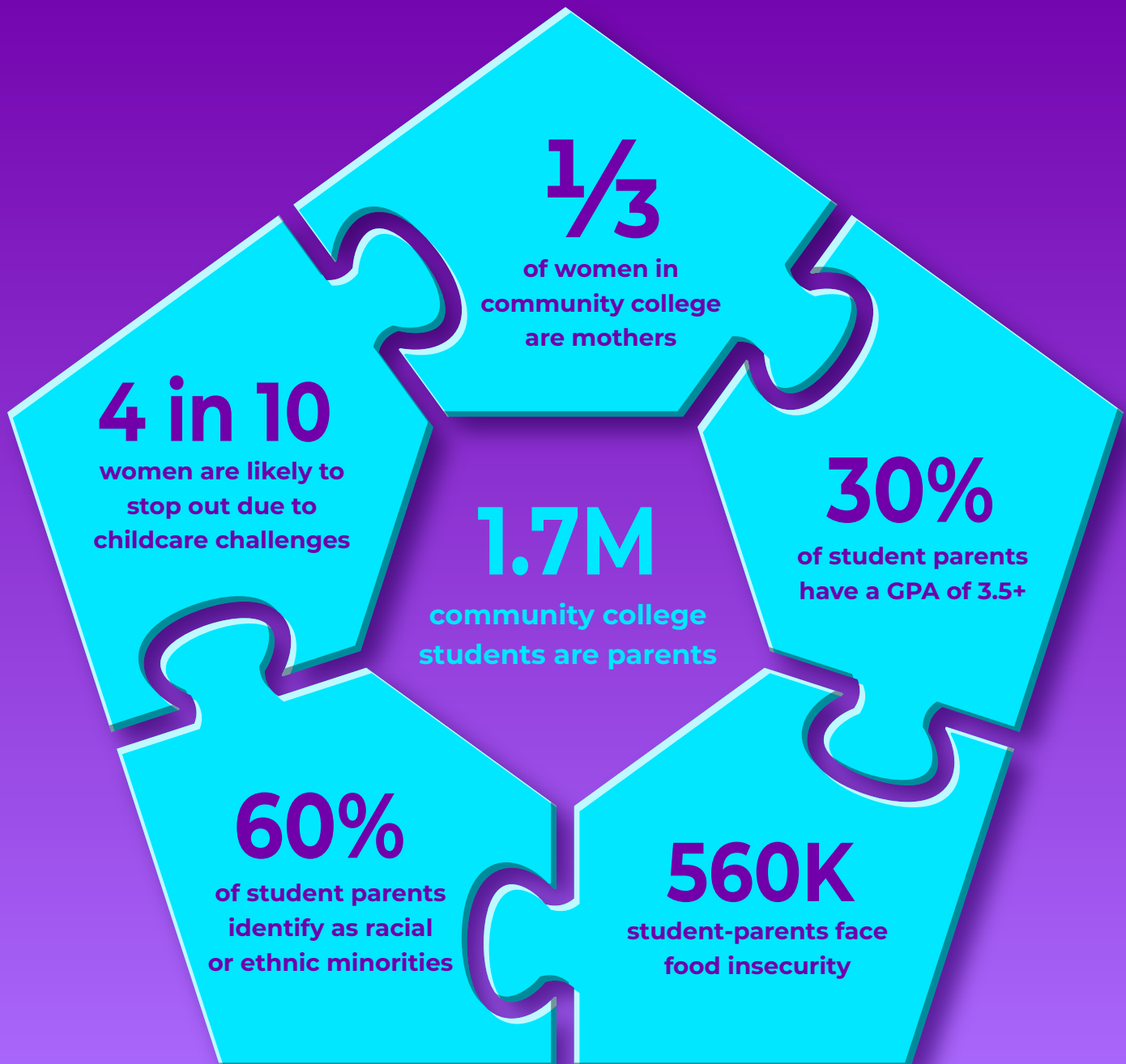


Student Parents By The Numbers



Advanced Skills Boost Local Economies

Over **1.7 million community college students** balance raising children with school. That's about one in four students in the community college sector. Juggling schoolwork and childcare is complicated, and it shows in the numbers—just **28 percent** of student-parents **earn a degree or certificate within six years** of starting their programs.

Approximately **1 in 3 women** enrolled in community college are mothers, who cite the challenge of **finding adequate childcare as the chief barrier to finishing their education**. Approximately **40% of enrolled mothers** say they are **very likely to stop out** because of childcare challenges. Despite the situation, the number of **childcare services** on community college campuses **has dropped by 17%** in the last decade, making graduating even more difficult.

Daniela Robles **beat the odds by completing her associate's degree** within two years while raising two young children, including a toddler on the spectrum. **She graduated with honors** and has been accepted by a four-year university. **Student parents enrolled in college have higher grade point averages** than those without children.

Sources:
U.S. Department of Education, NCES
Achieving the Dream
Aspen Institute
Child Trends
Hope Center
American Association of Community Colleges