For over 30 years, the Pittsfield, MA Public Schools have provided ParentChild+ to Title 1-eligible families as a key aspect of their early childhood initiative. During this time, the school district has consistently documented that the Program is successfully preparing children and their families to enter pre-K and kindergarten ready to be successful students. Since 1992, the district has been administering the Daberon (a nationally validated school readiness assessment) to all incoming kindergartners and analyzing this data to assess the impact of the Title 1 preschool program on kindergarten readiness. The data has consistently demonstrated that the preschool experience, specifically participation in both ParentChild+ and pre-K sequentially, significantly improved children's school readiness.

Key findings

- The Daberon data from Pittsfield for 2005 shows that those children who completed ParentChild+ and pre-K entered kindergarten on average 10.15 months developmentally above their chronological age, compared to an average of 3.30 months above chronological age district wide.
- Children who only had pre-K and not ParentChild+ were on average only 4.86 months above their chronological age.

Table 1

	μ CA (months)	μ Daberon Age (months)	Difference in Months	% Scoring Above CA
ParentChild+ & pre-K	62.90	73.05	+10.15	93%
Pre-K Only	63.31	68.17	+4.86	69%
No Pre-K	64.99	61.80	-3.19	39%
District-wide	63.57	66.87	+3.30	66%

Note: μ = mean; CA = chronological age

- An additional year of Daberon data was analyzed in 2008. Due to an increase in the transitory nature of the Title 1-eligible population, of the 40 ParentChild+ graduates eligible for kindergarten, only 21 were identified in the current school population.
    - ParentChild+ graduates entering kindergarten were on average 8.43 months developmentally above their chronological age while the Pittsfield district-wide average was only 1.27 months above chronological age.