Third World America  
By Tom Paulson | February 24, 2011

Aid Watch’s Bill Easterly today pointed out some interesting interactive maps that he says show pockets of the “Third World” in America. Here’s a screen grab of one map showing varying health indicators across the U.S. (darker is better on this map)

The actual interactive maps can be found, and explored, at the American Human Development Index site.

Easterly’s characterization of the data (not to mention using the somewhat dated and arguably imprecise phrase “Third World”) has, as usual, provoked some angry denunciations. You can read them on his comments page, which is always entertaining and often enlightening.

For those interested in visual data and the overall indicators of our health/well-being, take a closer look at the rest of the interactive maps provided by the American Human Development Project. They also map out data regarding political participation, environmental impact and other demographics.