

The American Community Survey and the 2020 Census

I already answered the 2020 Census. Is this the same thing?

The American Community Survey is different from the 2020 Census.

How is the American Community Survey different from the 2020 Census?

The American Community Survey (ACS) shows how we live—our education, housing, jobs, and more. The ACS provides information about the social and economic needs of your community every year. For example, results may be used to decide where new schools, hospitals, and fire stations are needed.

The census is conducted once every 10 years to provide an official count of the entire U.S. population to Congress.

Do I have to answer the American Community Survey?

Yes, you are required by law to answer the American Community Survey (Title 13, U.S. Code).

Your response will help your community get its fair share of federal funding. The data help determine how more than \$675 billion is distributed to states and communities every year.

Can you use my 2020 Census answers for the American Community Survey?

No, your answers to the 2020 Census cannot be used for the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS asks questions about topics not on the 2020 Census, such as education, employment, and transportation.

Why was I chosen for the American Community Survey?

The U.S. Census Bureau chose this address, not you personally, as part of a randomly selected sample.

Thank you for your participation!

The American Community Survey

Each year, a random sample of addresses completes the American Community Survey.

Respond online at
respond.census.gov/acs

or

Respond by mail
using the paper form

The screenshot shows the online login interface for the American Community Survey. At the top, it features the United States Census Bureau logo and the title "American Community Survey". Below this, there is a welcome message and a "Please Log In" section. A barcode is displayed with a "User ID" field next to it, and a "Login" button is visible. The page also includes a "U.S. Census Bureau Notice and Consent Warning" at the bottom.

The screenshot shows the paper form for the American Community Survey. It includes the title "The American Community Survey" and a "Start Here" section. The form provides instructions on how to respond, either online or by mail. It also includes a "Please print the name and telephone number of the person who is filling out this form" section with fields for Last Name, First Name, and Area Code + Number. There are also sections for "How many people are living or staying at this address?" and "If you need help or have questions about completing this form, please call 1-800-354-7271". The form includes a barcode at the bottom and a "FORM ACS-1(X)(2020)" label.

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