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!
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

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