

NAME

getgroups - get group access list

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

int

```
getgroups(int gidsetlen, gid_t *gidset);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **getgroups()** system call gets the current group access list of the user process and stores it in the array *gidset*. The *gidsetlen* argument indicates the number of entries that may be placed in *gidset*. The **getgroups()** system call returns the actual number of groups returned in *gidset*. At least one and as many as {NGROUPS_MAX}+1 values may be returned. If *gidsetlen* is zero, **getgroups()** returns the number of supplementary group IDs associated with the calling process without modifying the array pointed to by *gidset*.

The value of {NGROUPS_MAX} should be obtained using `sysconf(3)` to avoid hard-coding it into the executable.

RETURN VALUES

A successful call returns the number of groups in the group set. A value of -1 indicates that an error occurred, and the error code is stored in the global variable *errno*.

ERRORS

The possible errors for **getgroups()** are:

[EINVAL] The argument *gidsetlen* is smaller than the number of groups in the group set.

[EFAULT] The argument *gidset* specifies an invalid address.

SEE ALSO

setgroups(2), initgroups(3), sysconf(3)

STANDARDS

The **getgroups()** system call conforms to IEEE Std 1003.1-2008 ("POSIX.1").

HISTORY

The `getgroups()` system call appeared in 4.2BSD.