

NAME

`get_mempolicy` - retrieve NUMA memory policy for a process

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <numaif.h>
```

```
int get_mempolicy(int *mode, unsigned long *nodemask,  
                 unsigned long maxnode, unsigned long addr,  
                 unsigned long flags);
```

Link with `-lnuma`.

DESCRIPTION

`get_mempolicy()` retrieves the NUMA policy of the calling process or of a memory address, depending on the setting of `flags`.

A NUMA machine has different memory controllers with different distances to specific CPUs. The memory policy defines from which node memory is allocated for the process.

If `flags` is specified as 0, then information about the calling process's default policy (as set by `set_mempolicy(2)`) is returned. The policy returned [`mode` and `nodemask`] may be used to restore the process's policy to its state at the time of the call to `get_mempolicy()` using `set_mempolicy(2)`.

If `flags` specifies `MPOL_F_MEMS_ALLOWED` (available since Linux 2.6.24), the `mode` argument is ignored and the set of nodes [memories] that the process is allowed to specify in subsequent calls to `mbind(2)` or `set_mempolicy(2)` [in the absence of any `mode flags`] is returned in `nodemask`. It is not permitted to combine `MPOL_F_MEMS_ALLOWED` with either `MPOL_F_ADDR` or `MPOL_F_NODE`.

If `flags` specifies `MPOL_F_ADDR`, then information is returned about the policy governing the memory address given in `addr`. This policy may be different from the process's default policy if `mbind(2)` or one of the helper functions described in `numa(3)` has been used to establish a policy for the memory range containing `addr`.

If the `mode` argument is not NULL, then `get_mempolicy()` will store the policy mode and any optional `mode flags` of the requested NUMA policy in the location pointed to by this argument. If `nodemask` is not NULL, then the nodemask associated with the policy will be stored in the location pointed to by this argument. `maxnode` specifies the number of node IDs that can be stored into `nodemask`—that is, the maximum node ID plus one. The value specified by `maxnode` is always rounded to a multiple of `sizeof(unsigned long)`.

If `flags` specifies both `MPOL_F_NODE` and `MPOL_F_ADDR`, `get_mempolicy()` will return the node ID of the node on which the address `addr` is allocated into the location pointed to by `mode`. If no page has yet been allocated for the specified address, `get_mempolicy()` will allocate a page as if the process had performed a read [load] access to that address, and return the ID of the node where that page was allocated.

If `flags` specifies `MPOL_F_NODE`, but not `MPOL_F_ADDR`, and the process's current policy is `MPOL_INTERLEAVE`, then `get_mempolicy()` will return in the location pointed to by a non-NULL `mode` argument, the node ID of the next node that will be used for interleaving of internal kernel pages allocated on behalf of the process. These allocations include pages for memory-mapped files in process memory ranges mapped using the `mmap(2)` call with the `MAP_PRIVATE` flag for read accesses, and in memory ranges mapped with the `MAP_SHARED` flag for all accesses.

Other flag values are reserved.

For an overview of the possible policies see `set_mempolicy(2)`.

RETURN VALUE

On success, `get_mempolicy()` returns 0; on error, -1 is returned and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

EFAULT

Part of all of the memory range specified by *nodemask* and *maxnode* points outside your accessible address space.

EINVAL

The value specified by *maxnode* is less than the number of node IDs supported by the system. Or *flags* specified values other than `MPOL_F_NODE` or `MPOL_F_ADDR`; or *flags* specified `MPOL_F_ADDR` and *addr* is NULL, or *flags* did not specify `MPOL_F_ADDR` and *addr* is not NULL. Or, *flags* specified `MPOL_F_NODE` but not `MPOL_F_ADDR` and the current process policy is not `MPOL_INTERLEAVE`. Or, *flags* specified `MPOL_F_MEMS_ALLOWED` with either `MPOL_F_ADDR` or `MPOL_F_NODE`. (And there are other `EINVA`L cases.)

VERSIONS

The `get_mempolicy()` system call was added to the Linux kernel in version 2.6.7.

CONFORMING TO

This system call is Linux-specific.

NOTES

For information on library support, see [numa\(7\)](#).

SEE ALSO

[getcpu\(2\)](#), [mbind\(2\)](#), [mmap\(2\)](#), [set_mempolicy\(2\)](#), [numa\(3\)](#), [numa\(7\)](#), [numactl\(8\)](#)

COLOPHON

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