

**NAME**

`msr` - x86 CPU MSR access device

**DESCRIPTION**

`/dev/cpu/CPUNUM/msr` provides an interface to read and write the model-specific registers (MSRs) of an x86 CPU. `CPUNUM` is the number of the CPU to access as listed in `/proc/cpuinfo`.

The register access is done by opening the file and seeking to the MSR number as offset in the file, and then reading or writing in chunks of 8 bytes. An I/O transfer of more than 8 bytes means multiple reads or writes of the same register.

This file is protected so that it can be read and written only by the user `root`, or members of the group `root`.

**NOTES**

The `msr` driver is not auto-loaded. On modular kernels you might need to use the following command to load it explicitly before use:

```
$ modprobe msr
```

**SEE ALSO**

Intel Corporation Intel 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual Volume 3B Appendix B, for an overview of the Intel CPU MSRs.

**COLOPHON**

This page is part of release 3.74 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <http://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.