NAME
>   acct − switch process accounting on or off

SYNOPSIS
>   **#include <unistd.h>**
>
>   **int acct(const char *** *filename***);**

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see **feature_test_macros**(7)):

>   **acct**():
>   Since glibc 2.21:
>   _DEFAULT_SOURCE
>   In glibc 2.19 and 2.20:
>   _DEFAULT_SOURCE || (_XOPEN_SOURCE && _XOPEN_SOURCE < 500)
>   Up to and including glibc 2.19:
>   _BSD_SOURCE || (_XOPEN_SOURCE && _XOPEN_SOURCE < 500)

DESCRIPTION
>   The **acct**() system call enables or disables process accounting. If called with the name of an existing file as
>   its argument, accounting is turned on, and records for each terminating process are appended to *filename* as
>   it terminates. An argument of NULL causes accounting to be turned off.

RETURN VALUE
>   On success, zero is returned. On error, −1 is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

ERRORS
>   **EACCES**
>   Write permission is denied for the specified file, or search permission is denied for one of the di-
>   rectories in the path prefix of *filename* (see also **path_resolution**(7)), or *filename* is not a regular
>   file.
>
>   **EFAULT**
>   *filename* points outside your accessible address space.
>
>   **EIO**   Error writing to the file *filename*.
>
>   **EISDIR**
>   *filename* is a directory.
>
>   **ELOOP**
>   Too many symbolic links were encountered in resolving *filename*.
>
>   **ENAMETOOLONG**
>   *filename* was too long.
>
>   **ENFILE**
>   The system-wide limit on the total number of open files has been reached.
>
>   **ENOENT**
>   The specified file does not exist.
>
>   **ENOMEM**
>   Out of memory.
>
>   **ENOSYS**
>   BSD process accounting has not been enabled when the operating system kernel was compiled.
>   The kernel configuration parameter controlling this feature is **CON-
>   FIG_BSD_PROCESS_ACCT**.
>
>   **ENOTDIR**
>   A component used as a directory in *filename* is not in fact a directory.

EPERM

The calling process has insufficient privilege to enable process accounting. On Linux, the **CAP_SYS_PACCT** capability is required.

EROFS

filename refers to a file on a read-only filesystem.

EUSERS

There are no more free file structures or we ran out of memory.

CONFORMING TO

SVr4, 4.3BSD (but not POSIX).

NOTES

No accounting is produced for programs running when a system crash occurs. In particular, nonterminating processes are never accounted for.

The structure of the records written to the accounting file is described in **acct**(5).

SEE ALSO

acct(5)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.02 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 https://www.kernel.org/doc/man−pages/.