NAME

pread, pwrite − read from or write to a file descriptor at a given offset

SYNOPSIS

#define _XOPEN_SOURCE 500

#include <unistd.h>

ssize_t pread(int *fd***, void ****buf***, size_t** *count***, off_t** *offset***);**

ssize_t pwrite(int *fd***, const void ****buf***, size_t** *count***, off_t** *offset***);**

DESCRIPTION

pread() reads up to *count* bytes from file descriptor *fd* at offset *offset* (from the start of the file) into the buffer starting at *buf*. The file offset is not changed.

pwrite() writes up to *count* bytes from the buffer starting at *buf* to the file descriptor *fd* at offset *offset*. The file offset is not changed.

The file referenced by *fd* must be capable of seeking.

RETURN VALUE

On success, the number of bytes read or written is returned (zero indicates that nothing was written, in the case of **pwrite**(), or end of file, in the case of **pread**(), or −1 on error, in which case *errno* is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

pread() can fail and set *errno* to any error specified for **read**(2) or **lseek**(2). **pwrite**() can fail and set *errno* to any error specified for **write**(2) or **lseek**(2).

VERSIONS

The **pread**() and **pwrite**() system calls were added to Linux in version 2.1.60; the entries in the i386 system call table were added in 2.1.69. C library support (including emulation using **lseek**(2) on older kernels without the system calls) was added in glibc 2.1.

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001.

SEE ALSO

lseek(2), **read**(2), **write**(2), **feature_test_macros**(7)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 3.22 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, and information about reporting bugs, can be found at http://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/.