

## NAME

`sendmmsg` – send multiple messages on a socket

## SYNOPSIS

```
#define _GNU_SOURCE
#include <sys/socket.h>
```

```
int sendmmsg(int sockfd, struct mmsghdr *msgvec, unsigned int vlen,
             unsigned int flags);
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `sendmmsg()` system call is an extension of `sendmsg(2)` that allows the caller to transmit multiple messages on a socket using a single system call. (This has performance benefits for some applications.)

The *sockfd* argument is the file descriptor of the socket on which data is to be transmitted.

The *msgvec* argument is a pointer to an array of *mmsghdr* structures. The size of this array is specified in *vlen*.

The *mmsghdr* structure is defined in *<sys/socket.h>* as:

```
struct mmsghdr {
    struct msghdr msg_hdr; /* Message header */
    unsigned int msg_len; /* Number of bytes transmitted */
};
```

The *msg\_hdr* field is a *msghdr* structure, as described in `sendmsg(2)`. The *msg\_len* field is used to return the number of bytes sent from the message in *msg\_hdr* (i.e., the same as the return value from a single `sendmsg(2)` call).

The *flags* argument contains flags ORed together. The flags are the same as for `sendmsg(2)`.

A blocking `sendmmsg()` call blocks until *vlen* messages have been sent. A nonblocking call sends as many messages as possible (up to the limit specified by *vlen*) and returns immediately.

On return from `sendmmsg()`, the *msg\_len* fields of successive elements of *msgvec* are updated to contain the number of bytes transmitted from the corresponding *msg\_hdr*. The return value of the call indicates the number of elements of *msgvec* that have been updated.

## RETURN VALUE

On success, `sendmmsg()` returns the number of messages sent from *msgvec*; if this is less than *vlen*, the caller can retry with a further `sendmmsg()` call to send the remaining messages.

On error, `-1` is returned, and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

## ERRORS

Errors are as for `sendmsg(2)`. An error is returned only if no datagrams could be sent.

## VERSIONS

The `sendmmsg()` system call was added in Linux 3.0. Support in glibc was added in version 2.14.

## CONFORMING TO

`sendmmsg()` is Linux-specific.

## NOTES

The value specified in *vlen* is capped to `UIO_MAXIOV` (1024).

## SEE ALSO

`recvmsg(2)`, `sendmsg(2)`, `socket(2)`, `socket(7)`