

NAME

strcasecmp, strncasecmp – compare two strings ignoring case

LIBRARY

Standard C library (*libc*, *-lc*)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <strings.h>
```

```
int strcasecmp(const char *s1, const char *s2);
int strncasecmp(const char s1[.n], const char s2[.n], size_t n);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **strcasecmp()** function performs a byte-by-byte comparison of the strings *s1* and *s2*, ignoring the case of the characters. It returns an integer less than, equal to, or greater than zero if *s1* is found, respectively, to be less than, to match, or be greater than *s2*.

The **strncasecmp()** function is similar, except that it compares no more than *n* bytes of *s1* and *s2*.

RETURN VALUE

The **strcasecmp()** and **strncasecmp()** functions return an integer less than, equal to, or greater than zero if *s1* is, after ignoring case, found to be less than, to match, or be greater than *s2*, respectively.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see **attributes(7)**.

Interface	Attribute	Value
strcasecmp() , strncasecmp()	Thread safety	MT-Safe locale

STANDARDS

4.4BSD, POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008.

NOTES

The **strcasecmp()** and **strncasecmp()** functions first appeared in 4.4BSD, where they were declared in `<string.h>`. Thus, for reasons of historical compatibility, the `glibc<string.h>` header file also declares these functions, if the **_DEFAULT_SOURCE** (or, in glibc 2.19 and earlier, **_BSD_SOURCE**) feature test macro is defined.

The POSIX.1-2008 standard says of these functions:

When the **LC_CTYPE** category of the locale being used is from the POSIX locale, these functions shall behave as if the strings had been converted to lowercase and then a byte comparison performed. Otherwise, the results are unspecified.

SEE ALSO

memcmp(3), **strcmp(3)**, **strcoll(3)**, **string(3)**, **strncmp(3)**, **wscasecmp(3)**, **wcsncasecmp(3)**