

**NAME**

strsignal, sigabbrev\_np, sigdescr\_np, sys\_siglist – return string describing signal

**LIBRARY**

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

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <string.h>

char *strsignal(int sig);
const char *sigdescr_np(int sig);
const char *sigabbrev_np(int sig);

[[deprecated]] extern const char *const sys_siglist[];
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see **feature\_test\_macros(7)**):

```
sigabbrev_np(), sigdescr_np():
    _GNU_SOURCE

strsignal():
    From glibc 2.10 to glibc 2.31:
        _POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200809L
    Before glibc 2.10:
        _GNU_SOURCE

sys_siglist:
    Since glibc 2.19:
        _DEFAULT_SOURCE
    glibc 2.19 and earlier:
        _BSD_SOURCE
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **strsignal()** function returns a string describing the signal number passed in the argument *sig*. The string can be used only until the next call to **strsignal()**. The string returned by **strsignal()** is localized according to the **LC\_MESSAGES** category in the current locale.

The **sigdescr\_np()** function returns a string describing the signal number passed in the argument *sig*. Unlike **strsignal()** this string is not influenced by the current locale.

The **sigabbrev\_np()** function returns the abbreviated name of the signal, *sig*. For example, given the value **SIGINT**, it returns the string "INT".

The (deprecated) array *sys\_siglist* holds the signal description strings indexed by signal number. The **strsignal()** or the **sigdescr\_np()** function should be used instead of this array; see also **VERSIONS**.

**RETURN VALUE**

The **strsignal()** function returns the appropriate description string, or an unknown signal message if the signal number is invalid. On some systems (but not on Linux), **NULL** may instead be returned for an invalid signal number.

The **sigdescr\_np()** and **sigabbrev\_np()** functions return the appropriate description string. The returned string is statically allocated and valid for the lifetime of the program. These functions return **NULL** for an invalid signal number.

**VERSIONS**

**sigdescr\_np()** and **sigabbrev\_np()** first appeared in glibc 2.32.

Starting with glibc 2.32, the *sys\_siglist* symbol is no longer exported by glibc.

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
<b>strsignal()</b>	Thread safety	MT-Unsafe race:strsignal locale
<b>sigdescr_np()</b> , <b>sigabbrev_np()</b>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

**STANDARDS**

**strsignal()**: POSIX.1-2008. Present on Solaris and the BSDs.

**sigdescr\_np()** and **sigabbrev\_np()** are GNU extensions.

*sys\_siglist* is nonstandard, but present on many other systems.

**NOTES**

**sigdescr\_np()** and **sigabbrev\_np()** are thread-safe and async-signal-safe.

**SEE ALSO**

**psignal(3)**, **strerror(3)**