NAME

elf_getshdrnum, elf_getshnum − retrieve the number of section headers in an ELF file

SYNOPSIS

#include <libelf.h>

int elf_getshdrnum("Elf *elf", size_t *dst);
int elf_getshnum("Elf *elf", size_t *dst); (deprecated)

DESCRIPTION

The **elf_getshdrnum**() function stores the number of section headers (sections) associated with the ELF descriptor *elf* into the variable pointed to by *dst*.

It transparently handles both standard and extended section header counts. If the number of section headers exceeds the representable range of the *e_shnum* field in the ELF header, the ELF specification allows encoding the true count in section header 0's *sh_size* field, and sets *e_shnum* to 0. This function transparently handles that case.

The function **elf_getshnum**() is a deprecated alias for **elf_getshdrnum**() and should not be used in new code (see HISTORY).

PARAMETERS

elf A pointer to an **Elf** descriptor opened with **elf_begin**(3). The descriptor must represent a file of kind **ELF_K_ELF .** If NULL, the function returns −1 without setting elf_errno.

dst Pointer to a **size_t** variable. On success, the number of section headers is written here. Must not be NULL.

RETURN VALUE

Returns 0 on success and stores the result in *dst*. Returns −1 on failure.

SEE ALSO

elf32_getshdr(3), **elf64_getshdr**(3), **libelf**(3), **elf**(5)

ATTRIBUTES

Interface	Attribute	Value
elf_getshdrnum(), elf_getshnum()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

REPORTING BUGS

Report bugs to <elfutils-devel@sourceware.org> or https://sourceware.org/bugzilla/.

HISTORY

elf_getshdrnum first appeared in elfutils 0.142. This function was added due to elf_getshnum return value inconsistencies between different libelf implementations. **elf_getshdr num** was introduced to ensure that 0 is returned on success across all libelf implementations.