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Subject: held and maxheld below barrier and limit but failcnt = 4  
Posted by [Franz STUMPNER](#) on Sun, 15 Apr 2007 09:11:57 GMT  
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I have the Problem that my /proc/user\_beancounters displays an failcount of 4 at the privvmpages section:

Version: 2.5

```
uid resource  held  maxheld barrier  limit  failcnt
102: kmemsize  2827049 3378858 41840803 46024883 0
      lockedpages 0    0    2043    2043    0
      *privvmpages 118113 130716 173225 198547 4*
```

How can it be that failcnt is 4 when the held and maxheld values are below the barrier and limit values?

For me it means that the privvmpages never hit the barrier or limit, how can there be a failcnt!? Or I'm wrong?

Thanks for information,  
best regards  
franz stumpner

ps: I'm running an VPS on Debian Linux 4.0 with Kernel  
2.6.18-028stab023.1+40-openvz

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Subject: Re: held and maxheld below barrier and limit but failcnt = 4  
Posted by [pookey](#) on Sun, 15 Apr 2007 14:49:04 GMT  
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Franz STUMPNER wrote:

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This can happen if someone has changed the barrier since the failures happened, is that likely?

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Subject: Re: held and maxheld below barrier and limit but failcnt = 4  
Posted by [kir](#) on Sun, 15 Apr 2007 18:50:03 GMT  
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That's easy -- the difference between privvmpages.maxheld and  
privvmpages.barrier is 173225-130716=42509. So if any application tries  
to grab more than 42509 pages \*at once\*, it will get an error (most  
probably ENOMEM), and the failcnt will be increased, but both held and  
maxheld stays the same.

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