

Ruby - Bug #3027

Random#rand(nil)

03/28/2010 09:06 AM - marcandre (Marc-Andre Lafortune)

Status:	Closed	Backport:
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:	nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)	
Target version:	1.9.2	
ruby -v:	ruby 1.9.2dev (2010-03-03 trunk 26805) [x86_64-darwin10.2.0]	
Description =begin Hi Nobu. Looking at Random#rand, I notice that passing nil has the same result as not passing any argument. Either it should raise an ArgumentError like the documentation implies, or else the documentation should be modified. I would argue to raise an error because: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• it is easy to pass nothing, or pass 1.0 instead, and get the same result if that is what is desired• it could hide an error in the code, where the result is unexpectedly nil but the programmer didn't think about it (like whiny nils in rails) =end		

History

#1 - 04/03/2010 10:53 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

=begin
Hi,

At Sun, 28 Mar 2010 09:06:57 +0900,
Marc-Andre Lafortune wrote in [\[ruby-core:29075\]](#):

Looking at Random#rand, I notice that passing nil has the same result as not passing any argument.

It comes from Kernel#rand.

Either it should raise an ArgumentError like the documentation implies, or else the documentation should be modified.

I would argue to raise an error because:

- it is easy to pass nothing, or pass 1.0 instead, and get the same result if that is what is desired
- it could hide an error in the code, where the result is unexpectedly nil but the programmer didn't think about it (like whiny nils in rails)

Agreed. For the backward compatibility, I'll keep Kernel#rand and added the documentation instead.

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Nobu Nakada

=end

#2 - 04/03/2010 10:57 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

- Status changed from Open to Closed
- % Done changed from 0 to 100

=begin

This issue was solved with changeset r27204.
Marc-Andre, thank you for reporting this issue.
Your contribution to Ruby is greatly appreciated.
May Ruby be with you.

=end