

# The five states of a number

Every number in a set of accounts occupies one of five states.

- **CLAIMED**  
It sits in a schedule, asserted and nothing more.

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- **CITED**  
It names a source ("from the ledger") without pinning it down.

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- **PINNED**  
It is tied to the exact file, sheet and cell.

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- **PROVEN**  
It is tested against the underlying records and the framework.

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- **SIGNED**  
A named, qualified human owns it.

The one-question test

## Can you point to the cell?

*Four states are information. Only the fifth is assurance.*

**AI is fluent before it is right. The partner still signs. Always.**

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