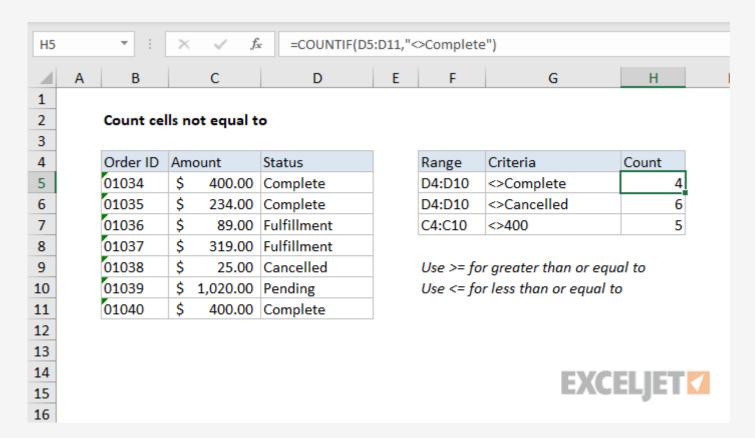
Count cells not equal to



Generic formula

```
= COUNTIF(rng, "<>X")
```

Summary

To count the number of cells that contain values not equal to a particular value, you can use the <u>COUNTIF function</u>. In the generic form of the formula (above) **rng** represents a range of cells, and X represents the value you *don't want to count*. All other values will be counted. In the example shown, H5 contains this formula:

```
= COUNTIF(D5:D11, "<>Complete")
```

Explanation

In Excel, the <u>operator</u> for not equal is "<>". For example:

```
= A1 <> 10 // A1 is not equal to 10
= A1 <> "apple" // A1 is not equal to "apple"
```

The COUNTIF function counts the number of cells in a range that meet supplied criteria. To use the not equal to operator in COUNTIF, it must be enclosed in double quotes like this:

```
= COUNTIF(A1:A10,"<>10") // count cells not equal to 10
= COUNTIF(A1:A10,"<>apple") // count cells not equal to "apple"
```

In example shown, we want to count cells not equal to "complete", so we use "<>complete" for criteria like this:

```
= COUNTIF(D5:D11,"<>Complete") // count not equal to "complete"
```

Note: COUNTIF is not case-sensitive. The word "complete" can appear in any combination of uppercase / lowercase letters.

Not equal to another cell

To use a value in another cell as part of the criteria, use the ampersand (&) character to <u>concatenate</u> like this:

```
= COUNTIF(rng, "<>" & A1)
```

For example, if the value in cell A1 is "100", the criteria will be "<>100" after concatenation, and COUNTIF will count cells not equal to 100:

```
= COUNTIF(rng, "<>100")
```