To better understand The DHS Program file naming conventions, let's look at the Pakistan DHS 2017-18:

Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey **2017-18**
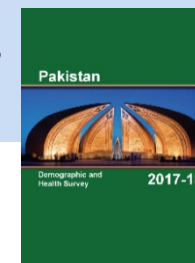
PKHR71FL.DTA

Country Code

Recode

Phase/Version

File Format

Code	Country
ET	Ethiopia
IA	India
ML	Mali
NG	Nigeria
PK	**Pakistan**
ZA	South Africa

Full list of country codes available at:
https://dhsprogram.com/data/File-Types-and-Names.cfm

Code	Recode Type
HR	**Household**
PR	People (all household members)
IR	Women with completed interviews
KR	Children < 5 years of interviewed women
BR	Births to interviewed women in past 6 years
AR	HIV test results
MR	Men with completed interviews
CR	Couple (one record for every couple)

Code	DHS Recode Phase *(approximate dates)*
0	1984-1989
2	1989-1993
3	1993-1997
4	1997-2003
5	2003-2008
6	2008-2013
7	**2014-2019**
8	2019-2023

Code	Recode Version
0	Usually preliminary data file (1st survey in Phase)
>1	**Usually after checks and documentation***

Any other changes (e.g., from version 61 to 62) will be noted in documentation and a data alert sent to registered users who downloaded the previous version.

File Format	Datafile Extension	Zipped Folder name*
Stata	**.dta**	**DT**
SAS	.sas7bdat	SD
SPSS	.sav	SV
ASCII	.dat	FL**

* Data for a specific survey can be downloaded in a specific file format here:
https://dhsprogram.com/data/

** "FL" refers to a flat file