Just to clarify - do you want "parity" as in knowing which particular kid was which particular birth (like, you are looking at children and want to be able to say "this one is the 2nd, this one the 3rd"... or do you want "parity" as in total number of births a woman has had.

If you want the kid-specific parity, you can only use the birth order variables. If you just want to know how many kids a woman has had, you should use V201.

Note, from the recode manual on variable V201:

"Total number of children ever born. If there are fewer than twenty births then this is the same as V224 (Number of entries in the birth history), but if there are more than twenty births then this gives the full number, while V224 will be 20."

 http://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6_DHS_22March 2013_DHSG4.pdf