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AUTHOR OR EDITOR  Vargas-Herrera, Hernando Carlos Varela
This paper analyzes the evolution and impact of capital flows in Colombia over the past five years. An examination of the nature and composition of the capital flows indicates that to large extent they have originated in foreign direct investment, especially in the oil and mining sectors. The repercussions of capital flows for the stability and fragility of the financial system are also discussed. Finally, some of the challenges faced by the authorities in dealing with the implications of capital flows for the conduct of

monetary and exchange rate policies are presented.