## RBC Global Asset Management

## Volatility in Perspective

February 28, 2020

## Maintaining perspective

- While recent volatility has been painful, the S\&P 500 Index has only retreated back to where it was in October 2019.

3,377
The S\&P 500 Index in the last 10 years

The S\&P 500 Index in the last

10 days

Source: Bloomberg, RBC GAM. S\&P 500Price Return Index from February 26, 2010 to February 27, 2020. Chart on right shows the 10-minute intraday intervals from February 12, 2020 to February 27, 2020.

## Volatility is a normal part of investing

## Monthly returns of the S\&P 500

|  | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2020 | 0.0\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019 | 8.0\% | 3.2\% | 1.9\% | 4.0\% | -6.4\% | 7.0\% | 1.4\% | - $1.6 \%$ | 1.9\% | 2.2\% | 3.6\% | 3.0\% |
| 2018 | 5.7\% | - $3.7 \%$ | - $2.5 \%$ | 0.4\% | 2.4\% | 0.6\% | 3.7\% | 3.3\% | 0.6\% | -6.8\% | 2.0\% | -9.0\% |
| 2017 | 1.9\% | 4.0\% | 0.1\% | 1.0\% | 1.4\% | 0.6\% | 2.1\% | 0.3\% | 2.1\% | 2.3\% | 3.1\% | 1.1\% |
| 2016 | -5.0\% | -0.1\% | 6.8\% | 0.4\% | 1.8\% | 0.3\% | 3.7\% | 0.1\% | 0.0\% | - 1.8\% | 3.7\% | 2.0\% |
| 2015 | - 3.0\% | 5.8\% | - 1.6\% | 1.0\% | 1.3\% | -1.9\% | 2.1\% | -6.0\% | - $2.5 \%$ | 8.4\% | 0.3\% | -1.6\% |
| 2014 | - $3.5 \%$ | 4.6\% | 0.8\% | 0.7\% | 2.4\% | 2.1\% | - 1.4\% | 4.0\% | -1.4\% | 2.4\% | 2.7\% | -0.3\% |
| 2013 | 5.2\% | 1.4\% | 3.8\% | 1.9\% | 2.3\% | - 1.3\% | 5.1\% | - $2.9 \%$ | 3.1\% | 4.6\% | 3.1\% | 2.5\% |
| 2012 | 4.5\% | 4.3\% | 3.3\% | - 0.6\% | -6.0\% | 4.1\% | 1.4\% | 2.3\% | 2.6\% | - 1.9\% | 0.6\% | 0.9\% |
| 2011 | 2.4\% | 3.4\% | 0.0\% | 3.0\% | - 1.1\% | -1.7\% | - $2.0 \%$ | -5.4\% | - 7.0\% | 10.9\% | -0.2\% | 1.0\% |
| 2010 | - $3.6 \%$ | 3.1\% | 6.0\% | 1.6\% | -8.0\% | -5.2\% | 7.0\% | -4.5\% | 8.9\% | 3.8\% | 0.0\% | 6.7\% |
| 2009 | -8.4\% | - 10.7\% | 8.8\% | 9.6\% | 5.6\% | 0.2\% | 7.6\% | 3.6\% | 3.7\% | -1.9\% | 6.0\% | 1.9\% |
| 2008 | -6.0\% | - 3. 3\% | - 0.4\% | 4.9\% | 1.3\% | -8.4\% | - 0.8\% | 1.5\% | -8.9\% | - 16.8\% | - 7.2\% | 1.1\% |
| 2007 | 1.5\% | - $2.0 \%$ | 1.1\% | 4.4\% | 3.5\% | -1.7\% | - $3.1 \%$ | 1.5\% | 3.7\% | 1.6\% | -4.2\% | -0.7\% |
| 2006 | 2.7\% | 0.3\% | 1.2\% | 1.3\% | - $2.9 \%$ | $0.1 \%$ | 0.6\% | 2.4\% | 2.6\% | 3.3\% | 1.9\% | 1.4\% |
| 2005 | - $2.4 \%$ | 2.1\% | - 1.8\% | - 1.9\% | 3.2\% | $0.1 \%$ | 3.7\% | -0.9\% | 0.8\% | - $1.7 \%$ | 3.8\% | 0.0\% |
| 2004 | 1.8\% | 1.4\% | - 1. 5\% | - 1.6\% | 1.4\% | 1.9\% | - $3.3 \%$ | 0.4\% | 1.1\% | 1.5\% | 4.1\% | 3.4\% |
| 2003 | - $2.6 \%$ | - 1.5\% | 1.0\% | 8.2\% | 5.3\% | 1.3\% | 1.8\% | 2.0\% | -1.1\% | 5.7\% | 0.9\% | 5.2\% |
| 2002 | - 1.5\% | -1.9\% | 3.8\% | -6.1\% | -0.7\% | - $7.1 \%$ | - 7.8\% | 0.7\% | - 10.9\% | 8.8\% | 5.9\% | -5.9\% |
| 2001 | 3.6\% | -9.1\% | -6.3\% | 7.8\% | 0.7\% | - $2.4 \%$ | - 1.0\% | -6.3\% | -8.1\% | 1.9\% | 7.7\% | 0.9\% |
| 2000 | - 5.0\% | -1.9\% | 9.8\% | - $3.0 \%$ | - $2.1 \%$ | 2.5\% | - 1.6\% | 6.2\% | -5.3\% | -0.4\% | - 7.9\% | 0.5\% |
| 1999 | 4.2\% | - 3.1\% | 4.0\% | 3.9\% | - $2.4 \%$ | 5.6\% | - $3.1 \%$ | -0.5\% | - $2.7 \%$ | 6.3\% | 2.0\% | 5.9\% |
| 1998 | 1.1\% | 7.2\% | 5.1\% | 1.0\% | -1.7\% | 4.1\% | - 1.1\% | - 14.5\% | 6.4\% | 8.1\% | 6.1\% | 5.8\% |
| 1997 | 6.3\% | 0.8\% | -4.1\% | 6.0\% | 6.1\% | 4.5\% | 8.0\% | -5.6\% | 5.5\% | -3.3\% | 4.6\% | 1.7\% |
| 1996 | 3.4\% | 0.9\% | 1.0\% | 1.5\% | 2.6\% | 0.4\% | -4.4\% | 2.1\% | 5.6\% | 2.8\% | 7.6\% | - $2.0 \%$ |
| 1995 | 2.6\% | 3.9\% | 3.0\% | 2.9\% | 4.0\% | 2.3\% | 3.3\% | 0.3\% | 4.2\% | -0.4\% | 4.4\% | 1.9\% |
| 1994 | 3.4\% | - $2.7 \%$ | -4.4\% | 1.3\% | 1.6\% | - $2.5 \%$ | 3.3\% | 4.1\% | - $2.5 \%$ | 2.3\% | -3.6\% | 1.5\% |
| 1993 | 0.8\% | 1.4\% | 2.1\% | - $2.4 \%$ | 2.7\% | 0.3\% | - 0.4\% | 3.8\% | -0.8\% | 2.1\% | - 1.0\% | 1.2\% |
| 1992 | - 1.9\% | 1.3\% | - 1.9\% | 2.9\% | 0.5\% | - 1.5\% | 4.1\% | - $2.1 \%$ | 1.2\% | 0.4\% | 3.4\% | 1.2\% |
| 1991 | 4.4\% | 7.2\% | 2.4\% | 0.2\% | 4.3\% | -4.6\% | 4.7\% | 2.4\% | -1.7\% | 1.3\% | -4.0\% | 11.4\% |
| 1990 | -6.7\% | 1.3\% | 2.7\% | - $2.5 \%$ | 9.8\% | -0.7\% | -0.3\% | -9.0\% | -4.9\% | -0.4\% | 6.5\% | 2.8\% |

Source: RBC GAM. Monthly Returns in the S\&P 500 TR (USD) Index since January 1990.
RBC

## Volatility is a normal part of investing

## Number of down days greater than 2\%



Source: RBC Global Asset Management, Bloomberg. Based on S\&P 500 Index data as of February 27, 2020. An investment cannot be made directly into an index. The graph does not reflect transaction costs, investment management fees or taxes. If such costs and fees were reflected, returns would be lower. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. The peak is measured at the highest level of the index during the year and the trough is its lowest level following the peak.

## Investors often redeem at the worst times

- Equity Fund Flows (LS) ——S\&P/TSX Composite Index (RS)


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## Performance after a pullback

## The S\&P 500 has fallen 10\% from a high 38 times since 1988



S\&P 500 TR index (USD) from Jan 1, 1988 to Feb 27, 2020. One year represented by its average of 252 trading days. $10 \%$ drop is from an all-time high or the end of a previous drop. An investment cannot be made directly into an index. The graph does not reflect transaction costs, investment management fees or taxes. If such costs and fees were reflected, returns would be lower. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. The peak is measured at the highest level of the index during the year and the trough is its lowest level following the peak.

## Even the good years have dark days

$60 \%$ of years have $10 \%$ drawdown or more
S\&PITSX Index


20002001200220032004200520062007200820092010201120122013201420152016201720182019
■TSX Calendar Year Total Return ■ Largest Peak to Trough Decline in Year

Source: Bloomberg \& Morningstar Direct. Performance reflective of S\&P/TSX Composite Index, denoted in Canadian dollars. Performance data as of December 31, 2019. An investment cannot be made directly into an index. The graph does not reflect transaction costs, investment management fees or taxes. If such costs and fees were reflected, returns would be lower. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. The peak is measured at the highest level of the index during the year and the trough is its lowest level following the peak.

## Even the good years have dark days

$70 \%$ of years have $10 \%$ drawdown or more

S\&P 500 Index



20002001200220032004200520062007200820092010201120122013201420152016201720182019
■S\&P 500 Calendar Year Total Return Largest Peak to Trough Decline in Year

Source: Bloomberg \& Morningstar Direct. Performance reflective of S\&P 500 TR Index, denoted in Canadian dollars. Data as of December 31, 2019. An investment cannot be made directly into an index. The graph does not reflect transaction costs, investment management fees or taxes. If such costs and fees were reflected, returns would be lower. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. The peak is measured at the highest level of the index during the year and the trough is its lowest level following the peak.

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[^0]:    *Includes net equity mutual fund flows. Source: RBC GAM, IFIC, Bloomberg. As of December 31, 2019. An investment cannot be made directly into an index. The graph does not reflect transaction costs, investment management fees or taxes. If such costs and fees were reflected, returns would be lower. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. The peak is measured at the highest level of the index during the year and the trough is its lowest level following the peak.

