

IS THIS THE MOST VOLATILE YEAR EVER?



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A WEALTH OF COMMON SENSE
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Not yet, but it's getting close.

This year has three of the worst 25 losses and two of the 25 biggest gains for the S&P 500® Index since 1928:

Biggest Down Days		Biggest Up Days	
10/19/1987	-20.5%	3/15/1933	16.6%
10/28/1929	-12.9%	10/30/1929	12.5%
3/16/2020	-12.0%	10/6/1931	12.4%
10/29/1929	-10.2%	9/5/1939	11.9%
11/6/1929	-9.9%	9/21/1932	11.8%
3/12/2020	-9.5%	10/13/2008	11.6%
10/18/1937	-9.1%	10/28/2008	10.8%
10/5/1931	-9.1%	6/22/1931	10.5%
10/15/2008	-9.0%	4/20/1933	9.5%
12/1/2008	-8.9%	3/24/2020	9.4%
7/20/1933	-8.9%	3/13/2020	9.3%
9/29/2008	-8.8%	8/8/1932	9.3%
7/21/1933	-8.7%	10/21/1987	9.1%
10/10/1932	-8.5%	11/14/1929	8.9%
10/26/1987	-8.3%	6/19/1933	8.9%
10/5/1932	-8.2%	8/3/1932	8.9%
8/12/1932	-8.0%	7/24/1933	8.8%
7/26/1934	-7.8%	10/8/1931	8.6%
6/16/1930	-7.6%	12/18/1931	8.3%
10/9/2008	-7.6%	2/11/1932	8.3%
3/9/2020	-7.6%	5/17/1948	7.9%
5/14/1940	-7.5%	5/1/1933	7.7%
5/31/1932	-7.5%	6/10/1932	7.7%

And, the number of large daily moves is massive. June 11's 5.9% loss was the 10th move of plus or minus 5% or more this year already. One-third of all daily moves in the stock market have been 2% or more this year. There have been 26 daily moves of 3% or more. In the previous seven years, there were just eight moves of 3% or more in total.

Right now we're basically on pace with 2008 when you look at the magnitude of the daily swings that year.

	2020 S&P 500 Daily Moves						2008 S&P 500 Daily Moves				
	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%		2%	3%	4%	5%	6%
Down	19	14	9	5	3	Down	41	23	15	11	7
Up	17	12	8	5	5	Up	31	19	13	7	5
Totals	36	26	17	10	8	Totals	72	42	28	18	12
% of Days	32%	23%	15%	9%	7%	% of Days	28%	17%	11%	7%	5%

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Data source: Bloomberg.

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I hope we don't keep this same pace up for the remainder of the year, but it wouldn't surprise me at this point.

You'll notice on the table on the previous page with the best and worst days ever that an inordinate number of them come from the Great Depression era. The level of volatility that was seen in those years is unmatched. The bursting of the dot-com bubble didn't come close, and the 1973-1974 bear market was calm by today's standards.¹

Here are the daily numbers for 1930, 1931, 1932, and 1933:

1930 S&P 500 Daily Moves					
	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%
Down	32	16	4	1	1
Up	18	7	3	0	0
Totals	50	23	7	1	1
% of Days	20%	9%	3%	0%	0%

1931 S&P 500 Daily Moves					
	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%
Down	56	27	10	2	2
Up	35	20	10	7	6
Totals	91	47	20	9	8
% of Days	36%	19%	8%	4%	3%

1932 S&P 500 Daily Moves					
	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%
Down	68	50	27	14	6
Up	64	44	31	19	13
Totals	132	94	58	33	19
% of Days	53%	38%	23%	13%	8%

1933 S&P 500 Daily Moves					
	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%
Down	42	27	18	9	6
Up	52	34	20	12	10
Totals	94	61	38	21	16
% of Days	39%	25%	16%	9%	7%

It appears 1932 is the winner (or loser). More than half of all trading days saw moves of 2% or more, while nearly one in 10 were 6%+. It's difficult to fathom how challenging this period was in the markets, considering these volatile years went back-to-back-to-back:

1930-1933 S&P 500 Daily Moves					
	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%
Down	198	120	59	26	15
Up	169	105	64	38	29
Totals	367	225	123	64	44
% of Days	37%	23%	12%	6%	4%

That's four years of relentless volatility.

This year has been crazy. But, this is yet another reminder that this is nothing like the Great Depression when it comes to the markets.



To learn more, please contact us at 800-243-4361 or visit virtus.com.

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Data source: Bloomberg.

¹There were just three +/- 3% days in the 1973-1974 bear market, while the 2000-2002 bear market saw 12 gains or losses of 4% or more.

The **S&P 500® Index** is a free-float market-capitalization weighted index of 500 of the largest U.S. companies. The index is calculated on a total return basis with dividends reinvested. The index is unmanaged, its returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges, and it is not available for direct investment.

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