

## UPSC Civil Services Examination

### UPSC Notes [GS-I]

#### Topic: Koppen Climate Classification - Group C Climates [Geography Notes for UPSC]

##### Koeppen's Group C Climates--Warm Temperate (Mid-Latitude) Climates

- Warm temperate (mid-latitude) climates stretch from 30° – 50° of latitude mainly on the western and eastern margins of continents.
- These climates usually have warm summers with mild winters.
- They are classified into four types:
  1. Humid subtropical – Cwa
  2. Mediterranean Climate – Cs
  3. Humid subtropical climate – Cfa
  4. Marine west coast climate – Cfb

##### Humid Subtropical Climate (Cwa)

- The Humid subtropical climate is found in the poleward of Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn.
- This climate is predominantly found in the North Indian plains and interior plains of South China.
- The Humid Subtropical Climate is similar to Tropical Wet and Dry Climate (Aw) climate excluding that the temperature in winter is warm.

##### Mediterranean Climate (Cs)

- Mediterranean climate is found around Mediterranean sea, along the west coast of continents in subtropical latitudes between 30° – 40° latitudes
- The climate is predominantly found in the
  - Central Chile
  - Central California
  - Along the coast in South Eastern
  - South Western Australia
- These areas come under the influence of westerly wind in winter and sub-tropical high in summer.
- Therefore, the climate is characterized by hot, dry summer and mild, rainy winter.
- The monthly average temperature in winter below 10°C and in summer is around 25° C.
- The annual precipitation ranges from 35 – 90 cm.

### Humid Subtropical Climate (Cfa)

- The Humid subtropical climate is found in the Eastern parts of the continent lying in the subtropical latitudes.
- In this area, the air masses are usually uneven and cause rainfall throughout the year.
- This Climate is found in:
  - The Eastern United States of America
  - Southern and eastern China
  - Southern Japan
  - North-eastern Argentina
  - Coastal South Africa
  - Eastern coast of Australia
- The annual average of precipitation stretches from 75-150 cm.
- Frontal precipitation in winter and thunderstorms in summer are usual.
- The average monthly temperature in winter it differs from 5°-12° C and in summer is about 27°C.

### Marine West Coast Climate (Cfb)

- Marine west coast climate is situated poleward from the Mediterranean climate on the west coast of the continents.
- The main areas are:
  - North-western Europe
  - West coast of North America
  - North of California
  - Southern Chile
  - South-eastern Australia
  - New Zealand
- The temperature is moderate and in winter, it is warmer than for its latitude due to marine influence.
- The mean temperature in winter 4°-10°C and in summer months ranges from 15°-20°C.