There were 877 leisure and hospitality establishments providing 12,044 jobs in Workforce Development Board Local Area 3, Northeast Minnesota through the 3rd quarter of 2019, according to data from DEED’s Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages program. That is 14.2% of total employment in the region. The largest employing sectors include accommodation and food services, and more specifically food services and drinking places, which accounted for 476 firms and 6,549 jobs (see Table 1).

As the largest population and regional employment centers, Duluth and St. Louis County have the largest number of jobs in leisure and hospitality industries, followed by Carlton, Itasca, and Cook counties. But Cook County has the largest share of total employment in leisure and hospitality by far, at 41.4% (see Table 2).

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